

The Renegade Rip

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

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Speakers inspire students to lead

By Martin Chang
Opinions Editor

The Future Leader Conference, held at Bakersfield College on April 28, featured speakers such as activist Dolores Huerta, Mayor Harvey Hall and Shannon Grove staff member Javier Reyes.

The campus chapter of the Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) put on the conference, with the help of the local Chamber of Commerce. A member of SIFE, and organizer of the conference, Will Chandler, had clear goals in mind for the conference.

"The purpose of this conference

was to expose the youth in the community to the opportunities that are available for them to get involved," he said. "It was really focused on leadership skill sets, providing the students with different points of view from different political aspects of leadership and just to motivate them to get involved."

Huerta, a lifelong activist and co-founder of the United Farm Workers of America, spoke at the conference. She wants her speeches to encourage students to be more civil minded.

"I think, in this county, we have a lot of potential that we haven't

met yet," she said. "When I speak at other campuses, people have [more] enthusiasm than they do here. The only thing I want to encourage is civic engagement. The main thing is to get engaged."

Enrique Martinez, a student at BC and the vice president of Movimiento Estudiantil de Aztlán (MECHA), was inspired by Huerta and other speakers.

"She is a really inspiring woman," he said. "I like what she does; she opened my eyes to trying to do other things in the community as well. The thing that inspires me is that nobody can teach you that. You have to go out there and learn

it yourself."

Chandler also got something out of the speeches he heard.

"I especially enjoyed Morgan Clayton and Javier Reyes," he said. "I think they painted an excellent picture of what Bakersfield is, and what it can become, and they also gave words of encouragement to people who are young and may not know what direction they might want to go in."

"I thought it was insightful; I thought it was meaningful and was needed," he said.

Chandler also appreciated the input of the rest of the speakers, such as Hall and Jack Hernandez.



MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Lifelong activist and co-founder of the United Farm Workers of America, Dolores Huerta, speaks inside the forums at Bakersfield College as a part of the Future Leadership Conference on April 28.

Baseball ends season with playoff berth

By Zak S. Cowan
Editor in Chief

The Bakersfield College Renegades finished their season with a strong performance against L.A. Pierce, winning 13-3, and earned a chance to play against L.A. Valley in a single-elimination game in the first round of the 2012 Southern California Regional Playoffs.

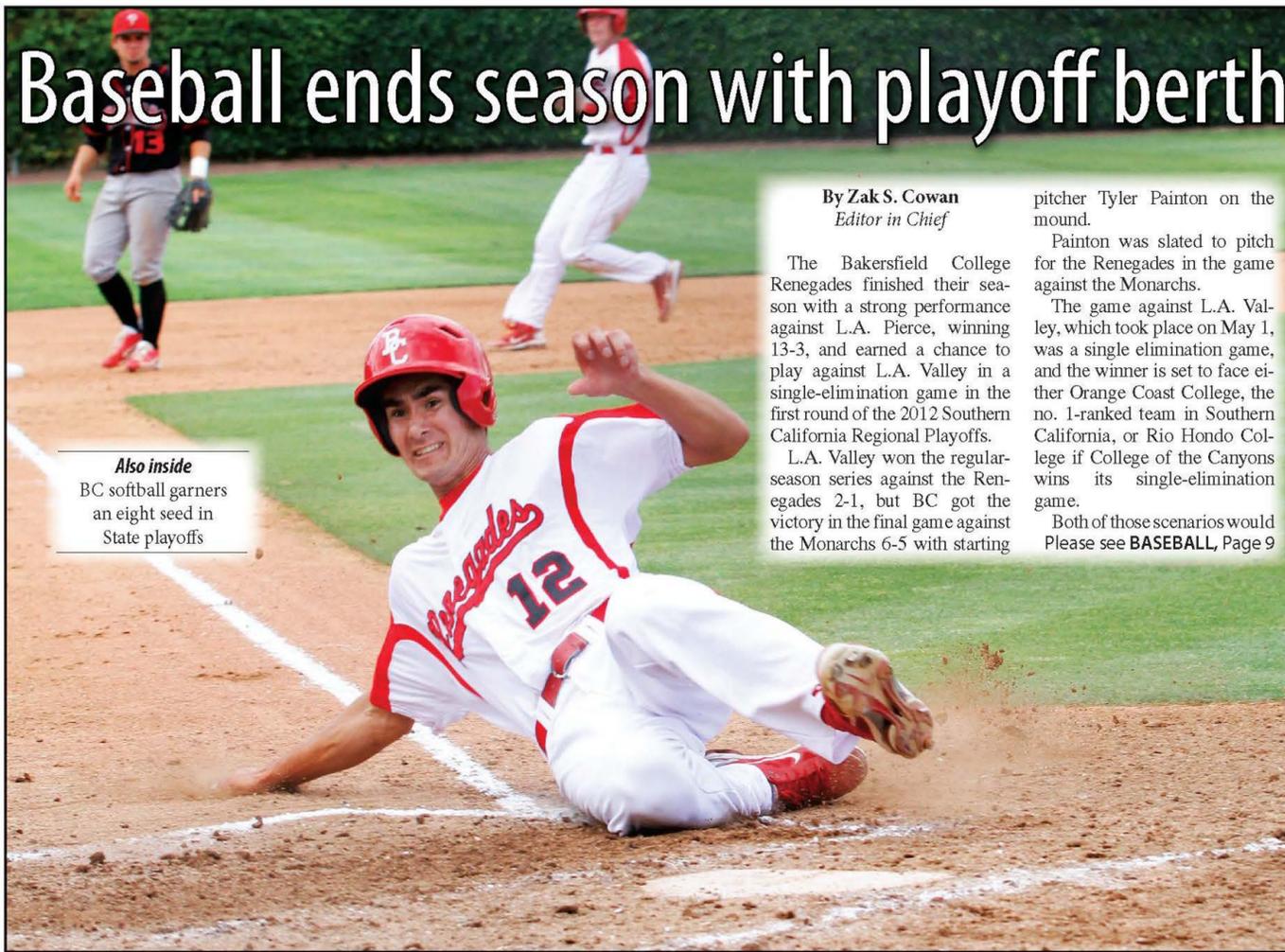
L.A. Valley won the regular-season series against the Renegades 2-1, but BC got the victory in the final game against the Monarchs 6-5 with starting

pitcher Tyler Painton on the mound.

Painton was slated to pitch for the Renegades in the game against the Monarchs.

The game against L.A. Valley, which took place on May 1, was a single elimination game, and the winner is set to face either Orange Coast College, the no. 1-ranked team in Southern California, or Rio Hondo College if College of the Canyons wins its single-elimination game.

Both of those scenarios would Please see **BASEBALL**, Page 9



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Renegade Benito Machado slides into home plate after a wild pitch to score the go-ahead run against Los Angeles Pierce College on April 26.

Also inside
BC softball garners an eight seed in State playoffs

BC to host trial section of Amgen cycling tour

By Martin Chang
Opinions Editor

The Tour of California, a nationally recognized cycling event, will be holding its fifth section, a time trial, at Bakersfield College, and both the organizers and cycling enthusiasts are excited.

On May 17, the trial will take the top cyclists in the world from BC, through Alfred Harrell Highway, all the way to Lake Ming, and back to BC. The 18.4-mile course will take a professional rider under 40 minutes to complete. In many other cycling events, the cyclists race in teams and travel from one city to another. In this trial, they will race by themselves to compete for the best time.

The Bakersfield Sports Foundation is putting on the event with help from the city of Bakersfield and Kern County. Kerry Ryan, the president of the sports foundation, describes the trial as a challenge.

"The course undulates. It has hills and turns," he said. "It's a technical course. The road conditions change with the weather. It will change from the first to the last [cyclist]. What should be expected is a very hard course, harder than their usual time-trial course, for sure."

The course starts at the top of Panorama Drive and Mount Vernon Avenue, and pro riders will

reach speeds of 60 mph going downhill onto Harrell Highway.

Ryan described the cycling pros coming here as "the top field competing in the world." He is expecting an even bigger turnout than the tour's stop here in 2010.

"In 2010 we had 14,000 people," he said. "That was for a 30-minute exposure to the pros. This time, the pros are going to be here for almost four hours. They'll be warming up. They'll be signing autographs; I picture 30,000 people hitting the BC area."

"In 2010 we had 14,000 people ... This time, the pros are going to be here for almost four hours. They'll be warming up. They'll be signing autographs; I picture 30,000 people hitting the BC area."

**—Kerry Ryan,
Sports Foundation president**

For first-year Taft College student Ricky Gonzales, the nature of time trial races is what interests him about our stage of The Tour of California.

"It's just different," Gonzales said. "Time trialing is different in that it's one person; it's not a group of people. You get to really see people at their own ability, not in the pack, just their own ability showing on that day."

For Ryan, BC was an ideal spot to start and end the trial. "I chose BC as a location because they had parking, and they had facilities. It enables me to use this side of the valley. If I took the race downtown, it adds extra miles and costs to blocking all the roads and things like that. I don't think we could have afforded to have the race downtown. Please see **AMGEN**, Page 5



NATHAN WILSON / THE RIP

Local cyclist John Zaninovich rides down Alfred Harrell Highway during the Amgen Bakersfield Time Trial Course Ride on April 29.

DSP&S haults testing for services

By Jon Nelson
Features Editor

Incoming freshmen and students who feel they might have a learning disability will have a harder time accessing student services in the fall.

Due to budget cuts made in 2009 and 2010, the Disabled Student Programs and Services department at Bakersfield College will no longer be offering learning disability testing after the spring 2012 semester.

"Please be aware that, due to funding cuts, DSP&S can only support mandated student support services," said director of DSP&S Angelica Gomez in an email to faculty and staff.

California does not require community colleges to offer disability testing and, in the current economic climate, non-essential programs like this are being cut.

"If it's not mandated, we won't be offering it anymore," said Gomez. Students at BC did not react favorably to the news.

"It's not fair," said Kayla Welch, 22, a child development major at BC. "Why should we take funding from those who need it the most?"

Others echoed Welch's sentiment.

"It's not going to help them," said Brenda Romero, 21, who is majoring in human services. "I hope they don't take it away."

Romero also suggested students start a petition to protest the loss.

"I don't think they should cut anything," said Patrick McEvoy, 20, an art major.

In order to receive benefits, students must now provide a medical history that proves they have a learning disability or require assistance.

Testing for a learning disability was formerly offered free of charge to all students.

The alternative to being evaluated by counselors at BC is to hire a local, private psychologist to provide the testing.

Unfortunately, this option comes at cost to the student.

"Students who are diagnosed with some form of disability, psychological or medical, must have verification to receive assistance," said Gomez.

Fortunately for students, testing is the only thing the DSP&S will be cutting.

They will still be offering accommodations, such as alternative media and sign language interpreters, to students in need.

The Dissent

Bakersfield College's student-run magazine

A special section inside this edition of the Rip



Afroman interacts with fans at B Ryder's

By Martin Chang
Opinions Editor

When Afroman played in Bakersfield at B Ryder's, he played to an appreciative crowd that danced and really got down.

Afroman first became known when his song "Because I Got High" became a national hit in 2000.

He calls the experience of seeing that song explode, "unreal" and "cartoonish." He has been recording and touring ever since.

Afroman was playing music as early as six years old. He first got his start after a little trouble at school.

"I wrote about my teachers sending me to the principal's office for something petty," he said. "I had to get expelled, and I had a little free time on my hands, made a song."

Right from the start, he found success.

"It did really good. [The song] made a little capital."

Afroman sees his music as a celebration of the stoner and marijuana culture.

"I hate to admit it," he said. "I was designed for a buzzing person. I design the music and the lyrics [after that.] You got the rapping killer, the rapping gangster, the rapping pimp, I'm the rapping drunk pothead, so if you get high you gotta feel me."

During the show, the audience showed an appreciation not often shown for acts at venues

like B Ryder's.

Audience members moved and danced with gusto. None of his jokes or asking for participation fell flat.

During parts of the show, women would jump up on stage and dance with him. People seemed to be having a really good time. You could only describe it as a party atmosphere.

Afroman loved the feeling of playing to such a crowd, a crowd that was really feeling him.

"There ain't no better feeling," he said. "It's the ultimate feeling. Ain't nothing better than Afroman [for that party feeling.]"

He gave back to this energy by having a meet and greet, where anyone could take a picture with him, or have him sign items like baseball caps.

Afroman's meet and greet was more involved than other meet and greets often could be.

He had several-minute conversations with his fans and he listened.

He laughed heartily at their jokes. He was just having a good time interacting with his fans.

When he tried to leave, groups of fans followed him out. He didn't just brush off these fans, he talked with them, laughed with them and he even goofed off with them by doing playful things like chasing them around cars.

He was smiling and laughing after the show. He seemed to be happy to give back to an audience that gave him an "ultimate feeling."



MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Afroman plays his double-neck guitar, a Gibson EDS-1275, on April 22 at B Ryder's.

BC welcomes a new club dedicated to women in diverse occupations

By Angie DelGado
Reporter

A new club, the Women In Diverse Occupations or WIDO, has been formed on the Bakersfield College campus.

The club is a place for women to inspire each other and support each other in fields that are primarily dominated by men.

The members of this club are majoring in careers such as automotive, engineering and welding, among many others.

"This club is open to anyone,

but mainly women who are in careers that are diverse, like woodworking, welding, or manufacturing," said club adviser Steve Hageman.

The club's purpose is to encourage women to get involved, and to encourage them to follow their dreams regardless of what people may think or say.

"Whatever road blocks you see, we can knock them out," said Hageman. Women who are in the club also qualify for scholarships and internships in the careers of their choice.

Dominica Rivera-Dominguez

helps the members of this club gain knowledge of what scholarships are available to them and how they can apply for these awards.

She also focuses on finding them internships where they can expand their knowledge in the fields of their choice.

"Right now, through the Financial Aid office, we have the automotive scholarship," said Rivera-Dominguez.

"I work at the Career Development and Workforce Preparation.

"We do advising, we offer in-

ternships, and we also want to focus on the women so we offer one internship in welding, and four or five internships in automotive.

There are also internships available [through] Chevrolet."

"I would definitely work for Chevy in just a heartbeat," said Lindsay Berryman, WIDO vice-president.

This club is meant to encourage women to follow their dreams, and to network together to build resources around them.

"I feel like I can connect with other women who share a passion

in automotive and welding," said Berryman. "That really helps to motivate you. I'm just as capable as the men."

Berryman plans to encourage women to attend the club and to help them gain confidence in what they want to do.

"If you have that passion in anything industrial related, whether it'd be automotive, manufacturing, welding, just go for it, and don't care what other people think," said Berryman.

"A lot of women tend to be deterred because they're going to think 'oh, I don't like the fact that

people think I'm different,' but you can't think of it that way.

"You just got to be yourself and do what you want to do. Follow your passion in life," said Berryman.

The club plans to have activities where they can help others. Some of their ideas include changing oil and air filters for those who can't afford it, and helping people clean their houses, or their yards.

The club plans to meet every second and fourth Friday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in the FACE building in room 16.

Market offers organic, fresh choices in Bakersfield

By Breanna Fields
Reporter

A crowd gathered on April 28 for the Brimhall Farmer's Market, which offered locals a chance to stock up on fresh fruits, vegetables and other organic products like raw almonds, homemade bread and honey.

Located on the corner of Brimhall and Calloway in the Brimhall Square Shopping Center, the farmer's market occurs every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Managed by Jaelyn Allen, the market has grown since it began just two years ago.

"Honestly, I was on such a small budget when I started this, that this market truly has grown just by word of mouth," said Allen. "I didn't have the money to advertise."

Even without a formal ad campaign, the Brimhall Farmer's Market has managed to attract the attention of buyers who choose to purchase local over non-organic grocery store products.

"First thing is, this stuff was picked yesterday," said Allen. "So, it's super fresh. In the grocery stores you're getting things that have, on average, traveled 2,500 miles just to get there. They get picked really early and are ripening on the truck rather than on the tree."

A certain reassurance comes when purchasing all-natural and organic products at a market like this, Allen explained. Farmers are on site to assist customers in their purchases and give them information on the products for sale.

"The thing is that you're buying better quality so it's not comparable to grocery store fruits," she said. "It's better. The farmers actually drive here and have picked the fruit themselves."

Saturday's market hosted more than a dozen vendors and local farmers including those from relatively close areas like Tulare. France Bakery was there selling homemade breads and Gold Coin Farms sold fresh produce stacked in rows.

There were a few obscure ven-

dors like Raw Nutz, who sold bags of homegrown almonds, and BJ's Lavender Farm, which sold lavender-based products.

While prices of organic foods can fluctuate, for example, during the winter strawberries are more difficult to grow so they may be costlier during that time, Allen assures buyers that there are plenty of deals to be found with regular vendors that attend each market.

"There're certain times where they'll do really good deals that blow away supermarket prices," said Allen. "They're tricks of the trade," said Allen.

For those who haven't gotten their fill of organic products by the end, a new farmer's market also managed by Allen has recently opened on the corner of Ming and Haggin Oaks. It will be held on Sundays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and feature new vendors that will also offer a selection of hot foods.

"We have based it on what a true farmer's market should be: small, local and for the community," said Allen.



MEGAN LUECKE / THE RIP

Visitors to the market on April 28 cooled off with the purchase of a freshly made drink. The drink choices included a fresh lemonade with mint.

BC student shares his adventures during his time as a delivery driver

By Nate Perez
Reporter

Drug abusers, prostitutes and weirdos are something that Eric Garcia deals with regularly at his job.

It's something he's almost desensitized to.

Garcia, 20, is a history major at Bakersfield College. When he isn't at school, he works part-time as a pizza delivery guy at Hungry Howie's pizza.

Hungry Howie's drivers are typically sent out to the poorer neighborhoods in town, such as Union Avenue, Pacheco and so forth. The drivers do get the

opportunity to go to the more middle-class neighborhoods, but those neighborhoods are not as frequent customers.

"Tips are what give me my gas money," said Garcia. "They're usually better toward the nicer

areas, but in the rougher neighborhoods, sometimes when people are drunk they tend to tip more than they normally would."

Garcia has encountered his fair share of prostitutes and junkies. It comes with the territory, according to him.

Garcia has been invited in for adult activities at a few hotels in town. The scene can be disturbing to some, according to Garcia:

"I ended up knocking on the wrong door and the woman asked, 'what is it?' and I told her, 'it's a pizza' and she said, 'is it a large sausage?'"

—Eric Garcia,
BC student



NATE PEREZ / THE RIP

Pizza delivery guy Eric Garcia is a student at Bakersfield College. He has experienced things during his time as a delivery man that most people would never think of.

unpleasant looking women sitting down in front of their hotel room doors waiting for their next client.

"I ended up knocking on the wrong door and the woman asked, 'what is it?' and I told her, 'it's a pizza' and she said, 'is it a large sausage?'"

"I [went] next door and it [was] the right hotel room. They open the door and some guy is under the covers with a prostitute. The woman who paid me was in a robe and asked me 'do you want to come in?' They saw the money I had for change. It was like they all saw green and jumped."

Aside from call girls, Garcia often encounters awkward situations such as fake bills, credit cards and the occasional creep.

Garcia has never been put into a situation where he has had to exchange blows. He was once

sent to deliver to an abandoned house.

By good fortune, the neighbors were outside and warned Garcia that the house had been empty for quite some time.

Delivery drivers get a preconceived notion on whether or not they will get tipped based on location, attitude of the customer over the phone or if the customer is a regular, and delivery drivers do remember if customers forgot to tip the last time.

It's almost like that sour milk taste that doesn't go away, according to Garcia.

Garcia emphasizes that as a delivery driver there are more bad things than good. His car receives more maintenance than usual and filling up his gas tank is a far more frequent task than the average driver. Garcia encourages people to tip their delivery driver. They never forget.

Kern Models delivers artistic touch

By Metiqua Eng
Reporter

A local group called Kern Models and Photographers has brought popularity and creativity to the Kern County photography scene.

Kern Models and Photographers is a group on Facebook created by local photographer Dan Spencer where photographers and models can establish connections and relationships with others, as well as gain more pictures for personal portfolios.

Several local photographers of all skill levels, experience, and styles show the work they are doing around Kern County.

Rachelle Deaton, 40, is an administrator for Kern Models and Photographers and is a coordinator and active participant in group photo shoots.

"I've been a photographer for about 23 years and I got involved because my daughter did pageants," Deaton said. "I started taking headshots and getting involved in cameras and started loving it."

Deaton started as just another face invited to join on Facebook but quickly turned into an avid contributor to the group.

"I got involved because I posted some pictures of a model named Bianca and she submitted me to the group," Deaton said. "I went from there and was the 50th person in the group and now there's like 280."

Deaton has been extremely involved with the group, not only as a photographer, but by helping potential models use Kern Models and Photographers as a stepping stone. She wants to capture an essence about her models as well as learn more within her own photography skills.

"I really want to pull out whatever the person I'm photographing has," Deaton said. "Say that person is really trendy, I'll try and pull that out. I don't like to



GREGORY D. COOK / THE RIP

Rochelle Deaton checks the settings on her camera between shots during a photo shoot on April 16.

put my touch on it too much. I just want to pull out whatever personality that the model has, so it varies from person to person."

Deaton expresses that being a member of the group has overall strengthened her photography and directing skills, which are making her more talented and giving her more experience.

"I've learned patience in that you got to be patient with the

new people that are trying to learn how to model or learn how to do different things," Deaton said. As this online group continues to flourish, Deaton basks in the great qualities of the group she has so much passion for.

"Overall I think because all of us photographers critique each other, I'm getting really good criticisms on my pictures so that I learn what to do next time and how to get better and bet-

ter," Deaton explains. "I think this past year my stuff has improved so much since the first time I started shooting that I'm constantly learning and growing from it so I don't think I'll be done learning. But I'm hoping to be as good as some of the pros that are on there. I'll keep practicing."

For Kern Models and Photographers to have started as such a small group, it has quickly

grown and attracted more members to participate, linking models and photographers all over Kern County to communicate and work together.

"I've been able to meet so many cool people," Deaton explained. "I'm learning new things like a lot of new lighting techniques and posing ideas, just learning that things continually change over and over again. It's a really cool hobby to have."

Keep style simple

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

The fashion world operates in two seasons, fall and spring, but here in Bakersfield we get one very grueling one: hotter than the surface of the sun. Summer fashion is unique from any other time because it's about the bare minimum. Fashionably layering tights, blouses and sweaters just isn't practical when it's a humid 90-degree day.



Patricia Rocha

Here in Bakersfield, it's practically impossible to stay stylish when it's too hot for anything but a no-fuss top with shorts or a simple summer dress. Clothing-wise, your best bet is going to be breathable fabrics, and by breathable fabrics I do not mean those sheer, midriff-baring tank tops that are so popular at the moment. I'm talking about fabrics that keep you cool and don't cling to your body, like cottons and soft silks.

The trick to simple style is to throw in some key pieces that make a statement. Look for pieces with visual interest, like flirty dresses with cutouts and fun patterns. Instead of a T-shirt with average denim cutoffs, try to find some in a fun color like aqua or burnt orange.

Accessories like hats and necklaces are a great way to add to a summer outfit, but be sure to wear the right kind. A light, straw or wide-brimmed hat is going to be much more comfortable in the heat than a closer-fitting, head-warming cloche, for example.

Along the same lines, a dainty necklace with a light chain is going to feel a lot nicer than a heavy bib or choker style.

As much as I love my closed-toe pumps and flats, summer really is all about cute sandals. Sandals that are actually shoes of course, not those over-grown packing peanuts people like to call "flip flops."

Because your clothing will be simple, summer is a great time to focus on all of the things that can keep you fashionable outside of your outfit. Summer music festivals, barbecues and pool parties are season staples, and no matter what outfit you choose to wear, your number one accessory should be sun block and deodorant. Lobster tans and armpit stains don't flatter anyone, ever.

Taking care of yourself physically is also going to play a huge role in how you look. Drinking plenty of water will not only keep your body hydrated, but also keep your skin from drying out. Keeping your skin fresh also means less breakouts and a flawless canvas for some light makeup.

Along the same lines, over-washing your hair may seem like a good idea after a muggy day, but this can dry out your scalp even more. A nice dry shampoo keeps your hair clean without all of the hassle of ruining your gorgeous locks.

Feeling good about how you're taking care of yourself will definitely translate into your summer wardrobe. If you're drinking a lot of water, taking care of your hair and skin, and just overall feeling fresh, your outfit itself will just be the accessory to your confidence.

Marijuana celebrated with 420 festivities

By Metiqua Eng
Reporter

Generally, April 20 of every year is just a regular day to most people, but to others it's known as 420 and a celebration to embrace the symbolism of marijuana.

The term 420 originated in 1971 from a group of teenagers in San Rafael who would get together at 4:20 p.m. in hopes of finding a marijuana crop. This term translated over the years as the representation of weed and is primarily used in the United States as a code name to smoke marijuana.

A 20-year-old female student at Bakersfield College who would like to remain anonymous shares her extensive experience with marijuana as well as the celebration of 420.

"I've been smoking weed since I was 13-years-old," she said. "I smoke marijuana to calm down my moods and enable myself to eat everyday, as well as ease my anxiety."

She stresses that smoking weed and the basis of 420 is not about glorifying drug use, it's about what marijuana symbolizes and how it affects people every day.

"The celebration of 420 is all about sharing with the world the calmness and peace that comes with

smoking marijuana, along with the Rastafarian outlook of smoking marijuana," she said. "420 is a day to remind myself and my friends of the love and peace we need to share, and how the world should not be at war with themselves."

She even says there are festivals made to celebrate marijuana where people get together to delight in the significance of weed, such as the annual 420 Fest.

"420 Fest is an electronic music event that involves the theme of 420 and Rasta everywhere and is located in Victorville, CA by Motive Events," she said. "There are multiple stages that involve artists of various genres such as Dubstep and Electro. There are also booths, games, rides and dispensaries for marijuana."

This female student is very passionate about marijuana, what it stands for, and would really like to inform people who don't know what 420 is, that it's not about potheads getting together to just get high.

"The most important thing is that it's not just about smoking weed," she said. "It's not about being high. It's about actually giving praise to the plant and what the plant represents as well as the Rastafarian outlook of smoking marijuana."



OMAR OSEGUERA / THE RIP

420 is a day where people gather to smoke marijuana and celebrate its culture.

Get your musical fix this summer with these festivals

By Patricia Rocha
Copy Editor

Summer is a great time for Bakersfield's local music scene as it hosts many seasonal shows.

The season kicks off with KRAB radio's all-ages annual Free 4 All, held at the Bright House Networks Amphitheatre on May 19. This year features bands Say Anything, Imagine Dragons, Walk the Moon, JJamz, and local band Streetside Vinyl.

As the only local band to play this year's show, all of the members are very excited to share the stage with the other artists.

"I've been listening to Say Anything since junior high," said

drummer Greg Bruick.

The band was approached by KRAB DJ Danny Spanks to play the show after they were on his segment "Spank it or Crank it."

Only playing for about a year, the band credits their success to lots of practice and guidance from their manager to get them where they are now.

"It's a whole new band, new sound, new members," said bassist Justus Dixon.

The outdoor concert draws hundreds of people and this'll be the band's biggest show so far.

"I've been digging the stuff they've been playing on KRAB," said lead vocalist Shawn Gough about hearing the promotional

songs being played on the radio for the show.

Following the Free 4 All is the annual Rockin' Roots music festival held at Stramler Park. The festival has been so successful in the past because of the mix of mainstream and local bands covering a wide array of genres including techno, hardcore, punk, ska and hip-hop.

Concert promoter Tim Gardea has been known to credit the success of past lineups to the concertgoers who give feedback on what bands they want to see.

The usually two-day event is now only being held on June 9 with bands such as Pierce the Veil, Suicidal Tendencies, Of

Mice and Men, Johnny Craig, The Ghost Inside, Dr. Acula and Casino Madrid with Falling in Reverse headlining.

Streetside Vinyl played the show last year and say they'll be playing this year again.

"It's a great way to get exposure," said bandmate Silas Sproul.

More than a hundred bands on multiple stages means there's something for everyone.

"You can just walk by a random stage and hear your new favorite song," said Dixon.

The show follows in the same layout as most summer festivals, bringing to Bakersfield it's own mini-Warped tour.

For those who can make it out of town for more summer concert fun, Warped tour itself is the ultimate summer music festival and has been since its debut in 1995. This year's lineup includes The Used, Rise Against, Lostprophets, All Time Low, Taking Back Sunday, Senses Fail and Yellowcard among many others.

With it's legendary reputation, Streetside Vinyl members are hoping to earn themselves a spot on the lineup as well.

"Any band wants to play Warped tour," said Dixon. "In 50 years, people are going to be studying it in music appreciation class. It's going to make music history."

Wine bar offers music, fun

By Nicholas Sparling
Reporter

One of Bakersfield's few wine bars has changed ownership and is undergoing many changes. Wine Me Up, which is located on Coffee Road, is much more than just a wine store.

You can bring in food from your favorite restaurant and Wine Me Up owner Lisa Spezziale will pair it with a wine to accompany your meal.

"We don't have a full kitchen so we can't cook here," said Spezziale. "So if somebody wants to bring in food that's just fine."

The store location has been there for five years but it has only been under its current ownership since Jan. 19. According to Spezziale, since then "business has been phenomenal."

At Wine Me Up, unlike at a grocery store, you don't have to blindly buy a wine that you have never tried.

"You can buy a bottle at retail price and take it home or you can buy a bottle and drink it [here],

or you can do tasting and if you like it you can buy it," said Spezziale.

"You can do the two-ounce or the five-ounce sampling, or you can try a flight where you can get five one-ounce pours so you get to try five different wines then choose from that and decide if you want to get a bottle so you're not getting a full glass, you're just getting a little bit to taste and see if you like it or not."

Since Wine Me Up has been under new ownership, a lot has changed.

"We completely changed the place when we bought it," said Spezziale. "We painted, we got new furniture, we put the dry bar in, plus we added shuffleboard and the TVs."

They also offer live music every Friday and Saturday night, usually two-piece bands that play somewhat jazzy music.

Wine Me Up also has wine tasting on Wednesday nights where they try to have a wine maker showcase their wine two to three Wednesday's of the month. The wine maker will usually show-

case five to six wines and have a chance to talk about them.

"Then you get a chance that night to purchase the wine at a discount price but you have to purchase it that night for the discount," said Spezziale.

Even if you don't buy the wine that night, it will be featured for purchase later, only not at the discounted rate.

On the Wednesday of the month that they don't have wine tasting, they will showcase a movie.

"No romantic movies. We don't want everyone in here crying," said Spezziale. "Its mostly funny older movies."

Recently they showed Caddyshack.

More than just wine, they also serve bottles of beer.

"We're trying to do more specialty beers but we do have beers like Budweiser and Bud Light and Coors," said Spezziale. "A lot of guys want to come in and don't want to have a glass of wine but their wife or girlfriend does, so it gives them an opportunity to try new beers or they could have

their old favorite."

In order to keep their selection fresh, Wine Me Up is constantly switching out the wines that they carry.

"We try and rotate different types of wines all the time," said Spezziale. "We don't want to have your average grocery store wine. We want people to experience all different types of wine that they can't find anywhere else."

Spezziale has years of experience in the wine industry, working for three years as a wine representative and also owning restaurants and nightclubs.

"I've been on both sides, as the person selling to restaurants and the person selling to the customer."

By constantly rotating in new wines from different wine makers, Wine Me Up has the potential to offer a new experience each time.

"I'm learning also, I'm learning all new wines for my palate and for everyone else's palate. We just want to keep bringing in new stuff," said Spezziale.



OMAR OSEGUERA / THE RIP

Wine Me Up, a local wine bar that serves a variety of wine and beer, is located on 3900 Coffee Road, Suite 2.

Wise study tips to ace your finals

By Crystal Sánchez
Reporter

Finals are quickly approaching and so is the stress of having to study for them. Many students are eager for any help they can get, which is why The Huffington Post recently came out with a list of study tips for exams.

Fernando Munoz, mathematics major, said he usually listens to music while studying for finals. "I listen to music because it helps me concentrate on what I am studying," he said.

When asked if he had ever listened to Mozart, he said, "I have

heard music like that can really help you, but I have never tried it before." However, Munoz said that he would give Mozart a try.

Another tip was to alternate study spots so students won't get bored of the same old spot. Cara Phillips, music major, said that she and her friends always have their study groups at a local Starbucks.

"We love going to Starbucks to study because it's relaxing and we can order coffee non-stop," she said.

Phillips said alternating study spots makes sense, but that she and her friends will still continue

to go to Starbucks. "It makes sense to change up the routine every once in a while, but we just love Starbucks way too much to give it up," she said.

Matt Dunn, an economics major, said that doing some kind of exercise relieves his stress before a big test.

"Before every final I take a quick walk and it helps clear my mind and relieves the stress," he said.

Dunn said feeling stressed before a test is the worst feeling for him. "Being stressed before a test is a sickening feeling," he said. "I hate it."

Making studying fun has often been a difficult challenge, but Kelly Galen, a criminal justice major, has discovered a way. Galen said that she and her friends create a Jeopardy game board using flash cards.

"Throughout the semester I make flash cards to help study for tests, so that way for the final I have them ready," she said.

Galen said that both she and her friends enjoy playing Jeopardy better than staring at a textbook all night. "Playing the game is a fun way to get our brains working instead of reading chapters from the book."

9 ways to ace your finals

Study in chunks

Listen to Mozart

Alternate study spots

Drink cocoa

Form a study group

Jog around campus

Manage your time

Approach each class differently

Build on what you know is interesting

found on Huffingtonpost.com

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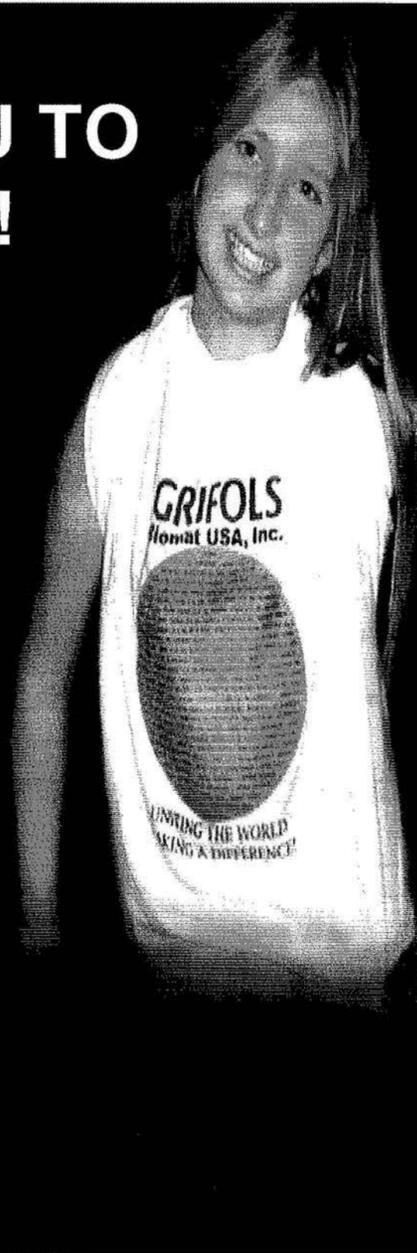
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Anime fans celebrate their fandom at local comic exhibition

By Ruben Perez
Reporter

Bak-Anime once again thrust itself into the arms of local anime and manga fans at The Double Tree Hotel on April 22.

People from all over Bakersfield, and even some from out of town, came to this event. Heidi Bailey has been coming to Bak-Anime ever since it started.

"I come for the people," she said. "A lot of my friends go, a lot of the artist people and the retailers and all of that, are here every year and it's a lot of fun to talk to them too."

The convention had vendor booths, card game tournaments and Q-and-A panels with different people in the anime and comic book business. The vendor booths sold items for costumes and anime related products that you wouldn't find at a typical store. Local businesses Leeters Gaming and Paladins Game Castle were also present.

The first panel was for "Hetalia", an anime series, where fans got to ask people dressed as characters about the series and just general, fun questions.

The "Hetalia" panel consisted of local people that had seen similar panels and wanted to do their own. The main panel was a Q-and-A panel with voice actors Travis Willingham and Laura Bailey, who have worked on shows such as "Full Metal Alchemist," "Blue Gender," "Dragonball Z," and "Bleach".

For an hour, fans were able to ask Willingham and Bailey questions about the shows they have worked on, any possible plans to revive some fan favorite shows, and to do voices

from some of their characters, which they gladly performed.

After the panel, fans were able to meet both of them and get an autograph. Brandon Jefferson, who waited in line for 40 minutes to get an autograph, was elated about meeting Bailey and Willingham.

"I love anime and they're so cool about it," said Jefferson. "I told her [Bailey] that 'Blue Gender' was my favorite anime and she was so happy because that's the second show she ever worked on. She even signed my DVDs."

The last panel was a Q-and-A panel with Billy Martinez, owner of Neko Press Comics, about how he got started in the comic business, and he also gave advice to people just starting out or toying with the idea of being a comic book writer.

It would be remiss to not acknowledge the amount of cosplay at the event.

A woman who wanted to be referred to by her character's name dressed up as, Mello from "Deathnote," shared her opinion on the cosplay.

"It's authentic to dress up at these events and you don't feel out of place," she said.

People dressed up in a variety of characters ranging from Pikachu and Link, to Pyramid Head and the "Team Fortress 2" Pyro.

The event coordinator Steve Wyatt was glad that how the event turned out and is going to be holding another anime convention this November.

"It's a two day show, so more rooms, more events, and some overnight also," he said.

If you want to stay updated on the next Bak-Anime you can register your email at their website, Bak-anime.com.