

# The Renegade Rip

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

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PHOTOS BY MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Wrestling Olympic gold medalist Jake Varner, left, is held by his aunt Sheryl Cabral at the sidelines of a Bakersfield High School football game on Sept. 7. Cabral had not seen Varner since he had gone to the Olympics.

## Golden Moment

### Olympic gold medalist Varner returns home

By Esteban Ramirez  
*Sports Editor*

After Jake Varner won the gold medal in the 2012 London Olympics and reached the goal he had been pursuing since he was in high school, he came back to his alma mater, Bakersfield High School, to speak to students about reaching their goals.

"It's awesome being back at

BHS," said Varner. "It's great to see these kids and hopefully I encouraged some of them so they can accomplish their goals.

"Nothing is impossible," he said. "You can do whatever you want. You just got to put your mind to it and work hard at it. Just don't ever give up."

"It was an exciting moment for me and it's very surreal," said Varner on winning the gold

medal in wrestling. "All the hard work paid off, and everyday it sinks in a little bit more each day that I'm an Olympic champion and it's just an awesome feeling."

Varner showed up to different events around Bakersfield on the three days he was in town. He started by speaking to BHS students and doing the coin toss in the BHS football game on Sept.

7. The next day, he attended a rally at Mill Creek Park and received honors from Mayor Harvey Hall and U.S. Rep. Kevin McCarthy. Later that day, he attended the Bakersfield Blaze game, and threw out the first pitch. On Sept. 9 Varner went to an event that was held at Costco. Costco helped raise money so Varner's family could travel to Please see VARNER, Page 11



Above: Wrestling Olympic gold medalist Jake Varner pledges the flag before a Bakersfield High School football game on Sept. 7.

Right: Jake Varner looks at the result of a coin toss during a Bakersfield High School football game.

## Public safety urges students to secure vehicles

By Patricia Rocha  
*Editor in Chief*

The Bakersfield College department of public safety urges students to keep their vehicles safe after a Sept. 5 incident.

In an email interview, public safety sergeant Christopher Counts described the incident.

"While I was on patrol of the campus, I noticed male subject walking down Panorama Drive looking into vehicles," said Counts. "DPS officers set up and watched him to see if he intended to break into a car. From a distance, it appeared he attempted to break a car window with an unknown object."

When that proved to be un-

successful for the man, he rode through campus, where officers lost sight of him briefly.

"Public safety officer Matthew Rodriguez located him in the south east student parking lot looking into vehicles," said Counts. "He then walked his bike across the street to the parking lot of Fastrip. He began breaking into a student's vehicle that was parked on Mt. Vernon Avenue."

Officers then contacted the Bakersfield Police Department.

"I contacted BPD on my radio and began providing them information on the suspect and his location," he said. "Other DPS Officers staged in the area so the suspect would not get away. BPD arrived on scene and took

the suspect into custody."

Counts then described some ways to prevent such an incident from occurring again.

"Completely roll up your windows and lock your doors," he said. "Do not leave any valuables in plain sight, such as a purse, textbooks, laptop, backpacks, CD's, iPods, etc. Set your car alarm if you have one."

"If you leave valuables in plain sight, it takes under 15 seconds for a theft of opportunity to happen," he said. "They break your window, reach in and remove your property and walk away, usually with no one seeing or hearing it happen."

Counts said students and faculty could help keep the campus

safe by following the motto, "if you see something, say something."

"If you are sitting in your vehicle studying before a class, walking to or from your car, or just entering a parking lot and you see someone that seems out of place or they are looking into vehicles, call the public safety department to let them know so they can respond to the area and make contact with the individual to ensure everything is as it should be," he said.

"Please stay on the phone with the public safety dispatcher until the officers arrive on scene so they can be continually updated as to what is happening while they are responding."

## Representative discusses goals

By Graham C Wheat  
*Reporter*

Republican Assemblywoman Shannon Grove, representative of the 32nd district of California, spoke to Bakersfield College students Sept. 17 about striving to meet their goals and her opposition to Proposition 30 in the Campus Center.

"Our state is burning," said Grove, referring to the budgetary anxiety in California.

"Nowhere in Governor Brown's initiative does it guarantee money to community colleges."

Grove said that, most important was cutting frivolous spending in unnecessary areas and the reform of state deferral payments to education.

"We need to examine the policies that are holding education hostage," she said.

Among the concerns, Grove feels the educational system in California is hampered by the high-speed rail project.

"We are sinking money into a project that is going nowhere," she said. "Some of those funds should go to our ailing education system."

Grove also said that the current system of deferred payments to California schools is misleading, in that it does not paint an accurate picture of state budget concerns.

Grove gave a laymen's example of the situation.

"Let's say you have a \$200 car payment and you don't pay it one month," she said. "The next month you have to make a \$400 payment. In our capitol, they don't see it that way. Please see Grove, Page 5

### Inside

Administrators discuss the effects of the budget initiative Prop 30.

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STEVEN MARTIN / THE RIP

Assemblywoman Shannon Grove speaks to BC students in the Campus Center on Monday.

## Student government changes president

By Omar Oseguera  
and Graham C Wheat  
*Rip Staff*

When students returned for this semester, the person they elected as Student Government Association president was no longer in office.

Over the summer, Richard Peterson, the elected president, resigned as of June 30.

Peterson's short experience as SGA president was not what he expected.

"I felt that everyone wasn't on the same page," said Peterson. "I initially took the position because I felt I could be the voice of the students for campus decisions, but after a month I felt I couldn't really make that impact as SGA president."

Peterson recalled getting

along great with everyone in SGA, but that feelings were not mutual among some members.

"I got along fine with most of the people, but I was getting static from at least one member," said Peterson. "As president, I wanted to be accepted by all [members] not just some."

Another factor in Peterson's resignation was his experience and the lack of help from members.

"When I was doing the meetings at first, I was told I wasn't leading correctly," he said. "Training wasn't until mid July, but I started June 1, so I felt that if I was given more direction I would have known more," said Peterson.

Joyce was helpful to a point,

Please see SGA, Page 5

### Inside



Page 8: Transfer day aids students with their transfer questions.

Page 6

Students discuss whether or not MTV should be considered 'music television.'

Page 10

The Renegades redeem themselves after Mt. SAC loss.

# Professors bring creativity to their offices

By Merritt Holloway  
Reporter

On the west end of the Humanities building, adjacent to the business building is an enclosed hall that houses some special faculty offices. What are unusual are the doors. Whether it is the vibrant bright solid colors, or the individualized creative works of labor, fun and love, they all are expressions of some of Bakersfield College's best faculty artistic offerings.

The offices in this hallway are based on seniority, and have an infamous side as well. It is affectionately known as "death row," because, according to legend, this will be each professor's final office until retirement.

"I don't remember the genesis, but it seems like it sprang from a need for solidarity; both feeding the creative spark and doing something together," said English Professor Kate Pluta, who is credited with inventing the initial idea. "Everyone got involved in something positive, and we are reminded of that positive feeling every day when we see the doors."

English professor Cindy Hubble's door motif is a leopard design with 'Hubble' spelled out in zebra.

"It all started with the chair," said Hubble. "I recovered a chair I got from a yard sale. I put the cheetah print on it, and it just grew from there."

Since then, many of her colleagues and friends fanned the tradition by giving her animal prints of some sort. "We have a fun hallway and we wanted to make it an exciting place for students to visit," she said.

English Professors Brenda Freaney and Rebecca Monks share an office. Their door is divided diagonally. One side has a harlequin diamond motif. The other has a crown with large and small diamonds and gold inlays and represents Freaney's contribution. "It's just for fun. You see harlequin diamonds on costumes for court jesters. It's a fun kind of symbol," said Monks.

They get a lot of compliments and positive remarks, but it might not be feasible to spread the art doors campus wide.

"We're enclosed here, so it's kind of easier for us to do our own thing. If it were out in the open, it might not go over very well," said Monks. "We didn't ask. We just did it."



Rebecca Monks stands next to her royal themed door.

Author and English Professor Gloria Dumler loves cats, and she also loves color. She remembers it was the Saturday before the start of the fall 2008 semester.

She had a cat poster that she cut out and decoupage onto her door. Feeling it was bare, she purchased some acrylic paints and attempted a background. She primed over the first attempt and started fresh the next day.

"It was a painstaking process," she said. "I knew I wanted to incorporate a lot of color, but it just wasn't working for me."

Then, I got the idea of getting some white paint and doing wavy lines. The lines were what pulled it together for me."

When Social Science Professor Steven Holmes graduated to the row, the doors were already designed. Because Holmes felt a deep respect for his colleagues, he followed in the tradition and planned a design.

Originally Holmes was going to make a palm tree, but he found a picture of the Titanic in the ocean behind what previously had been a closed door with

His door has been primed, but has not received the final design. "I have a couple of ideas," he said. "One of the things I'd want to put up there is the silhouette of the zoot suit and probably the low rider emblem."

In the past, Rodriguez had been approached about livening up his door and appears interested.

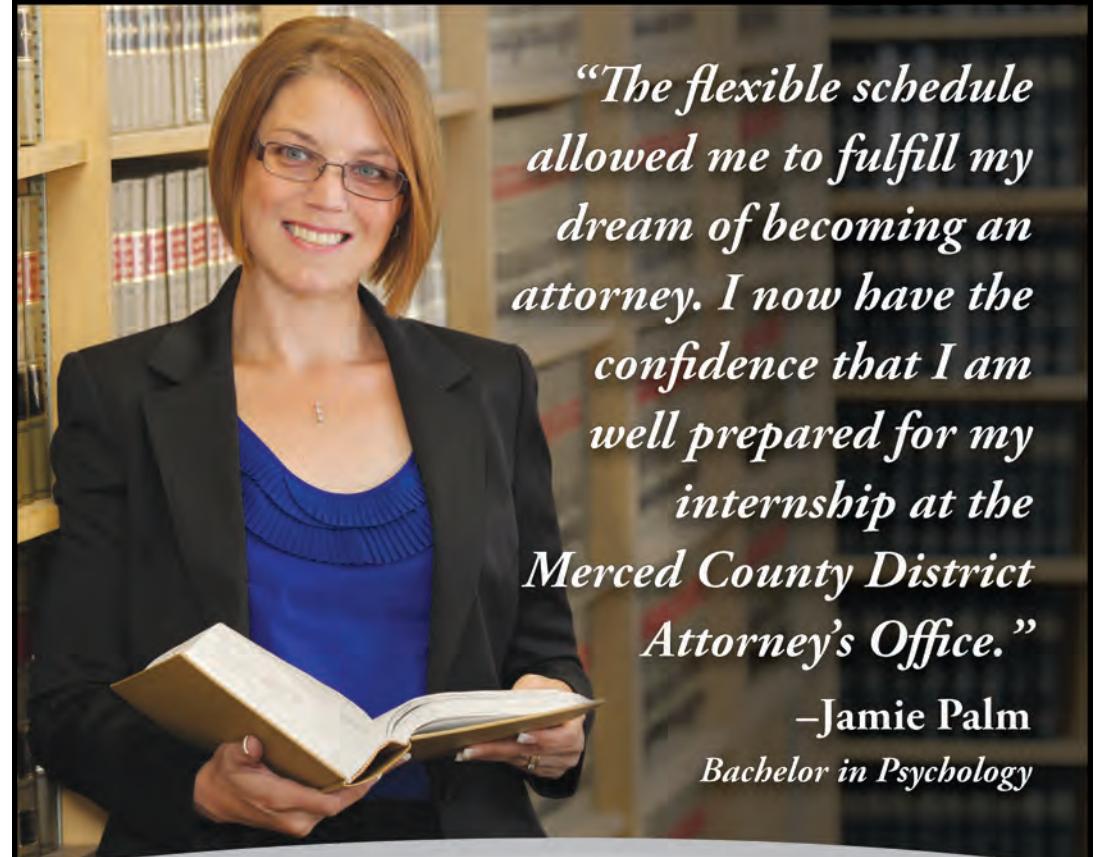
He said he's still open to the possibility of student collaboration, but if that doesn't materialize then he will probably do it himself.



PHOTOS BY ROBIN SHIN / THE RIP

Above: Steven Holmes, political science professor, displays his office door which has a sticker of a boat illusion.

Bottom Left: Gloria Dumler, English professor, stands next to her office door. The door was painted by herself with an addition of decoupage an image of a cat.



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**Column**  
**Use your creativity to mix up wardrobe**

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

It's hard to be fashionable on a budget, especially if you think you have to constantly shop for new trends and styles. However, it is easy to get creative with what you do have when you're strapped for cash. A lot of times we find ourselves in a rut, and we end up wearing the same clothes or outfit combinations over and over again.

The trick to enhancing the style we already have is to get creative with our favorite pieces. Sometimes we pigeonhole our outfits because we get stuck on "this shirt matches this skirt, so that's the only way I can wear it," or "this T-shirt only goes with jeans" mentality.

The best way to see your own pieces differently is to see how other people are styling the same pieces. The blouse you only wear with skirts could look really great under a blazer with jeans, or the T-shirt you only wear with jeans could work with the now-abandoned skirt.

With so many different styles and options out there, it's really hard to be specific about what you can do individually, so I'm going to share some places that can really breathe some new life into your wardrobe.

Personally, vintage fashion blogs are my main source of inspiration when it comes to dressing, but it can be hard to know where to start in the incredibly large realm of the fashion blogosphere.

That's where Pinterest comes in. Pinterest.com is a public, online "pin board" where you can find recipes, home décor ideas, and most importantly, fashion inspiration.

Pinterest can do so much more for you than an average fashion magazine like Vogue or Elle because those mediums focus on high fashion and covering multiple styles at once.

On Pinterest, however, you can be really specific about the fashion you want to see by searching by keywords.

Say you not only want a vintage style, but you want a style to represent a certain decade. Searching for "1930s dresses," or "1950s neck scarves," or "Edwardian boots" is going to give you those exact results, and perhaps even a way to purchase those things online.

Even just browsing through the "women's apparel" section of the site can give you ideas on how to mix and match your own pieces.

Sometimes colors or patterns of our clothing can hold us back from being creative, but there's something so eye-opening when you see someone totally rocking an unusual outfit, such as a pale dress with a vibrant blazer and chunky heels, and you suddenly think to yourself, "Well if that person can pull that off, why not me?"

If you're constantly exposing yourself to new ideas and creative styles, you start to absorb them into your mindset.

Opening yourself up and letting yourself be inspired can change not only your wardrobe, but also your life overall.



Patricia Rodha

By Merritt Holloway  
Reporter

Jose Gurrola Jr., a 19-year-old Bakersfield College student, is running for an Arvin City Council seat.

On Sept. 8, Gurrola stood in front of Arvin City Hall for a press conference and announced his candidacy for the council seat being vacated by the incumbent.

Gurrola is an Arvin native. In 2011, he graduated from Arvin High School, and is currently a political science major at BC.

He believes that the current council is dysfunctional, divisive, and is not cooperating with each other to get the city's business done.

If elected, says Gurrola, his vision is to see the council "working together and building partnerships that create real solutions."

His high school's "We The People" program taught Gurrola how government should work. "Of the people, by the people, and for the people, and the foundation rest with the people" said Gurrola.

Recently, the firing of the city's police chief drew an overflow crowd to a bi-monthly Tuesday city council meeting. Gurrola and many other constituents lobbied to keep the chief. The council didn't listen to the people, and the chief was subsequently fired.

"I'm running because I want to be a voice for the people who don't have one," he said. "A voice for the voiceless."



TEELA WALKER / THE RIP

**Jose Gurrola Jr., a 19-year-old political science BC student, is running for city council in Arvin.**

"Being that voice for the people that are too busy working; the people who don't know English, or the people who don't know about the government because they dropped out of school so

they can help their families in a struggling economy," Gurrola continued.

His top priorities are making higher education accessible, building a city council that works

cohesively, balancing the budget, and developing a prosperous local economy.

"Also they [the council] need somebody who has in mind that they are representing the people," said Gurrola.

From his "We The People" program and political science studies Gurrola sees the breakdown in his local government's functions.

How procedures are not being followed, and rules are being bent and broken.

"Somebody told me, 'you're 19 and you have no idea how the government is,' and that is true," he said.

"I don't know how to do those backroom deals, I don't know how to ignore what the people want. I don't know how to 'not' follow the rules. That's what I learned about, and that's what I'm willing to bring."

Gurrola believes his youth is actually an asset because he doesn't have "preconceived thoughts and convictions," and he is open to new ideas. His motto is, "leadership with a vision."

Arvin High School carries some BC satellite courses, but Gurrola feels it needs to be expanded, because with so few course sections, it's impossible to get an AA degree there. With so little variety, the interest in attending isn't what it could be.

Plans for the 'Garden in the Sun' spray park were approved back in 2009 and funds are available to complete the project, but

the land still remains an empty lot. Gurrola believes that this park will create "pathways that children can take to keep themselves healthy, active, and also out of trouble."

Moreover, jobs could be created and that would definitely be a welcome addition to the city.

Opening a public parking area downtown would bring more people to the area, while increasing revenues for the local businesses, and is something easily accomplishable with city council cooperation.

He believes they need to look at "how they can make the economy better as a council," and this won't happen by "being passive, but [by] being proactive."

Gurrola understands that the council can't do anything about the federal budget, but still sees room for local improvement.

"We need to do what we can do, being proactive wherever we can," said Gurrola.

His campaign is a community-run grass roots organization, and Gurrola and his volunteers are canvassing the city door by door getting his message and vision out and in front of the people.

Gurrola has a small advisory group he brainstorms with regularly, and a score of dedicated friends and volunteers that believe in his mission, and are doing everything they can to elect him to the city council. As his message gets out before the public, he expects many more people to support his campaign.

## A showcase of talents and songs

**Martin Chang**  
Opinions and Features Editor

The Songwriter Showcase at Prime Cut is a place for veterans and beginners alike to play their music and explore songwriting.

Freebo, a veteran musician of 40 years who has played with people like Bonnie Raitt and Neil Young, organizes the event. He has been running the event for about a year after he was asked to take it over.

One of his main goals is to encourage the creative power inside songwriting.

"I like to nurture creativity, to encourage original songs," he said.

As someone playing for as long as he has, Freebo has found performing and writing original music to be satisfying in a significant way.

"For me, to be playing places like The Hollywood Bowl, to playing smaller places and playing my own music has been interesting. That's why I promote creativity because I get to access my creativity at a much higher level, and there's something very satisfying about that," he said.

"I feel more complete as a musician and as a human being, when I go back to playing bass I have more fun than ever."

Not all musicians at the showcase have decades of experience. Aubren Hickernell is a 15-year-old girl who has been playing guitar and writing songs for about two years and her vocal coach told her about performing at restaurants.

She has performed at Prime Cut twice.

The first time playing, Hickernell had some stage fright but the atmosphere of the restaurant eased her nerves.

"At first I was very nervous, but the crowd was pretty laid back and it has a good vibe. I wasn't nervous this [second] time," she said.

Hickernell feels supported when she plays at the Songwriter Showcase.

"It feels really great to have other musicians appreciate the music you're playing and you appreciating their music," she said. "It helps you build your music more and it's always a good feeling when someone appreciates what you've done."

Freebo sees the showcase as a way to connect with Bakersfield.

"It's a nice chance to play locally. Now I kind of have a band, and I have guests come up. So musically it's turned into a re-



Dennis Wilson, left, and Freebo, right pose during Wilson's saxophone solo at the Songwriter Showcase at Prime Cut restaurant on Sept. 12. Wilson and Freebo have been playing music for decades, Freebo organizes the showcase.



Freebo, pictured above, has been running the showcase for Prime Cut for about a year. His two goals for the Showcase is to "promote creativity" and "play locally."

ally nice thing," he said. "I'm fortunate that I know a lot of world class musicians. For me to be playing with these world class musicians and for them to be playing my music, for me to feature them, I could do it in LA, but to do it in Bakersfield is really wonderful."

Dennis Wilson has been playing music all his life and currently plays the saxophone. He plays at Prime Cut as often as he can, sometimes twice a month with various bands around town.

When asked why he likes to play at Prime Cut he immediately replies "the food, I love the



Aubren Hickernell, a 15-year-old singer-songwriter, performs her music for the second time at Prime Cut on Sept. 12.

# Kern County Fair is back with new rides

**By Nashay Matthews**  
Reporter

The Kern County Fair has returned and is being highly anticipated to exceed last year's fair by providing new and exciting entertainment, more unique food items and more rides at the carnival in addition to the already existing features that fair-goers already know.

The coordinator of the fair, Michael Olcott, along with his staff, work year round to prepare for the annual event, which begins Sept. 19 and runs through Sept. 30.

Olcott said that he oversees the hiring of about 800 people to work at the fair mostly for security, parking regulation, cleaning and to help run the booths.

The theme this year is "Best in the West," which has been a theme in the past.

"The theme will take the fair back to its roots in agriculture and livestock," said Olcott. "We chose this theme again because we liked it last time, plus we are trying to get it out there that we are really the best in the West."

Pricing for admittance into the fair will vary each day, but participation in various activities will provide free admittance into the fair.

Race a Weiner dog in The Weiner Dog Nationals on Sept. 22 and get in for free. To benefit The Houchin Blood Bank, if you give a pint of blood, you will get a ticket to get into the fair.

Also, the second Wednesday, Sept. 26, if you give three cans of food you will get into the fair for free. The cans of food will go to the Community Action Partnership food bank.

"We are hoping to get a lot of food to give them so it can last them through the winter," said Olcott. Various forms of fun and entertainment and food are new additions to the fair as well. A deep-fried grilled cheese sandwich and chocolate-covered bacon will be among the already popular funnel cake and deep-fried Snicker bars.

Knights of the Realm, which is a jousting show, will take place Sept. 25 at 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Bull riding will take place the first Friday and Saturday of the fair and a water ride and zip line has also been added.

"My favorite part about the new additions is the zip line, although I won't be on it, I think it will be really fun," said Olcott. "Although I do think I will be the first in line to try that deep-fried grilled cheese."

For the kids on Sept. 26, kids can try to catch pigs and calves, so they can show it in next year's fair, and a live-stock scholarship will be offered this year as well.

"I really hope people come out so they can support the kids, even if they buy an animal and donate it to the food bank," said Olcott. "That way they would be supporting the kids showing animals and helping to feed people in need."



Owner Michael Davis, 62, stands proud and happy by The Lazy Toucan at the Kern County Fairgrounds.



Left: KC the Bull has been moved to the exit of the fairground for the Kern County Fair.



Right: One of the two funnel cake stands presented by the restaurant The Lazy Toucan.



Above: Jeff Denson and his accompaniment perform Sept. 9 at Metro galleries. Below: Pianist Florian Weber, left, drummer Gerald Cleaver, trumpeter Ralph Alessi, and bassist and composer Jeff Denson.



# Maya Cinema brings special nights

**By Nestor Fernandez**  
Reporter

As far as getting good entertainment for your dollar goes, the Maya Cinemas in downtown Bakersfield can boast of something no other big screen theater in town currently offers. Calling it Classic Series Thursdays, they bring back great films of the past to give audiences another movie-going option at an affordable price.

Along with amenities like stadium seating, reclining seats, self-serve soda fountains and special D-Box motion seats, Maya boasts three 3D theaters to accommodate the increasing number of films shot in that format. The 66,000 square-foot, 16-screen theater located at 1000 California Ave. is only the second in the Maya chain. The first, in Salinas, opened in 2005, and a brand new Maya recently opened

in Pittsburg. All three theaters are in California.

Assistant manager Amanda Cantu has been working for the theater for about two years, and she stated that shortly after she started, they did the first Thursday feature in October 2011 for Halloween. The turnout was successful, and then shortly thereafter they continued to feature them every month. She mentioned that the reasoning behind showcasing the classic films was to just simply put those films back on the big screen for the audience to enjoy again.

The biggest deciding factor on the selection of the films was the popularity they enjoyed the first time around, according to Cantu, while adding that the staff decided to change up from month to month, saying, "Every month it's a different theme, this month is blockbuster films."

For the rest of September, the

movies are "The Princess Bride," Sept. 20, and "Raiders of the Lost Ark," Sept. 27. Just last month, and with the popular results from the Thursday night shows, Maya decided to introduce a second night of themed films, called Indie Night Wednesdays with the same 7 p.m. start and \$6 admission price as the original model. The films showcased on the Wednesday night shows are commonly referred to as Indie Films, and generally are films that most theaters don't normally put on.

"It's the independent films that theaters don't take on, so we're bringing them in one day of the week on Wednesdays," she said. "They've been doing really well, so we're going to keep doing them."

Some of the upcoming showings are "Queen of Versailles," Sept. 19, and "2 Days in New York," Sept. 26.

# Denson performs 'Secret World' at Metro galleries

**By Omar Oseguera**  
Photo and Multimedia Editor

On Sept. 9, local jazz label Epigraph Records and Metro Galleries brought out world-renowned bassist Jeff Denson, who performed songs from his album "Secret World," which was entirely composed by Denson. Trumpeter Ralph Alessi, pianist Florian Weber, and drummer Gerald Cleaver accompanied Denson during the performance.

The group had been on a California tour promoting the new album, which ran from Sept. 4-10. The group has made stops at San Pedro, Turlock, and Mission Viejo among others. The group played workshops and evening concerts at schools, as well as performing in a club and a showroom.

Denson's "Secret World" performance was a blend of top-notch musicianship, atmospheric sounds, excellent grooves, and a phenomenal showcase of technical musicianship from his band mates.

The highlights of the concert

was their performance of the song "Where the Water Moves," which Denson described as being influenced by the rapid changes of water coming from a waterfall.

Another standout moment was their performance of three songs representing the change from sunlight to nightfall. Denson portrayed the mood of these changes with an astonishing arrangement highlighting all the musicians.

The variety of "Secret World" was showcased very well during the show, going from slow tempos and quiet dynamics to faster, rhythm heavy arrangements and experimentation.

After the show, Denson reflected on his experience and influences.

"I am a friend with Kris [Tiner]. We played at a festival together this summer, and we have a mutual friend who owns a record label in Los Angeles. I told him about my tour, it worked out in his schedule and here we are," said Denson. Tiner is a Bakersfield College music professor.

Denson is originally from Brooklyn and moved to California a year ago, accepting a professorship at the jazz institute in UC Berkeley.

"The Jazz School Institute in Berkeley is an amazing place," said Denson.

His influences go beyond music, even recognizing the Metro as an influence.

"I have many influences such as films, books, paintings. This is very inspiring, being in here," said Denson as he looked around the gallery, displaying artwork from First Friday's "Latination" exhibit.

"Nature is also a huge thing for me," said Denson, which was portrayed during his performance introductions, describing the meaning of the songs and their names.

The Metro gallery has been a host to a number of Jazz concerts, with the help of Tiner and his Epigraph record label. Jeff Denson's performance was another great addition to the growing community in Bakersfield for the genre.

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# Officials discuss funding in town hall meeting

By Merritt Holloway  
Reporting

Kern Community College District Chancellor Sandra Serrano conducted a town hall meeting Sept. 10 in Forum East to discuss the budget and the future of Bakersfield College.

Some of the priorities Serrano addressed were bringing the college's mission and core values in line with continuing state budget reductions and increasing student success.

She said those priorities were preparing student for transfers, bringing their basic skills up to college level, and preparing them for the work force.

Sean James, vice chancellor of operations, addressed the budget issues.

The district saw a number of years back that the California budget wasn't sustainable so Serrano and the board set up a district reserve fund and a college reserve fund.

James said KCCD's funding is primarily from the state and closely tied to the state's fiscal guidelines.

According to the numbers, BC's 2010-2011 reserve was over \$4.4 million, and the 2011-2012 grew to \$6.8 million. James said that in 2011-2012 the state cut BC revenues by \$4.8 million, and another cut of \$3.5 is estimated for the 2012-2013 school year.

The governor's Proposition 30 tax initiative has benefits for community colleges, but its passage will, technically, just bring BC revenues back to the 2011-2012 levels.

"Even if it does pass, it doesn't give the district more money," James said. "It just reverses that cut back up to \$63 million. And even then, I will

still have to find another \$1.1 million that can be cut."

If Proposition 30 doesn't pass, James will need to find another \$5.2 million to balance the 2012-2013 school year. He said that property tax revenues are coming in lower. The state is giving the district 97 cents on the dollar, and a three percent tax is a big cut.

"I can't tell you what's going to happen. I can tell you the dollar value. They [BC] tell me what they're going to offer. I tell them what it's going to cost," James said.

KCCD has further saved by centralizing and sharing services such as Information Technology, Human Resources, and Accounting. James said by doing so BC will save 33 percent of the total cost.

Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg, interim president, said that the governor's legislation comes at a very critical time.

"The legislation that is being proposed for our state, will not just shape our future at BC, [but] it will dramatically change what we look like in the near future."

Even if the initiative passes, BC must still reduce expenditures by an additional \$2.2 million. She said that would impact student services. It will also impact how many sections BC offers, and even the amount of staff on the campus.

Michele Bresso, associate vice chancellor of Governmental and External Relations, addressed the cuts from a district perspective.

She said that even if the initiative passes, the district would still have to cut \$2.5 million. Attrition will absorb most of the revenues lost by not filling vacant positions and retirement,

but it is still a cut.

If the tax initiative does not pass the district will cut \$8.6 million, which means that the district will eliminate 1,400 full-time equivalent students.

According to Bresso, a full-time equivalent student is one carrying 12 to 15 units. Because BC has so many part-time students, funding is based on what adds up to full-time equivalent criteria.

The district will also eliminate approximately 430 class sections. She said a section is a class that has its own CRN number and that a course may have multiple sections.

"Our district has already realized a 22 percent reduction in class sections since 2008," she said. "Over the last several years [we've seen] a continual decline in the number of sections students can choose from to complete their education."

And with fewer sections, 32 full-time equivalent faculty will also be cut. She said some adjuncts would teach fewer sections because those sections will go to the full-time faculty.

She suggested that students should be proactive in their educational pursuits, and they can do this by taking care of their basic skills reading and math classes in their first year. They should also speak with a counselor and develop an educational plan.

"Students have, by the very nature of their numbers, have a powerful voice," she said. "There are a lot of students. And students' voices in the voting booth are important. So if there is one thing students can do, now and in the future to help community colleges have a voice, are register to vote, and be an active voter."

## SGA: New president talks about plans

Continued from Page 1  
by recommending me YouTube links to watch on the ropes of everything," he said about SGA adviser Joyce Coleman. "I thought it would have been a little better if those who were in SGA before would have helped me out a little more and been more supportive," he said.

Although Peterson resigned, he remained positive and did what he felt was best for the students.

"I would like it to be known that my heart was definitely in it to go the whole term and really make a difference with students," he said.

"I wanted to be the one that they would remember. Unfortunately it only took a month to realize I wasn't in the right place and wasn't being accepted."

"I decided that the best thing for me and for SGA was to step out and put someone in SGA that everyone would accept. I wanted to leave on a positive note and not point any fingers."

Peterson told Coleman and his colleagues he was leaving to pursue a full-time job.

"I thought I was going to work with a major company, which fell through," he said. "Even if that wasn't the issue, I would have left anyway."

After Peterson's resignation, now-acting president Danitza Romo quickly filled his position as president.

She officially took office July 2. Romo filled the vacancy for vice president on the executive board over the summer.

However, she held the position for a very short amount of time.



ROBIN SHIN / THE RIP  
Danitza Romo is the new student government president.

"I was only vice president for two days," Romo said.

"According to the by-laws, when the president position is vacant, the vice president takes their position," said Coleman about Romo's short vice president role.

"That's how she, over a weekend, went from being a student, to the vice president, to the president."

Romo said it wasn't that difficult of a change for her to make, although usually the position is trained by the current president. "It's a learning process," said Romo.

"I never really pictured myself as being involved in student government, but that changed in the spring of 2011."

Romo became involved with Safe Space, an outreach program for the LGBTQ community, through an English class at Bakersfield College.

"I took the training and fell in love with it," she said.

"Actually I took it twice. I was approached to become a senator. I took an application and said yes."

Even though her political career has been fast-tracked, Romo is feeling right at home.

"[This] really fits well with my life goals," said Romo, an English and philosophy major, who wants to someday teach at a community college.

During SGA meetings, Romo is continuing to express student concerns in a number of areas, including parking and financial aid. Public safety issues seemed one of Romo's chief concerns at the SGA meeting on Aug. 8, citing car thefts and a recent student report of gas being siphoned.

She has plans to bring students closer to BC. She wants to bridge the gap between students and staff.

"I hope to increase student involvement and increase communication between the students, faculty, staff and administrators," she said.

"I hope to contribute to student success and also establish a sense of community at this college. My passion is education and student success."

*Rip editor in chief Patricia Rocha contributed to this story.*

## BC president talks Prop. 30; school may face more cuts to faculty

By Patricia Rocha  
Editor in Chief

A large factor in Bakersfield College's budget future is Gov. Jerry Brown's Sales and Income Tax Increase Initiative, known as Proposition 30.

If passed, the law titled "The Schools and Local Public Safety Protection Act of 2012" would raise California's current sales tax of 7.25 percent to 7.5 percent for the next four years.

It would also create four high-income tax brackets for taxpayers with taxable incomes above \$250,000, \$300,000, \$500,000 and \$1,000,000. This tax increase would be in place for the next seven years.

Interim president Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg discussed what might occur if the proposition does not pass and BC must decrease class sizes and sections.

"If the tax initiative doesn't

pass and if we are reduced by 800 full-time equivalent students, that would result in a reduction of full time faculty obligation number which is set by the state," she said. "That would be where we could have a reduction of full time faculty."

BC has already had to make budget-fueled changes to its curriculum to focus on "core" classes that are helping students succeed the most.

"We all have a mission in California community colleges," she said. "Our mission is to serve students who are going to transfer, students who are here for technical education programs, or certificates or degrees, and students who have a need to improve their reading, writing and math skills so that they can take advantage of the first two things."

"That narrowed mission of those three things really covers everything that's in our schedule

right now.

"I cannot point to anything and say, 'well, that's superfluous.' We don't have anything superfluous. We've already narrowed down from 2008-09 to our current schedule, so when we talk about the new 'core,' the question really is, how many courses that lead to a transfer requirement are we going to be able to offer given these reduced resources?"

She said it was important for students, as well as faculty to make their voices heard in the upcoming election.

"The tax initiative coming up for a vote, everyone, not just students, will need to look at that information and make a decision based on what they believe is the best thing for California in addition to community colleges."

In order to vote in the election on Nov. 6, one must register to vote no later than Oct. 22.

## GROVE: Assemblywoman speaks on campus

Continued from Page 1

"If a school's payment is deferred, they count it as a saving and not a debt to be compensated."

Grove stresses a need for reform.

"It is in all of our best interests to prioritize state spending and facilitate more government transparency," she said.

Although citing many woes in California's educational system, Grove, whose daughter attends BC, is looking toward the future.

She encouraged students at BC to be determined and keep reaching for their goals.

"Never let anyone tell you that you can't achieve your dreams," she said.

"You are getting a leg up," she said to the approximately 45 listeners. "You are one step closer to making a difference in this world."

Proposition 30 is the Schools and Local Public Safety Protection Act. Gov. Jerry Brown's initiative would raise state sales tax to 7.5 percent from 7.25 percent and create new tax brackets for high-income earners in hopes to raise 6 to 9 billion dollars.

This money is proposed to benefit California schools and keep public safety intact.

Christine Pratt-Meyer, BC nursing student and Republican, attended the engagement put on by Student Government Association.

"She had some great points about the things that were wrong, but it didn't seem like she had too many answers," she said. "She talked about deferrals but I didn't hear any solutions."

Pratt-Meyer was unsure of Grove's intention for being at BC.

"I thought she might be here to inspire students to vote or maybe talk about re-election but she didn't talk about any of that," she said.

Grove was elected as assemblywoman in 2010 and has since been on many assembly committees including Assembly Budget committee, and Education committee.

Grove cites her legislative priorities as reducing state spending and the creation of jobs for the Central Valley.

Grove, a graduate of Arvin High School, began by speaking of her history in Kern County

and her hometown roots.

"My mom was a single mom who worked in the sheds," said Grove referring to the produce processing plants in Kern County.

"I remember my brother and I playing around at her work. Anytime we would get out of line she would pop us on the head with a pepper and get us back in line."

Grove continued the speech by addressing some of the issues relevant to Kern County, such as budgetary concerns and the need for more government transparency.

"We hear that phrase a lot, but what does it mean?" said Grove. Illustrating that point she talked of "gut and amend" politics, wherein politicians make huge cuts to a bill and then amend it late-session to meet their desired effect.

When asked why college students should vote for her, Grove said, "I will never lie to you and I will make decisions on a whole."

Groves then posed her own question asking "What do you want after you get out of college? Jobs. I will do everything I can to get jobs back in California."

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# Democratic convention a reasoned argument for their ideas

**By Martin Chang**  
Opinions and Features Editor

At their national convention, the democrats gave something missing from the republican one: answers and reasons to believe their platform.

Instead of Ann Romney screeching "I love our women" and constant references to moms, Lilly Ledbetter spoke on how Obama helped her fight for equal pay for women. She talked about the actual fair pay act that Obama signed into law.

It is a lot easier to believe that a party and presidential candidate

are for women when you have such a clear-cut example of that belief. The GOP paraded a lot of women saying that their party supported them, but compared to Ledbetter's speech, their speeches seemed silly and empty.

On the subject of the economy, democrats did the same great job of putting ideas and arguments to their platform. Bill Clinton explained in numbers why the democrat tax cuts were better. He talked about how much the very rich would benefit from the republican tax plan. Clinton talked in numbers about how Obama helped grow jobs. He talked

about Obama's support of education through grants and the like. It was nice to hear something more than tax cuts, tax cuts, tax cuts.

One thing Obama will always be remembered for was his hope and change message from 2008. He's returning back to that somewhat, but he's improved the message and changed it to match today's climate. He said during his speech, "I have never been more hopeful about America. Not because I think I have all the answers. Not because I'm naive about the magnitude of our challenges. I'm hopeful because of

you."

It's funny that he would use the word naive because that's exactly what I felt his hope and change message was in 2008, but I think that naivety is long gone. It's hard to put into words what has changed about the message that makes it seem that way.

But there's something in the way he talks about how he learned about the loss of life in war, in the challenges he faced this term, that when he said, "our path is harder, but it leads to a better place," it's a message of hope that seems more realistic, more believable.

And after hearing all the attacks against Obama, it was nice to hear a positive message.

The petty bickering and emotional appeals of the GOP's convention was definitely more interesting to watch, but I left watching that convention with a sense of cynicism and anger about the emptiness of politics.

The Democrats brought it back to what I expect and want out of these conventions, logical and emotional arguments for your platform and presidential candidate. It may be a bit boring to hear numbers about taxes and job growth, but without facts the

endless emotional appeals began to blend together and seem silly.

I'm not saying that the Democrats didn't make those sometimes-silly emotional appeals. They did for sure. But those appeals were less about anger and attacks and were balanced out with speeches about acts being passed and things being accomplished. It just made for a more sensible picture of a political party.

So voters will decide whether they want fiery and combative or sensible and reasoned. That's the choice that the two parties presented at their conventions.

## 'Obama's America' a weak attempt at conspiracy theories

**By Omar Oseguera**  
Photo and Multimedia Editor

"2016: Obama's America" is a documentary film by Dinesh D'Souza, which is based on D'Souza's book "Obama's America: Unmaking the American Dream."

**FILM REVIEW**

★★★★★



PROVIDED BY 2016THEMOVIE.COM

"2016: Obama's America" tries to connect Obama to communism and terrorism.

because he used these people to back his statement of Obama not really working for American people, but for other countries around us.

He noted Obama's reduction of nuclear weapons, and that other countries were not doing the same, but he mainly focused on Islamic countries potentially turning into "The United States of Islam" as he called it.

This film was absolutely pathetic.

It was over an hour of the same things conservatives have been saying about Obama for years; that he is a terrorist, a communist, and does not care about America.

Although I'm sure the three elderly couples that were in the theater with me enjoyed it, any educated person would find it to be simply comedic.

Generalizing Obama as a terrorist, communist, and Muslim sympathizer does not make sense when the biggest terrorist threat to the United States was killed during Obama's term.

Obama has been at the forefront of healthcare reform, which can improve the lives of many citizens in our country.

Although it may be seen as a move of a socialist, remember that the United States is the country that created social security and welfare.

Obama has never attempted to destroy our country once since he has been in office, so D'Souza has no justification to say that Obama's potential 2013 term will be a disaster to the United States.

The only good thing I can say about this film is that some of the video editing and effects were nice, but even then, you should never get one of your cameras in the shot.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ROBIN SHIN / THE RIP

Is MTV still a great place to discover new music or is it another channel devoted to drama-heavy reality shows?

## MTV: focused on music or trash?

**By Patricia Rocha**  
Editor in Chief

Video may have killed the radio star in 1981 when MTV first aired, but has the new programming brought it back to life?

Lots of people will look at shows like Jersey Shore, Awkward, and Teen Mom and say that any channel that focuses on

that type of entertainment just can't be considered "music based." That's not a new opinion. For years, MTV has come under criticism for glorifying untalented pop musicians simply for their music video budget. Talented artists who don't have the money or the looks for TV just didn't make the cut.

Now, however, I think MTV has gotten the message.

No one wants to sit around and listen to the same overplayed radio tunes and watch their music videos all day long. That's what YouTube is for.

What people do want is to be exposed to new music that grabs their attention and exposes them to new, raw talent, and while other people are quick to dismiss the Shore cast, Teen wolves and underage moms, that's exactly what you're going to get while watching these shows.

In one half-hour show, MTV showcases about 10 song snippets as a soundtrack to whatever is going on within the show. While music in the background of a show is nothing new, what is especially interesting is the way MTV credits the song during the show, almost like a music video would.

The song list is then put on an

online playlist associated with the show so that listeners can go back and listen to the full version.

If MTV went back to their original music-video-only format, there's no way all of these songs would be able to fit.

What's special about these songs is that they're almost always non-mainstream bands. If the programming were the same as it was when MTV first started, there's no way that these low-budget underground bands would find their way into the TRL lineup.

Another great factor is genre selection.

Sure, if you watch Jersey Shore you're going to hear some songs to fist pump to, but that's just the surface.

Rock bands like the Kill Complex have been featured during one of Ron and Sam's many fight scenes, and slower, indie rock music from Noah and the Whale has been played during quieter times.

Rock, hip hop, pop, folk, and dubstep have all been featured on the channel that once got criticized for lack of diversity.

MTV may not be all music videos all the time, but it is music and television coming together to satisfy for purely entertainment purposes.

It's easy to point at all the drama associated with the reality shows of the channel and call it mindless and the reason for our society's self-destruction, but if we can find a way to appreciate some amazing talent during that destruction, that is fine by me.

While my opinion isn't the most popular, I have my iPod filled with diverse and talented artists because of MTV's influence to get me through the day.

**By Metiqua Eng**  
Reporter

What a disgusting mess MTV has become.

It has fallen from the once musical throne that defined music to the dreadful, yet addicting, production of reality television. From Jersey Shore's "GTL"

movement, struggling Teen Mom, b l o n d e

bombshells that migrate from Laguna Beach to The Hills,

and the depiction of The Real World, which isn't very real to begin with, MTV is a reality show train-wreck in which most viewers are hopelessly obsessed.

MTV once was the epitome of how the world interpreted the character of new music and an opening into the world of different genres.

It was the first network to bring the world different music from its foundation in the 80s to showcasing groups like Poison, ACDC and Guns N Roses.

MTV gave us Michael Jackson and the "Thriller" video that still lives on to the younger generations years later.

MTV gave us classics and something to remember within music culture, but I can't say much about what I know and watch in this day and age.

Although I'm beyond guilty of indulging in reality television, I also realize that MTV has no relevant musical substance, and viewers of MTV are all diluted addicts that make up the consistency of acceptance in reality TV.

Like the creation of Snooki, who in essence isn't even a real celebrity, but a dumb party girl

from Jersey who got popular for being sloppy. But I still watch it, and the first step is always admitting the problem. I'm an addict, too.

While being captivated by the dynamic of reality TV, I still question, what has happened to the essence and pride of true music, which once was the foundation for music television. The prime objective of MTV used to be music videos, TRL, Pop-up video, and showcasing new and upcoming artists.

Where did MTV producers draw the line at focusing just on reality TV? Something that was once so epic is now far from true purpose and musical soul.

But as devoted addicts of reality television, we are sucked into the notion of what MTV is becoming and the ideal that watching dysfunctional behavior is what the new MTV is all about.

We've tricked our minds into believing that this is the new music television, and this is all we're going to get.

So I am begging and pleading for a new and improved MTV, an MTV that features music artists, videos, something mind-boggling and refreshing. I need something new and captivating but with a taste of old school MTV.

So to the producers of MTV, give me something relevant to talk about and to watch besides a drunken Snooki face-planting and being "DTF" every week, teen moms being constantly pissed off at their baby daddies, stuck-up rich girls who's biggest problem is not getting into the latest Hollywood club, and seven strangers who are picked to just start fights with one other.

Sorry, not interested.



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## Column

# Patriots do not need speeches

**As my brain explodes |** One man's take on culture and life.

At this year's Republican and Democratic national conventions, "God bless America" was a common and familiar refrain.

Right or left it doesn't matter; these politicians want to let us know that they love America.

Yet these words ring hollow. Those three words seemed practiced, rehearsed; just words read off a teleprompter.

Each talking head making sure they give each word the gravitas that they deserve.

They make sure that the space between the words "god" and "bless" are sufficient, that they give the word "America" the proper punch, like a professional wrestler pumping up the crowd.

When they tell their stories of the American dream, they make sure it hits all the right notes; that the rags-to-riches story is told in just the right way to make the other side look bad.

It can all make the ideas of patriotism and pride for your country seems cliché.

An idea meant to manipulate your emotions, a cold and calculated grab at votes.

Watching the national conventions made me feel that way.

Seeing and hearing politician after politician make the same empty allusions and tell the same empty stories made love for your country seem fake, an idea expressed out of habit and obligation, not from any real emotion in your heart.

I had the pleasure to take photos of 2012 London Olympics gold-medalist wrestler, Jake Varner, at a Bakersfield High School football game and in that process I saw him pledging the flag.

Then suddenly I could feel it. In that moment patriotism didn't seem like empty lip service.

You could see in his eyes that in his journey of the past months representing America, he learned something about true patriotism. He was looking at the flag with a determination, a focus that showed he knew America and the makeup of it.

You could tell that in that moment he was not thinking of votes, or making the best speech, but of his love of America, of the compassion of being proud of where you came from.

That is how you know if someone truly believes in something. You can feel it in your gut.

You can feel it all in that moment. You don't have to have anyone tell you it's real.

Romney and Obama could speak for three hours about how much they love America, but all of their 40-minute speeches seem trivial next to Varner's simple pledge.

After seeing his pledge, I could believe in America again. I remembered why I have always considered myself proud to be an American.

I share this story to remind people that America is a place to believe in.

That no matter how much this political season will make it seem false, with its constant bickering and empty slogans, love for America can be true. Sometimes you just have to look deeper to find it.



Martin Chang

# Parking rules inconvenient mess

Parking. It has sparked debate and headache for students at Bakersfield College for many years, and yet no real evidence can be found to show that the administration has heard our grievances.

Our on-campus student numbers have grown, and like class sizes and cut programs, it sends the message that there doesn't seem to be room for us all.

Administrators are constantly telling students to get out there and make their voices heard, but raised parking fees seem to say that these voices don't matter when money is involved.

In an ideal world, parking would be free and getting a spot five feet from your first class of the day would be possible, but we understand such dreams just can't be real.

What does seem to be possible, however, is increasing the very small amount of free parking we do have.

Currently, students can park free of charge on the streets bordering the school where legally allowed, as well as a small square of parking lot by the baseball field on Haley Street and University Avenue.

From a budgetary standpoint, this makes tons of sense; more

paid parking and less free parking means more money for the school.

However, from a student's standpoint, taking a 12-minute walk from your car in the sweltering Bakersfield sun from free parking to class just to save a few dollars is just ridiculous.

A school like ours should function on give and take, with student success helping the college, and the college helping students in return.

However, what we see lately is a whole lot of "take" and not enough "give."

If the current corner of campus parking can be free, why not another?

The corner of Mount Vernon Avenue and University Avenue is just as far away from classes as the current free parking, and would be an excellent free parking space.

Also, we don't see the harm in extending the current free parking area just a few more spaces. As it stands, free parking is about a fourth of that lot's area, and it is easy to see why.

It levels off perfectly with the street entrance and baseball field, but that is about its only positive attribute.



The free parking lot here at Bakersfield College is especially crowded this year.

The spaces literally only a few feet from free parking aren't being utilized, because any student who pays for parking isn't going to use the spaces so far from classes.

If the free parking area in-

creased from a fourth to at least a third, maybe there would be fewer complaints about the entire issue.

If this give and take is supposed to go both ways, students should at least be given some

real options. So while half of us struggle to find free parking, and others pay to park right next to free parking, those with the reserved parking spaces ought to reach out and help students.

# Village Grill offers fresh sandwiches and dining

**By Luis Garcia**  
Reporter

If you like to avoid chain restaurants and grease pits then the Village Grill in downtown Bakersfield is the place for you.

For the past 12 years

the Village

Grill has been serving up a wide array of American cuisine, offering a long list of salads and sandwiches, open-flame burgers, seafood and vegetarian options. They are open seven days a week 6:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

It took me a couple minutes of

driving up and down F Street before locating the restaurant that I have heard so many good things about. The parking and entrance are in the back lot around the corner of F and 28th Street.

A wooden door leads into a serene, shaded, outdoor garden patio full of lush greenery, chimes, umbrellas, waterfall noises and birds chirping. There was a decent amount of people dining in the patio, some even brought along their pets for the outing. A small hallway leads to a spacious dining room where more seating is available.

On that visit, the service was prompt and friendly. After browsing the menu for a few minutes, my companion and I

ordered a cup of coffee and the Greek vegetables on a croissant sandwich.

The sandwich included fresh spinach, cherry tomatoes, cucumber and sundried tomatoes, and was accompanied with a side of fresh fruit.

Our food was brought out fairly quickly and I noticed my sandwich was smaller than I'd hoped.

It was delicious while it lasted.

Considering I ordered two items, the undersized meal was not worth the \$11.78

On a second visit, I ordered a vegetarian cheese steak stuffed with grilled onions, bell peppers, melted pepper jack cheese, and

# Colleges help students transfer

**By Esteban Ramirez**  
Sports Editor

Bakersfield College held their annual transfer day on Sept. 13, and for the first time UC Berkeley had a representative attend.

The event showcased dozens of schools to help students interested in transferring.

"So far it has been great but I'm still looking forward to meeting more students," said UC Berkeley admissions officer Henry Tsai.

"I want to talk to as many students as possible and give out as much information on the school. I want to give the idea that [students] can go to any college that they want to, and if they try hard that Berkeley is very obtainable."

He added that the most common thing students asked Tsai about was how hard it is to get into Berkeley.

"They mostly asked me how hard it is to get into, and what's the GPA requirement and things like that," he said.

"Mostly I just tell them that there is a range from 3.6-3.8, but that's an average so there is an above and below. We also look at more than the GPA."

He added that the minimum requirements to transfer to Berkeley are 60 transferable semester units, 3.0 GPA and the IGETC or the L&S breadth requirement.

"Those three things need to be done by the spring semester you want to transfer."



ROBIN SHIN / THE RIP

**Ali Kropf, a representative from the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising, is explaining to a BC student, Jorge Contreras, 20, of what he can achieve from attending the school.**

Some of the more notable schools that made it to transfer day were: UC Berkeley, Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo, University of Arizona, Oregon State University, Fresno State University and University of Nevada among many others.

BC's transfer center director and articulation officer Sue Granger-Dickson commented on how this year's transfer day went.

"The turnout is great," she said.

"It's even better than last year. Students seem to be genuinely interested in their futures and genuinely interested in transfer."

"We want to encourage transfer students about the possibilities of transfer, and that the four-year universities want them."

"Just by letting them know what they need to do and getting them to choose a major, choosing the right courses and getting them to do well in those courses because with the changes on financial aid, students can't afford to waste time," she said.

"The main point of transfer day is to educate the students of the transfer process, to encourage them to consider transfer to either a CSU, UC or a private or out of town college."

Last year, Granger-Dickson said they wanted to reach a goal of being in the top 50 in community colleges that have the most students transferring to four-year schools.

She explained that they did increase their numbers, but she is not sure if they reached those goals.

"I'm encouraged that we're getting the word out, and I'm encouraged that we're building a culture of transfer on the Bakersfield campus," she said.

"I'm also encouraged that the four-year colleges are excited to be here. I'm happy that we're reaching more students and more diverse students."

Senior director for California admissions and representative for University of Arizona, Gil Gasteluno, commented on transfer day.

"I would like to let students here at BC to be aware of the opportunities out there to go to an out-of-state school," he said.

"I really enjoy talking to students and especially ones that didn't realize there are opportunities besides their own backyard, and it's great because it's like a light goes on and they get super excited."

"Even if they don't go to the U of A, they can be aware of the vast opportunities that are out there for them, and that just makes me feel great."

Some BC students commented on the schools that caught their attention and just transfer day in general.

"It's pretty cool, I've gotten a lot of helpful information," said criminal justice major Luis Jimenez.

"I really liked the California Baptist University because they're telling me a lot about the criminal justice stuff and it sounds good."

Alicia Adams, who is majoring in nursing, gave her thoughts on it.

"I think it's cool because all these different schools are here," she said. "I really like that it's not only schools from California."

"The school that I really liked was the University of San Diego. I always wanted to go there because of the beaches there."

# Annual barbecue impresses alumni

**By Hannah Breeland**  
Reporter

Bakersfield College had its 58th annual BC Barbecue on Sept. 13, drawing large crowds and celebrating the upcoming fall sports with food and entertainment, all taking place on campus.

There was steak and chicken, and a pasta station for vegetarians. It was provided by culinary arts students under Chef Coyle and food service under the direction of Chef Gomez.

"For some people they went more for the food than the sports," said freshman Daniel Milbern. "I love football and school spirit but I just love BBQ, the steak was my favorite."

Entertainment was provided by the BC drumline, cheer team and a local band Mento Buru.

"I really liked the drumline performance," said BC student Nicolle Wilkins. "They are always my favorite."

After the entertainment, the fall sports teams and coaches were introduced. Women's basketball coach Paula Dahl felt it was a success.

"It was great to see all of the athletes together," she said. "They seemed to have fun interacting with the alumni."

Becki Whitson, the president of the alumni association, isn't sure of exactly how much money was raised. The alumni association will take part of the proceeds and contribute it to the athletic program, and the athletic director will use that money to cover any needs the teams might have.

# Renegade pantry down to monthly distributions

**By Hannah Breeland**  
Reporter

Bakersfield College's Renegade Pantry used to exist on funds of a certain account but not any more, according to Nick Acosta, the general counsel for the Student Government Association. SGA can no longer use the \$1 Campus Center fee that students pay each semester to help fund the pantry.

The pantry was started by SGA in 2009, but since then, it has been determined that a bill passed years ago doesn't allow the pantry to collect Campus Center money, even though the pantry is located in the Campus Center.

"This semester we are only able to do distributions once a month instead of every other week like previous semesters," Acosta said. "The SGA is now in charge of funding the pantry, but money's tight at the moment."

Acosta added that he has a plan that, in theory, should work.

"Have all faculty and staff get a payroll deduction of \$5 each, every month for one year," he said. "It's less than a Starbucks drink. That would fund the pantry for two years alone."

He's going to be emailing staff about his proposal within the next couple days.

To receive food, you have to sign up for a food order the week of distribution. All sign ups must be done before the actual day of distribution. Distributions take place on Thursdays.

The next ones are Sept. 20 and Oct. 18. You can sign up for the October distribution on the 15th through the 17th.

If you want to volunteer at the pantry, you can sign up during distribution week. The form is in the Student Activities office. Another way of helping is donating non-perishable items to SGA office located in the Campus

Center.

"I know times are tough, but it's such a good cause," he said. "I know families are going to be affected by this change. If everyone just gives a little bit I feel we can help a lot of people."

"I really want to get the pantry to do every other week distributions again."

Acosta mentioned that some teachers have really stepped up either by donating more or talking to friends and getting them to donate.

During the BC BBQ he raised \$20. "I was just happy to get anything," he said. "Sure, it's not what we hoped we would get, but every bit helps."

The Renegade Pantry accepts monetary donations in the form of cash or checks. Checks should be made to The Renegade Pantry and all donations can be mailed to the Student Activities Office at 1801 Panorama Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93305.

# Parking changes upset students

**By Hannah Breeland**  
Reporter

This semester has brought on changes, some good some bad, like new teachers, different classes and higher parking fees.

The one-day parking pass is now \$5, a \$4 raise compared to last year.

The only warning was an email sent to students six days before school started stating the price change.

The Student Government Association felt the price change could have been handled differently.

"On the first day of school I saw students pulling up to the ticket machines, then a minute

later drive away," said SGA vice president Toccara Byrd.

"I really wish there had been more notice. It is not fair to the students, especially since a lot of students don't check their email until the semester starts."

"This isn't a university, so the price is just unbelievable."

There is some good news for students who receive financial aid.

On the website, [www.thepermitsstore.com](http://www.thepermitsstore.com), you can check the box that asks to save \$10 and only pay \$20 if you are receiving financial aid.

According to Byrd, the administration presented proposals for raising the parking fee at the end of last semester.

A proposal for raising the fee was agreed upon, but the administrator SGA was working with was replaced.

SGA asked if it could be notified of the final decision on parking so students could be warned, but SGA received no prior word until the email appeared, and by the end of summer, the email was sent out without input from SGA.

"When I first saw the price change, I thought it was ridiculous," said BC student Katlin Mathews.

"It's sad we are being charged this much at a community college. This is how much I pay when I visit CSUB. I now park on the street."

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# BC volleyball gets swept in finals by defending champs

By Nestor Fernandez  
Reporter

On a scorching hot weekend in the San Diego Mesa Tournament on Sept. 14-15, the Bakersfield College volleyball team played Victor Valley and San Diego Mesa on Friday, then El Camino and Pierce College on Saturday.

In the four matches, BC won three, and lost only its final match to Pierce, who is the defending back-to-back State Champion, and is ranked No. 1 in the state.

Against Victor Valley, BC posted a 25-9, 25-22, 25-10 straight sets victory, then came back later and produced a hard fought five-set victory over San Diego Mesa, 25-16, 21-25, 23-25, 25-19, 15-10. In the second day of matches, they squared off against El

Camino in the first match, and won in a tight straight sets victory, 25-18, 31-29, 26-24.

Then in the final match against Pierce, BC fought hard before falling in straight sets, 25-21, 25-16, 25-20.

They are now 6-1 for the season, and have only lost to the defending state champion. Leading the team after seven games is Caitlin Bernardin with 115 kills and 16 aces, Samantha Whittington has 239 assists, and Monica Barksdale has 142 digs.

BC Coach Carl Ferreira talked about the successful back-to-back weekends in San Diego, along with dealing with the adversity of the travel, especially the hot weather.

"I'm very pleased with our overall play, how well our play-

ers managed the weekend by taking care of how you prepare, it's not the easiest thing to do. It's 108 degrees outside and no AC in the building," he said.

"So the elements obviously affected both sides, but I'm pleased with how well we managed to play."

"Overall, we're siding out real well, we're terminating rallies well, we're pleased with our mental skills, we don't have any roller-coaster emotions within the game," continued Ferreira.

"We really sustain a nice high level of execution, because of not reacting to the previous play."

When asked about the loss to Pierce, Ferreira had this to say, "We lost in the finals to Pierce, who's the back-to-back defending state champions, and cur-

rently ranked No. 1 in the state, so that's who we dropped the match to."

"It's a good barometer for us, good to understand that we can play at that level."

In the first two road games of its season, BC traveled to Grossmont College in El Cajon, San Diego.

They proceeded to play in games against two of the four teams in the Grossmont Quad on Sept. 7 and 8.

The Renegades defeated Grossmont in the first match, winning in straight sets, 25-14, 25-21, 25-22.

Against San Diego Mesa, they again prevailed in straight sets, winning it 25-23, 25-20, 25-20. Cuesta College was the other team among the four that partici-

pated.

In the match against Grossmont, BC started off with a dominant first set (25-14), then it tightened considerably in the final two sets.

Overall, they weren't able to get their team goal of a .405 kill rate, finishing at .326 (31 kills in 95 attempts), but got the job done nonetheless.

Against SD Mesa, the Renegades posted an impressive .500 kill rate (51 kills in 102 attempts).

"After being at home for a month, just training, and you create an environment in your own gym about how you do everything that you do, it's always very different to travel, and be able to take your mindset into a distracted area," said Ferreira.

"There's a reason why home winning percentages are better than road winning percentages, so I was very excited that number one, we had the chance to play two very outstanding teams, and I thought we performed very well."

"Our coaches had done an exceptional job of preparing the team, and really paying attention to the little details. That's all we talk about constantly; it's all about learning, what we can improve upon to be better," Ferreira said.

"Overall, our passing, that phase of the game, I thought was outstanding, because that gave our point scorers a chance to stay in rhythm."

BC will play at Santa Barbara City College on Sept. 22.

## Column Not there yet, BC athletics

**Renegade pass** | Taking on every issue with BC athletics

All the changes made to Bakersfield College athletics by athletic director Ryan Beckwith have been to give BC more of an NCAA atmosphere, and I think all of them have been good changes. Like getting the gym refurnished, changing the home side to where the press box is at, getting a radio channel for BC games and hiring a swimming coach with NCAA experience. But there are some things that I would like to see change at BC sporting events.

I would love to see some actual bleachers in the gym, and not those uncomfortable ones they have right now. Really, at times, I preferred standing up instead of sitting on those bleachers when I would cover a game. We have a nice gym, so why not get some good seats to go along with it. I'm not asking for anything extravagant. It doesn't have to be seats with cup holders or seats that recline. Although that would be awesome, just something that isn't uncomfortable. Not only will everyone be more comfortable, but new bleachers will go great with that nice gym.

How about some vendors at sporting events? That would be great. I just don't like it when I'm at a football game, and I have to go down or up some stairs to get to the concession stands. And then to make matters worse, I have to wait in line. Come on, even Wasco High School has vendors. I mean all they were selling were churros, but still. This will also be helpful to some of the older BC boosters that aren't as spry as they used to be. Let's not make them go all that way to get something to eat and drink.

While we're on the drinking matter, they need to sell beer at the games. Everyone knows that beer and sports go hand and hand. Now I know that administration wants to make sure that a situation doesn't get out of hand because of someone that was drinking too much, but if you sell beer even more people will come out to the games. It's a proven fact.

There are ways to prevent any altercations from happening. Now I'm not someone that drinks, but I understand how important it is for most sports fans to have a beverage while watching a sport.

We also need a better soccer field. It just looks like a normal field from any park with barely any seats out there. If we want to have that NCAA atmosphere, then something needs to be done about that field because nothing about it gives me the feel that it has the same atmosphere of any NCAA school.

With the budget cuts it would be hard to change that, but that field needs to be changed to give it that atmosphere.



Esteban Ramirez

## BC band puts on show under the bright lights

By Ruben Perez  
Reporter

With thousands of talented students at Bakersfield College, many may wonder why such a large school has such a small band.

The BC Band program, led by Tim Heasley, has two parts to it: concert band and drumline. Heasley has been directing both since he started here in spring of 2008.

"I think I had about 12 students total in the band program," said Heasley. "The numbers in that group have generally grown through the years. The current group is not exactly the biggest that we've had. It's a good group of students, about 25 members in the band."

If you've attended the home football games recently you might have seen them there. They were playing pep band music.

Heasley changed the standard concert band schedule to play football games.

"Rather than two concerts, we'll have five performances in the semester," he said.

The previous pep band for football games was on a volunteer basis, so not everyone had shown up to games.

The football game performances are well received by band members that were disappointed by lack of a marching band.

"It's different coming from high school, where you march all four years in a marching band, and coming into college with no marching at all," said band member Mike Audie. "It's weird."

Clarinet player Duchess Nolbert was glad to hear the news of playing football games.

"That's something that I've really wanted this to come to, maybe because I'm very used to a marching band playing at football games," said Nolbert. "It's just a really great experience to come and play and be used to old times. I love it."

Unfortunately for the band, their usual band room is being renovated, so they've had to relocate to the Forums Building.

"We're happy to be flexible because there's some renovation going on in the actual band room area and hopefully when it's done it'll be a state-of-the-art facility and be great," said Heasley. "They provide facilities and all the things that go along with that; air conditioning, heat, and support on a very conservative level to maintain what we have going."

Due to funding issues, the band and drumline do fundraising themselves to help support the program. A big issue with the program is lack of instruments for students.

"Every semester I have a handful of students come in, and they've benefitted in high school by the support of their high school programs," said Heasley. "They come here, sign up for band, show up the first day of class, and realize our instrument inventory is very small for our band program."

"We have some really unique, interesting instruments, but we don't have a lot of the standard instruments



The Bakersfield College band performs at the football season opener against Santa Ana College on Sept. 1.

that are the more common instruments bands typically use like clarinets, trombones."

Nolbert is among the students that borrows an instrument for the band program.

"I've been borrowing clarinets from the schools for years," she said. "This one actually belongs to his [Heasley's] wife."

Heasley tries to make sure everyone in his band has an instrument to play, even if it means the student must check out an unused instrument from his or her old high school for practice.

"We haven't had a new instrument in our inventory in the band since I've been here," he said. "We have acquired instruments in the meantime through kind donations. We had a trombone that was donated to the program a few years ago."

"When Stockdale Music went

out of business I purchased a handful of instruments at really low cost and have loaned them out to members that needed them," he said.

"We've been able to repair instruments that were in our inventory, but even that was kind of a challenge."

The drumline is also in need of some help with instruments.

"The college purchased the set of drums we use before I was here," he said.

"With those drums we've been as careful as we can to make them last as long as they can, but they're already starting to show their age. It's time for those to be replaced."

Band members currently would like to encourage more people to join in the hopes of more funding for the band and so that they can possibly start up

a marching band.

"I would love to see it continue and grow so maybe we have a marching band," said Audie.

"If they see an increase, that'll probably change their minds; show them we're serious."

The band also does a lot to try and get their name out there, especially before the start of each semester.

"We really try to push that the class is out there and it exists through social media, and word of mouth really," Heasley said.

"It would be cool to go to the high school during marching season and perform for them and show them that they can join," said tuba player Devin Morrow.

The band can be seen at future home football games and those interested in joining the band can contact them at bcrenegadeband.org and bcdrumline.org

## BC cross-country struggles under tough weather conditions

By Nestor Fernandez  
Reporter

It was an early rise for the Bakersfield College cross country team, as they traveled to Costa Mesa for the Orange Coast Invitational for a 9:30 a.m. start time on Sept. 15.

When they got there, they were forced to deal with extremely hot weather conditions, not to mention the long drive down.

In the 3.1 mile women's race, the BC women finished in the 17th position among 27 schools, with a total time of 1:53:01, and an average time of 22:36.

The BC men finished 23rd overall in the 4-mile race among 26 schools, with a total time of 2:04:05, and an average time of 24:53.

The top three women for BC were Moriah Milwee, with a time of 21:05:46; Orieth Rodriguez (22:13:57), and Alejandra Jimenez (23:18:34). For the BC men, their top three performers

were Misael Herrera (23:05:95), Triandous Hobson (24:38:61), and Terry Duncil (28:00:24).

Orange Coast College took the top spot in the women's team competition, with a 1:38:08 total time, and an average time of 19:37.

American River College captured first place in the men's team prize, with a winning time of 1:44:53, and an average time of 20:58.

Grace Graham-Zamudio of Glendale College won the women's race, posting a mark of 18:38:48.

Munir Kahssay of Cerritos College took the top spot for the men, with a 20:38:05 winning time.

BC assistant coach Dave Frickel talked about the very bad running conditions facing his squad.

"It was brutal conditions out there, about the time of the day we ended up running, it was nearly a 100 degrees, so they had some pretty bad conditions

down there."

"It was a tough day, we took a lot of the kids to the hospital down there."

"We were up there on the bluffs where there's absolutely no shade."

"When we got off the bus, I was shocked, it was really hot, and it was about 8:30 (a.m.), and I was thinking this is not a good time."

"It was crazy hot, so they were just packin' the kids away, carting them to the hospital, so it was not a good deal."

On Sept. 8, BC competed in the Fresno City College 2012 Cross Country Invitational, held at Woodward Park in Fresno.

The women ran 3.1 miles, and there were 17 schools competing, with 155 women participating in the race.

The men ran 4 miles, and there were 20 schools that participated, with 179 men competing.

The BC women finished 10th overall as a team, with a time of

1:48:53, and average time of 21:47. The BC men posted a 17th place finish, as they ran an overall time of 2:00:12, and a 24:03 average clocking.

The top three runners for the BC men was Misael Herrera (89th), with a total time of 23:18, and average time per mile of 5:50, Davis Loustalot (118), 23:59, 6:00, and Roberto Davalos (120), 24:03, 6:01.

The Renegades women top three were Moriah Millwee (39), 20:45, 6:42, Orieth Rodriguez (58), 21:20, 6:53, and Maileya Hermosilla (77), 22:08, 7:09.

"We raced against some of the top schools in Northern California, those are probably some of the better programs that are on the board."

"This time we had Southern Cal teams mixed in with the NorCal schools, so it's kind of like a little precursor to the state meet."

"I think we had some good improvement, a lot of the kids

dropped from the week before. Ventura is a pretty brutal course, many of the kids dropped anywhere from a minute to a minute and a half, some even dropped more, so overall, we're improving, we're getting better," said Frickel.

American River College in Sacramento finished first in the team standings for the men, with 20 total points. They posted a total time of 1:44:57, and an avg. time of 21:00.

Luis Luna of ARC won the individual prize with a winning time of 20:47, and an average time of 5:12.

For the women, Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa took first place with a total time of 1:38:08 and 54 total team points. Grace Graham-Zamudio of Glendale College finished as the top individual with a winning time of 18:35, and an avg. time of 6:



# BC wins with late goal

By Esteban Ramirez  
and Jason Reed  
*RIP Staff*

It was a hard fought battle, but in the end the Bakersfield College Renegades inked out a 1-0 victory over Solana College on Sept. 14.

The Renegades only goal came late in the game, and it was scored by freshman Reshana Watson.

**SPORTS ROUNDUP**  
“There were times when it slowed us down a little bit, there were times we looked a little bit tired. But we held in enough and got the late goal,” said BC coach Scott Dameron.

Dameron during halftime told his players he thought they were forcing the ball too much and making mistakes in the first half.

“We just needed to settle down, when we were playing our style, we were really good,” he said. “When we weren’t, we were just giving the ball away too easy.”

Reshana Watson was in the mix of a hard fought scrabble, but in the end she was able to get the ball past Solano’s goalkeeper Katie Wright.

“That was fantastic effort, late by Reshana. That was just her wanting the ball more and she found a way to get it.”

The Renegades (3-1) play their first conference game Sept. 25 at West Los Angeles College.

## Women's golf

Even with only five golfers on the team, Bakersfield College women's golf team was able to place third in the Western State Conference Tournament on Sept. 13.

The tournament was at Santa Barbara and five teams competed. BC scored 347 to take third.

Glendale College took first with 315, and College of the Canyons took second with 322.

Sophomore Kambria Ulrich led the BC team by shooting a 77 in the tournament.

“I don’t think we performed as good as we’re capable of playing,” said BC coach Bob Paillet. “A couple of our players didn’t



PHOTOS BY MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Bakersfield College soccer player Natalie O'Dwyer, left, and Solano College forward Sydney Sjoberg struggle over the ball, while BC player Michele Loera looks on. BC beat Solano 1-0 on Sept. 14.

have their best day. We have to have four of the five players to have their best day at the same time, and that’s what you need. We haven’t had that yet. It’s usually two that have a good day and the other two don’t.

“We can challenge if we can get everyone to have a good day at the same time. I want them to do better, but we only have five girls on the team. We only had five girls come out for the team, and the five girls are doing the best they can and third place isn’t too bad.”

He explained how hard it has been for the team to compete with only five golfers.

“It would be nice if we had a few more girls trying out for the team because it creates more competition for the ones that are going to compete, so right now there’s no competition.”

He added that something that has hampered their progress is not being able to practice as much as he would like because of conflicting schedules.

“With our scheduling and how everyone is having trouble getting classes it’s hard to practice as much as we would like.”

Moore will have his first match this year at the Mt. SAC Duals on Sept. 22.

## Wrestling

It is a new year for Bakersfield College wrestler Quinn Moore who was the number one wrestler in the state two years ago.

He’s looking to get back on the mat after a frustrating year last year, not being able to wrestle due to ineligibility.

“It was very frustrating,” Moore said. “It was one of the hardest times I had to go through in the last few years. To know that I messed it all up because I didn’t take enough units.”

Moore was one of the top wrestlers in the state two years ago.

After not being able to perform last year, he said he’s feeling great going into this year.

“I had a year to prepare,” Moore said, when asked how he felt in terms of conditioning.

He also talked about how he worked out year round over the summer.

“In the summer, we worked out three times a week,” he said.

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Quinn Moore practices grappling with assistant coach Joe Espejo on Sept. 11. Moore was number one in the state two years ago, but was unable to wrestle last year due to ineligibility.

## JAKE VARNER: Gold medalist returns to Bakersfield

Continued from Page 1

London to see him compete. He added that the event he was looking forward to the most of the three days was watching the BHS high school football game.

“It’s been seven years since I’ve been going to school here and it’s been a long journey,” he said.

“There’s a lot of sacrifice and hard work, but it has all paid off.”

“I also saw my elementary and junior high school today and talked to those kids and hung out with them,” he said.

“I went to Liberty High School and saw a kid who has cancer right now.”

“His name is James Lyle and he’s fighting right now so it was a real honor to go see him.”

“I’ve gotten a lot of support from here at Bakersfield,” he said.

“From friends and family and even from people I went to school with when I was younger that I had contact with.”

“They told me that they’ve been following me and all the things I have accomplished, which is pretty awesome.”

“Just got a lot of support and a lot of people helped my family to get to the Olympics to watch me.”

He added that it shows how much Bakersfield cares about



MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Olympic gold medalist, Jake Varner, speaks to Bakersfield High School students about reaching goals during a rally at BHS on Sept. 7.

their athletes and anybody in general.

“It feels good to be back because I love Bakersfield,” he said.

“I love coming back. It’s a great place to be from, and I’m honored to say that I’m from here and it’s great to come back to this.”

He explained that the thing he thought separated him from the other wrestlers is that he hated losing so he worked hard to in-

sure that he didn’t lose again.

“I just hated losing,” he said. “I hated it so much it made me sick, so I tried to figure how not to lose anymore and that’s how most athletes in general should think.”

“That’s how I thought, so I just figured out how to fix what I needed to fix, and it put me to the next level when I made those changes.”

He explained that he still hasn’t made up his mind if he’s

going to continue to wrestle.

“I’m going to make my decision in a few weeks,” he said.

“I just don’t know yet. It’s up in the air so we’ll see.”

“I’m just enjoying this right now because you don’t want to put this away and get back too fast.”

“I’ve worked on this for a long time and put in a lot of hard work so I think I deserve a little time off and enjoy it a little bit and have some fun.”

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# Shakespeare Festival back on campus

By Ruben Perez  
Reporter

Starting Oct. 3, The Kern Shakespear Festival returns in its 27th season with new performances of classic plays "Much Ado About Nothing" and "Romeo and Juliet."

The director of The Shakespeare Festival, Randall Messick, uses student actors and guest actors to perform classic plays by "the greatest playwright of all time."

Messick found one of the guest actors, Casey Worthington, in Davis near Sacramento.

"He saw me in Davis Shakespeare Ensemble's 'Henry V,'" said Worthington. "That's where he caught me."

Though you may be familiar with the plays, Messick explained that with Shakespeare, "it's inexhaustible in the ways you can do the plays, your approach to them."

A big change in the approach of the plays is that neither is set in Shakespeare's time.

"Romeo and Juliet will be set, not in an Elizabethan era with tights," Messick said. "It's going to be set more in an Eastern European turn of the century village, so it's going to be much more rural and much more earthy. I think also much more intimate because the village is small and the nature of conflict between families is intense, and it's also just a fun look."

"We're going to have a lot of fun with 'Much Ado' because we're going to set it right after World War II in an English village, and the soldiers are coming back from their experience fighting in World War II, which is going to

## The Festival

**When:** "Much Ado About Nothing," Oct. 3, 5, 11 and 13. "Romeo and Juliet," Oct. 4, 6, 10 and 14. All shows begin at 8 p.m.

**Where:** Renegade Park

**Tickets:** \$5 per person (no one under age 6 allowed). Tickets can be purchased at the Bakersfield College ticket office. Call (661) 395-4326

give us a lot of fun with the music and costumes and looks."

Another change Messick's made to the play "Much Ado" involves the character Conrad, who will now be a "floozy" played by Amanda Duke.

"Instead of having a guy console him about all the evil stuff he's going to do, a girl consoles him," explained Duke, a theater student at Bakersfield College.

"When you see it on stage, you understand automatically what they're talking about, and we're just upping the dirty jokes because that's really what he meant," said Duke. "Shakespeare is all sex jokes."

"That's one of those things people don't tell you a lot, but every scene has a sex joke in it usually, unless it's the end of Romeo and Juliet. That obviously doesn't."

Worthington elaborated on the play.

"It was entertainment for the masses, not for people that could understand these high words," he said. "That was closer to how people talked then, and it was just bawdy humor."

**BC student actors and actresses practice the scenes with professor Randall Messick before their rehearsal begins. Students Tyler Steelman, Kevin Ganger, and Matthew Mizell were some of the students practicing on the stage.**

Due to the renovations in the Speech and Music Building, the festival had to be moved, but it's one that didn't put Messick off.

"It has actually kind of been fun in a way, because we've had to find different places to do our plays, and that's sort of forced us into luck finding some really cool spots like Renegade Park," he said. "I never even knew it was there before."

The festival will still go on, but it will be outdoors in Renegade Park, which Messick is looking forward to.

"It's in a beautiful venue," he said. "There's something magical about seeing Shakespeare outdoors under the stars."



PHOTOS BY ROBIN SHIN / THE RIP



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