

The Renegade Rip

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

Vol. 84 • No. 4

www.therip.com

Wednesday, March 14, 2012

New journal a publishing outlet for BC students

By Zak S. Cowan
Editor in Chief

Bakersfield College professor Brad Stiles is currently putting together an online journal so that BC students will have the opportunity for their work to be published.

The journal, called the Roughneck Review, will be a collective of works by students, either current or former, from numerous subjects and aspects of education at BC.

"The only criteria are as follows: it must be work created by

BC students, either past or present, and it needs to be work that was created for a class," Stiles said. "Those are the only two standards by which we decide whether or not somebody's eligible to have work in there."

According to Stiles, the range of work is exponential, saying, "We accept all levels of work from every discipline." Whether it is artwork, history papers, English essays or videos of a speech, if the work is considered "excellent," it can, and will, be published on the Roughneck Review.



"If [the Roughneck Review] turns out to be a vanity for faculty, what a waste. If it can be something that the students embrace and strive for and look forward to, that's what I want."

—Brad Stiles,
English professor

The site already has several entries, including work from English 60 students that are focused on paragraph construction.

"We wanted to show that at every level we recognize ex-

cellence," Stiles said. "So even though they're only a paragraph long, they're excellent paragraphs."

Among the students that already have work published on

the journal is David Waller, who has come back to school to pursue a career in teaching.

Waller's English 1A essay, "Controlling Mr. Smith," was selected as a sample piece of what is to come with the Roughneck.

"I was blown away," Waller said of the moment Stiles informed him that his essay would be used. "When he had said that he was going to use one of my papers, it really hit me. I was jazzed. I called every relative I had."

Waller said that he thinks the Roughneck is a "great

idea" that will do more than just allow the students to gloat about being published.

"There's really something about getting that recognition that goes deeper, that pumps up a student's desire to get better," he said.

The students are Stiles' main priority, not himself or the faculty involved.

"If this turns out to be a vanity for faculty, what a waste. If it can be something that the students embrace and strive for and look forward to, that's what I want,"

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Pal^estinian tribulations

By Omar Oseguera
Photographer

Protesting, murder, attacks on innocent people and genocide. These are things Americans hear about on a daily basis, the majority coming from a foreign country.

Bakersfield College international relations major Mohammad Hammad has experienced some of these events first hand in his family's home country of Palestine. Hammad's parents were both born in Jerusalem, but are no longer allowed back in due to conflict between Israel and Palestine. Hammad's father migrated to the United States in the '70s to work, and his mother came in the '80s.

Hammad has been visiting Palestine since he was born.

"I even had my first birthday there," said Hammad on his visits to Palestine.

Since then he has been visiting every summer. He also lived there from 2005-06. Being a frequent visitor to Palestine, Hammad has been a part of the conflict between Israel and Palestine.

During the Palestinian uprising in 2000, Hammad was only 8 years old. Israeli troops invaded a sacred section of Jerusalem, causing tension to spread like wildfire. On the streets, civilians would throw rocks and bottles at Israeli troops as they passed by the streets. Israeli soldiers would respond with live ammunition, and their "Break the Bones" policy, where they try to shatter the elbows of those they oppose.

Hammad recalled seeing this policy inflicted on one of his friends. After throw-

ing rocks at a Jeep, Hammad and his friends were tear-gassed, and one of them ended up getting caught and had his elbow shattered in front of everyone.

"That was a pretty eye-opening moment, because here it was happening to one of our friends," said Hammad.

During that same stay in Ramallah, Hammad and his father parted ways to do errands. This was the same time that Israelis positioned snipers on Ramallah and shot random passers-by.

"The first thing I remember seeing was a guy screaming and holding on to his arm. I wasn't sure if it was shot or hurt from a grenade. His hand was detached from the wrist."

"I didn't know what to do, so I just started running with the crowd in their direction as the [Israel Defense Force] opened fire on people. And then you look back and see people shot lying

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HAMMAD
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"Most of the people here [in the United States] don't want to believe what happened to me, so I direct them to my friends who were there ... they don't want to believe that things like this actually happen."

—Mohammad Hammad,
BC student

PHOTOS BY OMAR OSEGUERA / THE RIP

Mohammad Hammad wears his keffiyeh, which symbolizes Palestinian solidarity.



Mohammad Hammad displays his collection of various Palestinian flags.



Hammad's passport, left, and his Hawiyya, which is used as an identification card, are vital to his travels.

BC set to observe 100 long years

By Nicholas Sparling
Reporter

It has been 100 years in the making, but Bakersfield College will be celebrating its centennial starting fall of 2013 through the spring of 2014. Many events and fundraising activities have been planned and many more are in the works.

The events are being planned by the Centennial Celebration Steering Committee, which is comprised of faculty and staff, alumni, community members and members of the Archives Association. They have been working for over a year planning and orchestrating the centennial.

All of the events for the centennial will be made possible through fundraisers.

"We will not be using any state funds. No state funds for instruction will be used for a party. We will be raising every dime that we will use for the centennial," said Bonnie Suderman, the dean of Learning Resources and Information Technology and a member of the Centennial Celebration Steering Committee.

Money will be raised through the holding of a gala and golf tournament. Also, the selling of items and the Archives Association will comprise a book to sell, cataloging the past 100 years at BC. The committee will also be looking for donations from companies and alumni.

Suderman has, "a full spectrum of events that appeal to people with different backgrounds." The celebration will be kicked off by the gala or centennial ball, it will be a formal event, and if all goes right it will be held in an airport hanger at Meadows Field Airport. The funds raised will be used for latter events.

The events for the centennial will not just be aimed at the scholastic Please see 100, Page 5

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Apple or oranges? We'll help you decide which one

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Athletic department preparing for likely budget cuts

Tiner's musical talents exist beyond BC campus

By Breanna Fields
Reporter

Bakersfield College music instructor and critically acclaimed jazz trumpeter Kris Tiner does a lot more than grade papers in his spare time.

When he's not teaching music appreciation or directing the jazz ensemble, Tiner is involved in a number of projects including Tin/Bag, a duo with guitarist Mike Baggetta from New York. Tin/Bag plays an inventive form of jazz, traditional and contemporary music melded together by

the improvisational skills of both Tiner and Baggetta.

Tin/Bag has released three albums dating back to 2005; only a year after the project began. The duo's second album, "And Begin Again" features special guest appearances by LA clarinetist Brian Walsh and NY jazz percussionists Harris Eisenstadt. Tin/Bag's flare for an unusual and experimental sound has pushed the boundaries of this unique style through original compositions as well as works by Bob Dylan, Anthony Braxton, Sun Ra and Thelonious Monk.



OMAR OSEGUERA / THE RIP

Kris Tiner assists his Bakersfield College Jazz Ensemble.

"This is a very quiet, almost ambient project," said Tiner, "The original material can almost be classical or chamber music."

His most recent project, the creation of Epigraph Records, is a label that presents the talents of some of Bakersfield's most Please see TINER, Page 5

The Bakersfield sound still around

By Breanna Fields
Reporter

The Golden Age of country western music has all but withered in the eyes of Tehachapi based singer/songwriter Stephen David Austin.

While he admits the scene has changed, the local audience has continued to flourish and recognize the rich history and legacy of country music. Influenced by Bakersfield's own Merle Haggard and Buck Owens, the release of Austin's debut album, "A Bakersfield Dozen," has carried on the legend that draws on their honky-tonk sound and American roots.

An honest recap of life's most humorous and enduring moments, this collection blends a slightly embellished perception of reality through the tales of vengeful ex's, celebrity overdoses and Bakersfield life. Austin's ability to draw upon relevant events has allowed fans outside of the realm of country music to explore the raw energy of the signature Bakersfield sound found in many of his songs.

"There is a connection to

people's everyday joys and sadness, to peoples struggles and triumphs that makes country music relatable. It verbalizes an emotion that people have not put into words on their own," said Austin.

Austin was born in Omaha, Neb., though he eventually relocated to Southern California due to his father's career. At the age of nine, he received his first guitar and took music lessons for a brief period.

The sounds of Buck Owens, Merle Haggard and Tom T. Hall were among his early discoveries thanks to his father's musical interest.

"My dad was a country western fan and musician; that was my primary exposure. I've always identified with the lyrics to country music.

"I've always been drawn to how well country artists can tell a story."

The expressive nature of the genre was taken into consideration by Austin who in each song invites the listener on a journey through the oil fields of Bakersfield and surprisingly, to the sounds that served as an

inspiration for George Harrison of the Beatles. Austin's ode to their success includes a cover of "Baby's in Black," that was included on the album per request of a friend.

Prior to the release of, "A Bakersfield Dozen," Austin found himself playing in a number of bar bands before making the decision to go solo and take on the daunting task of writing material and hiring session musicians for his album.

Starting off with fragments and transforming them into full-length songs proved to be a worthwhile task.

The session musicians featured on "A Bakersfield Dozen" creates a tight rhythm section that compliments Austin's vocal abilities and country flare. The final product was taken to an even greater height by these seasoned pros and their creative use of pedal steel, fiddle and harmony vocals.

"The only way I was going to have control over the outcomes of song was to hire people I respected and play up to their level," said Austin.

He assembled a group of sea-

soned players that included pedal steel and slide guitar player Marty Rifkin.

His impressive resume boasts a number of well-known artists including Bruce Springsteen, Stevie Nicks and Tom Petty.

Other contributions were made by bassist Paul Marshall, pianist Skip Edwards, harmony vocalist Teresa James, drummer Shaw Nourse and Brantley Kearns on fiddle.

Their musical talents heightened the energy and created a solid backing band for Austin's solo project.

"A lot of these people came together because they were players whose work I admired and I had seen them on the L.A. roots music scene for quite a while." The album begins with, "Best Ex I Ever Had," a humorous tale involving the aftermath of a relationship gone awry.

On the second track, "Heroes and Heroin," Austin addresses the tragedy of substance abuse and relives the loss of famed musicians Charlie Parker, Jerry Garcia and Gram Parsons.

"Bakersfield is to country music as what punk rock is to rock n



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Local country musician Stephen David Austin recently released his debut album "A Bakersfield Dozen."

roll," said Austin.

"More of a bare bones format to present attitudes, ideas and words."

The sixth track off of the album "Kansas Ain't Kansas Anymore," is a slow-churning illustration of swampy roots rock at its finest, while "The Day Buck Owens Died" takes listeners back to the moment of realization when the Bakersfield icon and legend passed.

Austin has revealed plans for

an upcoming tour that will commence after he recuperates from a recent knee replacement. He plans to schedule shows for the spring and summer and embark on a European tour during the fall to support, "A Bakersfield Dozen."

"I'm just hoping that the people that hear it like it and people understand it.

It's something I had to do whether it was commercially accepted or not," said Austin.

Holy Beast makes a connection with music

By Martin Chang
Opinions Editor

Holy Beast, a local band from Bakersfield, plays a unique a blend of soul, punk and R&B built on the special chemistry that they all share.

Alejandro Tuesta, the drummer; Chanell Hall, the lead singer; Edy Hernandez, the guitarist; and Carlos Contreras, the bassist; all met by answering a Craigslist advertisement. So although they met by random, the members of Holy Beast feel a sense of fate in them coming together and creating their music.

"It's the craziest thing," Hall said. "My life as a story has been manifested in this band. I'll read poetry that Alejandro wrote years ago and think that reminds me of what I was thinking when I was 17. It happens. Somehow, somewhere or another our lives prepped us to meet and do something with that meeting."

Both Hernandez and Tuesta feel similarly fated to find people that understand them.

"It's meant to be. I got lucky finding a band. It came easy. I had to go through a lot of people that I had no match, no chemistry with," said Hernandez. "Then to have to have that much chemistry out of nowhere, finding a bass player that's right, a drummer that's right, a singer that's

right. It's like finding a soul mate three times."

Tuesta agrees. "I feel lucky to have met them right now, we could be anywhere on this planet, to have the ability to play what we hear and to have the creativity and the weirdness, to bring that out of you. Also to keep it together as a band this long, I feel so lucky to have gotten through the hardships and everything," he said.

"With them I don't even care if we don't go anywhere. I know that regardless of what happens economically or if we make a career, we'll still be able to write whatever we want, because I already know in my body and mind that their creative outlet is never going to end. They're the kind of people that will always go and give me so much energy to keep learning things and still play drums after all these years."

This sense of challenge, of pushing each other into something they love, is a strong feeling in the band.

"I think we find enjoyment in the band room, in seeing frustration in other faces, like when I see Edy excited, when he's trying to figure something out. I think that's the ultimate goal. We challenge each other just because that is what comes out. I want to bring out the full potential of my instrument and my abilities,"

said bassist Contreras.

"Being in this band, seeing everyone who is beyond up to par, that's the thing I've never experienced before. I've played with professional musicians, they never challenge me like this. This what I come to practice for."

Hall feels that over the years they have developed a unique musical sense from their chemistry.

"I feel we've evolved in that we play around with what is not said. The rhythm and melody and notes that aren't the first thing that you hear," she said. "I feel like it's getting to the point where we are expressing things in a not difficult way for other people but are expressing things that are usually difficult with music."

As she plays music with them, Hall gets specific feelings from each of the other members of Holy Beast.

"When Alejandro plays the drums I feel it in my body as a twitch. It's about being in between some of the timing that he keeps. It's awakening something. With Edy on his guitar, he plays weird melodies, it reminds me of the ocean breeze. It grabs you. You feel your spirit fluttering."

"The tapping on the bass is really beautiful. It brings it together and makes it palatable for the person with the least expe-



MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Holy Beast, from left, bassist Carlos Contreras, drummer Alejandro Tuesta, guitarist Edy Hernandez and vocalist Chanell Hall, poses on Feb. 29 in their practice space.

rience in life, or with music in general."

Tuesta feels that there is weirdness to their music.

"I listen to standard stuff, but there's another side of me that likes the weird stuff. I can no longer play normal stuff because it has all gotten so weird, and our new stuff just keeps going crazy-

er and crazier. We keep learning and experimenting with all these weird patterns and polyrhythms because it all compliments and we have this vision right now."

Hall wants this weirdness to speak to the many people out there that feel different and misunderstood.

"I feel like everybody is re-

ally weird and not everyone has a chance to feel together in their weirdness. There are a lot of people in this world who are just like 'man nobody gets me.' I want to play and perform music for those people out there who feel that no one gets them and I want them to be able to listen to our music and transcend that."

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Local restaurant serves up flavors of France

By Angie DelGado
Reporter

Walking into Cafe Crepes takes you away from the hectic feel of Bakersfield to a place that seems to be almost hidden.

Located downtown in a small building complex from the '20s, across from the Rabobank Arena, Cafe Crepes takes its guests away from busy schedules and gives them a taste of French food.

Having French food downtown is very different than the usual restaurants that can be found in the area.

"It's very unique for Bakersfield," said Brian Homes as he finished his lunch.

With a friendly welcome, guests of Cafe Crepes can order variety of crepes, paninis, Peet coffees and blended drinks.

"I think they put drugs in the food because they keep me coming back," joked Win Eaton while enjoying his chicken pesto crepe.

Eaton is not the only one who thinks the food is good.

"Oh my God, it's wonderful," said Gina Renslen. "This is my second time, and I am ordering the same thing...the chicken pesto."

Owner and Chef Andres Barragan enjoys hearing the good reviews that his guests tell him.

Barragan said that he has had customers travel from far off places to come and enjoy a crepe.

"I've had customers come from Southern and Northern California specifically to enjoy our crepes," said Barragan. "We have customers from Europe tell us our crepes are the best."

Keeping the customers happy is one of the



ANGIE DELGADO / THE RIP

Cafe Crepes serves a variety of crepes and French food.

main goals at Cafe Crepes.

"I emphasize customer service. I want customers to have an experience," said Barragan. "We think our food is good. I've never heard of someone unhappy with the food."

Barragan admitted that while he doesn't have a favorite dish, he enjoys making the chicken pesto crepe, which also seems to be the most popular.

"I think that the chicken pesto is my favorite to make because of the contrast of colors and the drizzle of pesto on top," said Barragan.

Barragan and his wife decided to open Cafe Crepes in 2009.

In their quest for something different in their lives, they decided to learn more about making crepes and paninis. Together they made a menu that really stands out in a city like Bakersfield.

"We always toyed with the idea of having a restaurant," said Barragan, who used to work in the world of technology. When the economy started to change, he decided to change his career path and open a restaurant.

There are nine employees at Cafe Crepes, and eight of them attend Bakersfield College. Andrea Bersentes, a graphics major at BC, has worked at Cafe Crepes for two and a half months.

"It's hard to make crepes, but once you get used to it, it becomes easier," said Bersentes. With the help of their employees, Barragan and his wife have been able to serve their own recipes of crepes.

"When we found all the many different types of crepes we asked ourselves, 'what can we do different?'" said Barragan. "And that's when we thought of the baja crepe and the gravy crepe."

Along with crepes and paninis, guests can also find many different types of blended coffees, like the Mescalato, which also happens to be one of the favorites.

"I am proud of our recipes, particularly because we make our own sauces and spreads, and we use fresh organic ingredients," said Barragan. "We serve our crepes fresh."

Cafe Crepes is available for private parties at no additional cost, and has been a place where many organizations have held their meetings as long as 12 or more order from the menu.

Pub brings a wee bit of fun to Bakersfield

By Crystal Sánchez
Reporter

McMurphy's Irish Pub is celebrating St. Patrick's Day in its own traditional style.

Angela Crawford, owner of McMurphy's Irish Pub, located at 14 Monterey St, said that every year they throw a big party for St. Patrick's Day.

"It's tradition to throw a party. Every year we have a DJ, beer pong, a live band and we serve corned beef and cabbage all day long."

Crawford, who is part Irish, said that St. Patrick's Day is their busiest day of the year.

"During a regular day we serve about 30 people during lunch hour, but on St. Patrick's Day we are crazy busy," Crawford said.

McMurphy's Irish Pub has been in business for almost 40 years and has many loyal customers.

Bobby Armendariz, 56, has been coming to McMurphy's for six years and said that it is a really great place to eat.

"I've always liked the food because there's always something

different I can try. It's a good neighborhood pub with friendly faces," he said.

So putting Armendariz's words to the test, I decided to try bangers and mash in honor of St. Patrick's Day.

Bangers and mash, also known as sausages and mash, is made up of Irish sausages, sour cream potato cakes and cabbage with bacon.

The dish originated from the English but then became popular with the Irish.

As for what makes a traditional Irish dish, Russell Meyers, chef for McMurphy's Irish Pub, said that the dish must have some kind of potato and a large pint of beer.

"Potatoes are the basis for a lot of Irish meals, just because it was considered a poor person crop," he said.

"And the beer, well, everyone loves a good beer with their meal. It's standard to get a pint of beer when you order a meal," he said.

Meyers said that the dish is relatively simple.

"It only takes about 20 min-



OMAR OSEGUERA / THE RIP

McMurphy's Irish Pub on Monterey Street throws a party for St. Patrick's Day every year.

utes to make," Meyers said.

"Just boil some potatoes and cook some sausages and you're

ready to go," he said.

The California School of Culinary Arts in Pasadena is where

Meyers learned to cook traditional dishes like bangers and mash.

Column Tights are not pants

WORTHWHILE STYLE | The Rip's copy editor and resident shoe addict discusses the lost art of dressing for your own style.

The naked emperor called and he wants his pants back.

Tights are not pants. I find it highly disappointing that I will repeat this sentence multiple times in the following column, but as spring approaches and everyone starts adjusting their wardrobes, I just know

I will see someone trying to wear tights as pants.

Let's get something straight first of all, I am

not against tights. I am not against leggings. Heck, I'm not even against a comfortable and cute pair of jeggings!

But I am definitely against the amazing amount of fashion crime that is happening when people are wearing tights and leggings alone as a substitute for bottoms.

First off, wearing tights and leggings alone is not at all flattering on any body type.

Tights cling to the body and leave little to the imagination.

They were literally created to be worn underneath clothing for modesty and now they're being used for the exact opposite.

A few years ago, visible panty lines were one of the biggest fashion blunders, but now it's totally acceptable for visible butt-cheek lines? If Pippa Middleton can't pull it off, I promise you no one can.

Tights are not pants, and they are also not some magic way of getting away with wearing a dress or skirt that's too short.

Sure, they look great and add interest to an outfit, but if you're wearing them as a backup for a skirt that'll obviously ride up when you lean, bend or sit, just get a longer skirt.

With all of the amazing fashionable choices out there, I don't understand why people would wear tights and leggings on their own.

There are hundreds of different types of tights and leggings, and you can pair them with virtually any type of outfit so the possibilities are endless.

You can wear them on their own with any style skirt: pencil, full, or mini (but not too mini).

Lots of people can pull off the shorts and tights combo too, usually if the shorts and tights are both pretty plain.

Vibrant colored or patterned tights work well with a simple outfit too, but if you want to downplay the attention factor, you can wear them under ripped jeans to show just a subtle peak of the accessory.

Tights are so versatile you can even layer them under knee or thigh high socks to keep warm in in-between season weather.

Many people find that fishnets and lace tights are pretty, but not school and work appropriate, but you can usually get away with it if you wear them in a skin-tone color or layer them over a pair of colored, opaque tights.

There are just so many possibilities that it's baffling anyone would wear them on their own as bottoms.

There is just so much fashion potential being wasted and modesty being lost when there doesn't have to be.

Just as you would not wear gloves as socks and jeans as a scarf, do not wear tights and leggings as pants.



Patricia Rocha

San Quentin protest sparks debate over death-penalty laws

By Metiqua Eng
Reporter

A recent protest at San Quentin Prison sparked interest and opinions that led college students to question and debate the very controversial topic of the death penalty in California.

The death penalty has been a very heated deliberation for some time now in which some people protest for the sanctity of life while others protest for the harshest punishment of lethal injection. Most times those opinions are based on moral values such as religion or the simplic-

ity of basic human rights. Either way this prolonged dispute has the public overflowing with opinions.

When interviewed, 41 out of 50 students at Bakersfield College are not pro-life and agree with the death penalty as punishment.

Several different students commented on the topic and gave diverse justifications as to why they chose to support the death penalty.

"I don't care what anyone says if you kill somebody, especially more than one person and in a malicious way, you deserve to

die," said Lelsie Barrera, 19.

The firmness of opinion that Barrera stands behind is based upon a very personal experience that Barrera said changed her life forever.

"I lost one of my good friends when I was only fifteen," said Barrera.

"One of my closest guy friends" Jeremy was in the crossfire of a gang shooting and basically shot to death. They never found out who exactly was the person who shot Jeremy and I wonder everyday if someone will be brought to justice. I went through so much pain and I hope that one

day someone will be convicted and experience all the pain that myself and Jeremy's family went through and possibly get the death penalty."

There are always two sides to the story and other people strongly believe in the opposite of the death penalty, the belief to preserve life.

Damion Harper, 24, is a full time student at BC and completely disagrees with the idea of the death penalty. Harper justifies his strong beliefs on the death penalty with his religious background.

"I'm a Christian and extremely

religious," said Harper. "I believe it's not up to man to kill somebody no matter for what reason. Whether it may be for murder or rape, I never believe or will believe in killing somebody else as a sentence.

"It's downright crazy that people think they can take that kind of power into their own hands. It's ridiculous and I'm completely against it."

Although Barrera and Harper both have compelling outlooks on the death penalty, some students at BC are at a standstill on their opinion and would overall just agree to disagree.

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NATE PEREZ / THE RIP

Nancy Salazar, owner of Express Registration Services, provides some of the same functions as the DMV.

On the fast track to all your automotive needs

By Nate Perez
Reporter

Do you wish you could go to the Department of Motor Vehicles and be in and out in less than five minutes? Express Registration Services can make that possible.

For the people that don't have time to go to the DMV or just hate going there, Express Registration Services can make life a lot easier.

"It's an in and out process. If it's not busy and I only have like one or two clients, the most you could wait is no more than five minutes," said owner Nancy Salazar.

Salazar's office provides a lot of the same functions as the DMV, but it is far from it.

"I do vehicle registrations, renewals, I give tags from here, plates, right away. I'll transfer your vehicle and give you stickers. Everything from [my office.] I do have a service fee though, \$40 for a transfer and \$29 for a renewal," she explained.

"There's some paperwork I can't do like lean sales and salvage vehicles that I would have to take in for the following day, but it doesn't take more than a day or two to give you your pa-

perwork back," she continued.

Salazar has owned Express Registration Services for eight years. She got the idea for her business from visiting Los Angeles.

Registration Services are extremely prominent there and she knew it wasn't a standard business practice in Bakersfield, so she had a feeling it could be marketable.

Salazar emphasizes that she doesn't work for the DMV, but she does work with them.

She goes to a location that is an industry for registration services and dealers. Her clientele ranges from walk-ins, dealerships, oil companies and so forth.

Some states don't have a DMV, so they have no choice but to go to a registration service.

"This place is for the people that don't like the DMV, don't want the hassle or if they don't know how to fill out forms. This service can be really awesome for you. You're in and out. You wish you could go to the DMV and be out of there in less than five minutes"

Express Registration Services is located at 514 Chester Ave.

It is open Monday-Friday from 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and on Saturdays 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Theater department deals with closure



PHOTOS BY GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Bakersfield College's outdoor theater has not been used for a number of years, forcing the Theater Club to find new venues. It is scheduled for a comprehensive refurbishment.

By Keith Kaczmarek
Reporter

With the Speech and Music Building locked down for repairs, the theater department and Theater Club are left without the stages and workrooms needed to perform and practice new plays. In fact, they have only one play scheduled this semester instead of their usual two.

"We're hoping to have another show," said Kimberly Chin, advisor for the Theater Club and director of theatrical productions.

Acting classes have been moved to the gym until repairs on the Speech and Music Building are completed.

"We have to bring chairs in and strike them after the class," he said.

"It's been an inconvenience, but everyone is making it work.

The students have been great," said Chin.

Since the gym floor was recently resurfaced, the theater students also have to be especially careful to wear the correct shoes to avoid marking the new floor.

Chin is hopeful about putting together a second production.

"We are hoping to do a spring show that's an outside show in a found space," she said.

Found spaces are outdoor locations that are converted into stages for productions.

"If I do a show in the fall, I'll need to do an indoor show because of the weather," she said.

The theater department has been coordinating with the Empty Space Theater and their artistic director Bob Kempf to put on the current crop of productions.

The Empty Space Theater has been keeping the box office re-

ceipts from the plays, but has not been charging BC for use of the theater.

The next play will be the Ten Minute Play Fest held on May 11 and 12. This event will feature six plays written, directed, and produced by students at BC.

Tyler Steelman, 22, is a Theater Club member who wrote a play for Play Fest about a young man caught in a compromising position with his girlfriend while living in his parent's house.

"It's very strange. I've been doing auditions for professors on campus, but it's a change of pace," he said when asked about how he feels about seeing his play being performed instead of being in someone else's play.

Audraey Marie, 21, is another Theater Club member who has a play in the Play Fest, but her production involves a young

mother and father trying to have a romantic evening despite a crying baby.

"It's been difficult, but we've been able to manage it and do what we wanted to do," she said about the changes to production this semester.

The Theater Club has also been inconvenienced by the closing of the Speech and Music building since it makes it hard for them to find practice space, and they have been using the Fireside Room when it's not being used for other events.

Kimberly Chin has also been active in getting both the club and acting classes more involved in performing off-campus, starting a children's performing group and planning to bring in a puppet master to teach his craft, a clown teacher to address performing for kids, and partnering



Yellow wildflowers are a mute audience in the seats of the Bakersfield College outdoor theater.

with a local school to put on performances.

The Theater Club will also be performing theater games in front of Daddy O's Yogurt and Gelato

Shope in the Albertson's shopping center on Mount Vernon on Thursday, March 29, from 5 -9 p.m., and anyone purchasing yogurt or gelato will help the club.

Kony campaign causes sensation

By Patricia Rocha
Copy Editor

Few Youtube videos capture as much attention as Invisible Children's viral video Kony 2012.

The almost 30-minute video went viral recently as it campaigns to help the International Criminal Court arrest Joseph Kony for his many crimes against humanity in Uganda and other surrounding African countries. The video, which has been viewed more than 74 million times on Youtube, urges people to contact their local government to make sure the United States keeps an interest in its cause.

Bakersfield College students have taken notice of the video's immediate popularity and commented on the recent interest in Invisible Children and the Kony 2012 campaign.

"At first I thought it was just one of those videos where some guy shows off to the world his son or something," said BC student Marily Mendoza describing her initial reaction to the video.

The production is narrated by Invisible Children activist Jason Russell, who hopes to have his son Gavin live in a world where people like Joseph Kony are brought to justice for their crimes. The video states that in the past 20 years Joseph Kony has kidnapped over 30,000 children for his child army and forced them to commit crimes such as mutilation and murder of their own parents.

"I started to look at it and that's just cruel, I just couldn't believe it. It was horrifying," said Mendoza.

Student Ben Ablin said he felt it was interesting and he was intrigued by the video.

"It was well meant... somebody's out there trying to get some word out," Ablin said.

"To an extent it is getting popular because of the hipster, 'oh lets support people who have problems' thing... or whatever you want to call it, but then because of that, it is also getting a lot of attention through to people who could honestly care about something like this.

"If enough people see it, enough people will get involved. It's like inviting people to a party. Invite 10 people, five people show up."

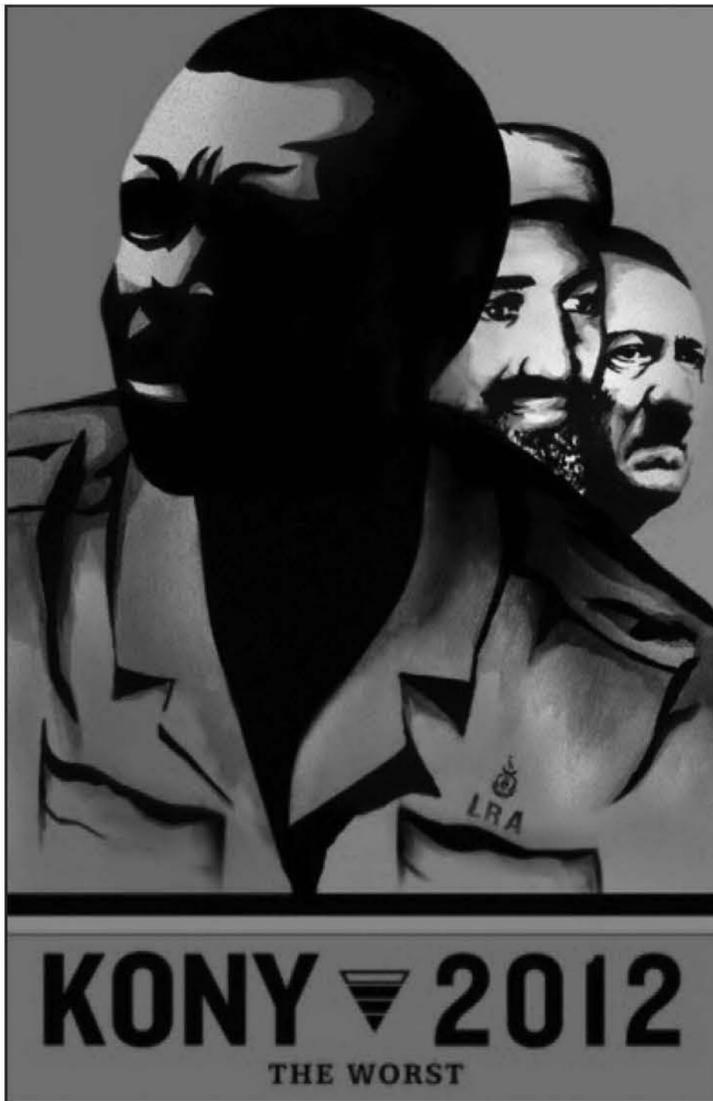
The video has even created a nation-wide event that is supposed to take place the evening of April 20 where it urges its supporters to cover their towns in Kony 2012 posters and stickers to spread the message even further.

Student Adriana Ramirez said though she hasn't seen the video yet, from what she's heard from friends she would like to participate.

"I've never heard of anyone trying to do anything like this until now," Ramirez said. "I think it's important."

Though the video has gained an amazing amount of support, its popularity has been followed by a large amount of controversy.

One factor leading people to question the intentions of the video is the fact that it asks of its viewers to purchase "action kits," which contain posters and bracelets.



COURTESY OF KONY2012.COM

This has led many to question the motives of Invisible Children as a non-profit organization, but the members have been quick to respond on their website, stating, "We are committed, and always have been, to be 100 percent financially transparent and to communicate in plain language the mission of the organization so that everyone can make an informed decision about whether they want to support our strategy." The website includes all of the financial information of the organization for all to see.

The organization has responded to many of the claims against it.

"Whether you're criticizing Invisible Children or not, it's not about us. I think that everyone can agree that this violence needs to stop and children should not be forced to fight," said the organization's movement director Zachary Barrows.

Despite the controversy, Ablin feels the purchase of the action packs is a good way to go about raising awareness.

"It's the most convenient form of donating short of just sending them a check for 'x' amount of dollars," he said. "There are

people who won't watch the video because it's 30 minutes long. It's kind of inconvenient as far as that can go, but if you see dozens of posters that say 'Kony 2012,' you're like, 'Who's this guy?' You Google him and you find the links, eventually you'll either watch the video or find something leading to it that'll explain it."

Mendoza also agreed that the action packs are a proactive way of fundraising.

"If we're trying to stop him we're going to need those resources. We obviously need the money, so it's a good idea," she said.

Many feel the video is also a good representation of how the Internet and social media is changing the way we participate in our society.

"Something that would have taken days or weeks to get out is now world wide instantly. Someone in South Carolina can post a video and someone in New Zealand can watch it within two minutes," said Ablin. "It's made everything global and instantaneous. It's made the world smaller. Hundreds of people have said that, but it's true."

Former president finishing duties

By Keith Kaczmarek
Reporter

If you've been walking around campus and noticed that former Bakersfield College president Greg Chamberlain is still working here, you are not hallucinating.

Chamberlain has a temporary office on campus and is finishing projects like the school's self-evaluation for BC's state accreditation happening this year.

Chamberlain has also been helping ease the transition to the interim president Robert Jensen.

"I've met several times with him to hand off projects to him. I will have some projects assigned by him and the chancellor," Chamberlain said.

He later added, "We are very fortunate to have Dr. Jensen. His experience is vast, and we are very fortunate to have him to push us up."

During this transition period, Chamberlain is also honing his skills to return to the computer science classes. While not officially scheduled for classes yet, he is exercising the "rights of retreat" in his contract that allows him to return to teaching classes next semester to his former position of tenured professor.

Chamberlain is thrilled to be getting back to his roots as a frontline educator.

"I've been accused of skipping down the hallways," he said.

Returning to the classroom will mean a cut in pay of around \$80,000 a year, but to this Chamberlain replied, "I don't know anyone who comes to the community college for the money."

With Chamberlain's children leaving university this year or next year, he says that his personal finances won't suffer for the cut in income. His years of experience already put him in the top income grade for BC professors, roughly \$107,000 a year.

Chamberlain leaves the school administration in the midst of harsh budget cuts, but he cites the fiscal conservatism of the Board and chancellor for keeping BC on the right track.

"It certainly paid off for the college. There are colleges trying to make cuts in mid-year," he said. "When we budgeted for this, we budgeted for these cuts to be there."

That being said, Chamberlain sees more changes on the horizon. "There are going to be some significant changes to California community colleges, not just here," he said.

He also thinks there will be strong candidates for the new president, and that the school has a chance to come out of the state's budget crisis even stronger.

"This is a fiscally strong school with a strong chancellor and board. There will be strong candidates coming here."

10 inducted into Hall

By Esteban Ramirez
Sports Editor

Bakersfield College will be having their 30th annual track and field and cross country hall of fame induction ceremony on March 22.

Along with inducting 10 former Renegade coaches and players, they will be awarding two plaques. Michael Tivnon will be awarded the "Life-Time of Service to Bakersfield College Athletics" plaque and Gary Frank will be awarded the "2012 Bill Hefferman Memorial Track and Field Official of the Year" plaque.

The social will begin at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria in the Campus Center. The dinner will be served at 6:45 p.m. and the award ceremonies will follow. The dinner

price is \$35 and partly tax deductible.

They will also be solemnly acknowledging Renegades who passed away in the past year, such as former track coach and former college president John Collins, track official Lucille Sautter and hall of fame athlete Leon Harris.

Bill Covey commented on the event.

"We've been doing this for 30 years," he said. "We've had a lot of great players and coaches and it's nice to honor them."

"Some of these guys haven't been back to BC in a while, so it brings them back memories," he said. Covey added that he originally started the ceremony 30 years ago because he wanted to see how many people would be interested in an event like this.