



ROCKABILLY
FEATURE, PAGE 2

DANCING
PERSPECTIVES, PAGE 8

MEN'S BASKETBALL
SPORTS, PAGE 11

The Renegade Rip

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

Vol. 85 • No. 3

www.therip.com

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

BC plans to charge for free parking

By Robert Mullen
Reporter

Come Fall of 2013, students at Bakersfield College will find parking much more expensive. "We're looking at both the parking fee, the amount, and we're looking at eliminating free parking," said Sean James, BC's executive director of administrative services. This comes as part of an effort to deal with the costs regarding maintenance and security in BC parking lots.

"We've lost money in our parking fees every year, for the last four years," James said. "Not

only do we not have a fund balance, we went negative last year, which means we're spending more and there's no accumulation. We did an analysis and we estimated it at a million dollars to do repairs on our parking lots without doing any upgrades. And so we're watching what's going on, we see the cars getting stolen, which tells us the security could be better, we've had complaints about a lack of lighting in the free parking . . . so what we have to look at is how do we generate money as required or allowed under the state [education] code to maintain those parking lots

and provide security."

James says it would be incredibly challenging to try and raise the funds necessary to address these issues without these parking price increases. Other options included raising the fee for daily visitor parking, which has helped sell more permits, or taking money from the school's general fund, which James says is undesirable. "We're looking at plans to generate the money, and what's really tough about this is that if I were to pay for it from the general fund, then we'll have to cancel classes."

California law does not require



LUIS GARCIA / THE RIP

Students use the free parking lot at BC. According to Sean James, "We're looking at eliminating free parking."

colleges to provide free parking, and allows a school to charge up to \$50 for parking permits, which is helpful in attempting to raise the necessary funds. "When the state gives you an avenue to provide revenue for certain things," James said, "you really don't want to go to your general fund and start impacting the edu-

cational side of the house."

While he understands the added difficulty these increases will have on students, James says cutting free parking and raising permit prices to fix the parking lots is the lesser of two evils. "There's just no way we can sell the number of permits we [current] Please see **PARKING**, Page 4

BC class gets a visit from police CSI

By Hannah Breeland
Opinions Editor

Bakersfield College's Forensic Science class got a special visit from the Bakersfield Police Department. Professor Smith called BPD CSI to give a lecture, answer questions and show students their truck.

"I ask them to come out once every semester," said Smith, "It's always fun for the students when they do."

Rebecca Stokes, the BPD Crime Scene Unit Supervisor, and her lab technician Destinie Martinez were the guests of honor for the Forensics class Feb. 14.

Stokes, a BC graduate, shared her experience of being a lab technician and her responsibility of supervisor. "I got to experience a lot of different aspects of police work and I just kind of fell into lab tech work. Right now I have four lab techs under me and a clerk."

Stokes went on to describe a lab tech's duties. "The responsibility of a lab tech is Monday through Friday eight to five, and switching off being on call," said Stokes. "On call is being ready to respond 24/7 to serious crimes, such as homicide, bank robberies, sexual assaults, and suspicious deaths. In January alone, we responded to 25 different calls."

Stokes said that it's normal for them to respond to several hundred call-outs a year and that last year there were 39 homicides alone, making it at least two a month all year.

"We process items of evidence that have been taken by officers, and DNA comparisons. We respond to autopsy to take pictures and gather evidence that might be left on the body," said Stokes, explaining some of the finer details of being a CSI lab technician. "We also go get surveillance video, Destinie just came back from getting video from a 7-11 robbery, because everyone has video Please see **POLICE**, Page 4

Color Me Rad invades Kern Fairgrounds with a rainbow of colors

for pictures and story see page 12



MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

During the Color Me Rad event participants run a 5k course while being pelted by color filled bags. At the end they celebrate with a color throw.

Teams already fundraising to fight cancer

By Michelle De Leon
Reporter

Last year's Bakersfield Relay For Life raised more than \$2.1 million for the American Cancer Society. It was one of the most successful Relay events in the world.

Sylvia Cariker, Relay's media coordinator, said, "We want to raise a dollar more than last year."

Over 400 teams and 9,000 team members participated in last year's event.

This year's May 4 Relay has 260 teams and over 2,300 participants, and it has raised over \$176,000 and the race is just gearing up.

Cariker, who has been involved with Relay for over 21 years, said that people involved in Relay are currently "pounding the streets" to get others involved by joining teams, starting teams

and participating in fundraisers done by different teams throughout the year.

Team Jr. Skaters For Life held one of the recent fundraisers on Feb. 23 at the Downtown Rollerama. The team hosted a carnival and a junior roller derby scrimmage as a fundraiser for Relay. From 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., fifty skaters, ages 7 to 18, in four teams played at the scrimmage with spectators paying \$5. Each player also paid the same amount.

In the afternoon, people paid 50 cents for each ticket to participate in various carnival booths that included a photo booth, face paint, hula-hoops, a yard sale, and even a live band called Ebenezer.

Christina Domniguez, whose best friend's father survived cancer, supported the cause by selling cake for two tickets each while "having a good time," she

said.

It was the first time that the team had hosted a carnival.

Lisa Bryan, the team's media coordinator, was proud of the turnout.

Adrian Santa Cruz, the team captain, thought that it was a unique way to raise money for Relay.

"Some people have never seen roller derby," she said. "It's really exciting and fun to see something new, and it's even more exciting to watch children compete."

Santa Cruz, who had been involved with Relay for six years, cited why she spearheaded the fundraising event.

"One of my cousins died at age 30 of brain tumor," she said. "When Junior Roller Derby started, my daughter played for them, so I thought why not get them involved too."

Another team also held a recent fundraiser. Team A-C Elec-

tric hosted a three-day cruise to Baja, Mexico from Feb. 22 to 24, costing \$372 for each ticket. The team raised money through a travel agent donating a hundred percent of his commission from the sales.

Heather Irvin, the team captain, admitted that the steep price prevented people from supporting the fundraiser, calling it "a learning experience."

"We didn't raise a whole lot," she said. "What we're doing this year is taking pictures to advertise it for next year to show much fun we had."

However, the team also raised money through various fundraisers, including a golf tournament, a movie marathon with the Fox Theater and a yard sale.

"In our company, we have lunches once a month and twice a month when it's closer to the event," she added. "Those lunches in one day, in one hour



MAYAN LARA / THE RIP

Rollerama, on 30th street, hosted a carnival for Relay.

around anywhere between three hundred. We've had lunches that raised \$1500."

The team also relies on sponsorship from A-C Electric Company and Cannon.

Irvin, a former BC student, juggles numerous roles. While fulfilling her duties as team captain, she has a full-time job as a database developer for A-C Electric Company and is a part-time CSUB student, pursuing a busi-

ness degree.

"Sometimes it gets difficult because there's so much going on," she admitted, "At times, I have to sit down and think, 'Why am I doing this?'"

But she finds inspiration from the people involved in Relay.

"There's nothing more rewarding than being out at Relay and seeing people that you relay for. And there's a survivor lap where Please see **RELAY**, Page 4

Local longboard company hosting first annual event

By Hannah Breeland
Opinions Editor

A local business, Homegrown Longboards, is about to host their "First Annual River Ride and Push Race."

Homegrown Longboards is a business that offers customization of longboards as well as customized boards for advanced riders. The business was created, and is owned and operated by J.J. Gomez, 26, a Bakersfield local.

On Jan. 5, Homegrown hosted "Outlaw Downhill Race and Slide Jam" that owner Gomez said "went over well."

"The event had 20 riders and 60 plus spectators giving their support. Their were 16 heats (races) altogether with prizes donated by Wavelengths Surf Shop," said Gomez.

After the success of the first race, Homegrown wants to expand. "Thanks to the success of the first event, and the YouTube video that we put together afterward, we're on to the next project: Homegrown's 'First Annual River Ride and Push Race' on March 16," he said.

They will be racing from Yokuts Park to Riverwalk Park.

"Simply put, longboard riders are organized into different brackets and heats. The course is a 10k, or six miles long," Gomez said. "Before the start of the race there will be a fun run where riders of all ages can go down the same path the racers will take," Gomez explained.

The event, Gomez said, has acquired the proper city permits and flyers will be released soon to local merchants.

"Its going to be sponsored by Hoggz Surfshop, Bako 420 Magazine, Happy Hydro, Wavelengths Surf, SBI Boardshop, The Skateboarders Journal, Silverfish Longboarding and many more," he said. "Most official races are backed entirely by either a brand or skate shop, but this time it's different. It's local."

The event is going to offer live music and lunch. Along with sponsor booths, giveaways and the registration tent. There will be over \$2,000 in awards, prizes and giveaways.

The event starts at 9 a.m. and the award ceremony is scheduled at noon.

Gomez expressed his reasons behind putting on the races.

"We want to have fun and bring our families together to show the community that skaters, and longboarders alike, aren't a malicious group of bored punks, but rather, people who like to go fast and feel the wind in their face and get around," Gomez said.



Rockabilly at Narducci's

Left: A guitar player for the local rockabilly group "The Loner Troubadour and Rockabilly Rat" engaged fans at one of Narducci's many rockabilly exclusive nights. "The Loner Troubadour," originally from Georgia, has been a staple on the local rockabilly scene for some time.

Right: Adam Goodall, better known as "The Rockabilly Rat," demonstrates his stand-up slap bass chops and shows off his immaculate pompadour.

SHARIDA REJON / THE RIP



Student Government Association

SGA Elections

THE SKY IS THE LIMIT!



February 11

Election Packets available in Campus Center 4 and A&R Delano

March 11

Deadline to turn in completed Election Packet

March 13

Candidates forum in Campus Center Quad Area

March 18-21

Election dates

Why Follow When You Can Lead?

Detailed information available in the Student Activities office (CC-4) or call (661) 395-4030

Band tries to keep old style



MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Los Inolvidables del Norte are, left to right, Luis Campos, Israel Perez and Andres Rocha. They play the norteno style.

By Martin Chang
Editor in Chief

The local norteno group Los Inolvidables del Norte celebrates the tradition and positivity of the Norteno genre.

The group consists of Israel Perez, who plays the accordion; Andres Rocha, who plays the Bajo Quinto; Luis Campos, who plays the bass; and Rafael Centeno, who plays drums.

The group has been playing together for about five months. Perez, who goes to Bakersfield College, has only been playing for five and a half months. When he became interested in playing, he had a discouraging experience asking for help.

"I was in a restaurant one day and asked if he was willing to teach me," Perez said. "He told me to give up that I would never be a musician. I didn't. I just kept practicing on my own."

Then Perez met Arturo Campos, Luis Campos's father, and he was much more encouraging.

Perez considers Arturo Campos a mentor for the group.

"He said that he was a music teacher and that he would be willing to give me classes and go from there and that's when I really started to mainly focus on the instrument. He saw something in me and took the effort to teach me.

"To be able to learn in five months he must be a really great teacher."

His father similarly encourages Luis Campos.

"He had confidence in me. He knew that I could do good and play instruments.

Every day we would practice new songs and that's how I got started."

For the group, the tradition of norteno music is important.

"We want to bring back the old music, from the old groups, from the '60s, which is good music. You just got to change a little bit of the beat and that's pretty much it," Perez said. "Nowadays everyone just changes the tone

of the music. They play a lot of minor chords. They talk about killing, how they're going to execute someone. I don't think that's cool teaching kids about murdering and killing."

Luis Campos said he wants the music to "imply the traditions from back then and keep them going for the future generations."

Perez has found that the older generation shows an appreciation for the traditions of the music they play.

"When you ask people that are 60 to 65, they like those songs, but you ask the new generation to play them they don't know them," said Perez. "That's what we want to bring it back. We all have that same mentality."

The group plays at quinceaneras, birthday parties and private parties. At these events they get a good response, especially from the older crowd.

"They go wow, you actually know that song?" said Perez. "You just see that smile on their

face and they go 'wow I have not heard that song in such a long time.' It motivates us to actually want to learn more older songs."

Luis Campos finds similar good vibes from the audience.

"The feeling that we get from the people we play for, they show their happiness, that's a motivation for us to keep playing to learn more from songs from the past," he said.

The group believes that music is a positive influence in their lives.

"It teaches responsibility, being focused and staying out of trouble," said Perez. "If you're not playing a sport or doing something productive you're going to be out and about and getting into trouble."

Campos agrees.

"If you look at most teenagers out there in high school all they talk about is partying. They're getting into bad habits and we don't want to do that for us. That's why we chose to play," Campos said.



MJ INGUITO / THE RIP

I'm Not Scotty performs during Punk vs. Ska.

Punks play at Jerry's Pizza

By Ruben A. Perez
Reporter

Jerry's Pizza played host to a concert for punk and ska bands of different ages and different sounds. Bands were playing constantly, both in the restaurant and in the basement.

The first bands to play were Betties Undead and Reyes. Betties Undead is a horror-punk band, and Reyes plays reggae. The lead singer of Reyes, Mac Cavern, said the show was great.

"We felt some cool energy from the crowd," said Cavern. "It was nice to open up. It was packed!"

Both bands played at roughly the same time, but the audience was split between the two bands, sometimes with people leaving one band mid-performance to catch the second half of the other band's set. This was a recurring situation with the crowd to try and catch every band playing.

Mike Rushbie, who is in town from Scotland on business, really enjoyed it.

"It's not the sort of thing we have in the UK, a pizza place with a bar and two simultaneous gigs at the same time," said Rushbie.

The next bands, We Are Late and Hillsvainkill, also had the audience pretty evenly split with people continuously alternating between each band. While Hillsvainkill plays more melodic punk, We Are Late played a set of fairly short songs with titles like "My Grandma Watches Porn." We Are Late were also the first band to have people moshing.

Next, Dr. Devito brought almost everyone upstairs to see their set.

Dr. Devito plays more of a surf-rock sound than a punk or ska, but regardless, they had the majority of the crowd watching them.

Dr. Devito had their parents at the show to support them.

Most of the members of Dr. Devito have previously attended Bakersfield College.

I'm Not Scotty then took the stage following Dr. Devito and really impressed the audience.

"As young as they were I was pretty impressed for their musicality or whatever you call it. I don't know anything about music, but I know they sounded great," said a woman that didn't want to give her name because she had been drinking.

The guys in I'm Not Scotty are all still students at Bakersfield High School and are managed by the man that organized the show, Mike Scarfo.

Lead singer Alex Olcott said, "Me and Jordan [guitarist] were talking about how we need a manager and who better to manage us than the guy who puts on the shows."

The last two bands were the ska bands The Easy In and Top Shelf.

The Easy In, in addition to guitar, drum and bass player, has a trombone player, a trumpet and keyboard player, and two saxophone players. The Easy In had almost everyone dancing and at times had people skanking. Skanking is how people dance to ska music. In their set they also had Joe Vazquez of Mento Buru play trombone with them. The Easy In also had flute solos in their set.

Top Shelf closed out the show with ska songs about peace and pot.

At one point during their set they smoked a blunt among themselves and sang a song about smoking pot.

"The songs were a different genre that I've never heard, and it's definitely a new experience for me in music so I thought it was pretty cool," said Mia Rodriguez, who was there with a friend.

At the end of the show, most people were pleased with the quality and diversity of the sounds at Jerry's that night.

White Forest Nursery has annual citrus tasting



BERNIE REJON / THE RIP

Chef Marcello Rodriguez begins to prepare some citrus for a signature dish at White Forest Nursery's citrus tasting event on Feb. 16. The event highlighted clever dishes using citrus and also had numerous deals on all types of citrus.

Del Tha Funky Homosapien gave the crowd something to cheer about

By Adam Cree
Reporter

After a two-and-a-half hour wait, Del Tha Funky Homosapien wowed the crowd at B' Ryders. After two opening acts that started at 8 p.m., one rapper by the name Booku 1, the other by rapper Bo and DJ Eraserface, the fans were ready and pumped for Del to take the stage, with heck-

lers shouting, "Where is Del?!" as Booku 1 started his last song.

To loud cheers, Del took the stage at 10:49 p.m., despite being "under the weather." His DJ warped and remixed the song, "I Wanna Rock," by Thin Lizzy before he took the stage. He was wearing a black and blue raincoat, a black hat with the emblem of a bleeding diamond and a black do-rag with skulls as trim.

He was joined on stage by A-Plus, his backup rapper, DJ Zack, his bassist, and his keyboardist Dave. His first song of his set was "Virus" off the album Deltron 3030. Security was on alert the rest of the night because when Del started off his set, the scent of marijuana began to fill the air. Taking time to address the fans about upcoming music, Del told the audience that a "new Del-

tron album will be out in a few months," adding that if you were a fan of hip-hop, then you need to "buy it." It is currently in litigation, keeping it from publishing, as Del explained in a rap to the beat of "Dan the Automater."

Fans of rock also have something to cheer about as Del announced that he was working on a new "mixtape with Frank Zappa." After a brief intermission, dur-

ing which his backup rapper sang, Del again spoke to the crowd about why he raps. "Glamour and glitz are not why," he raps, he said before a long freestyle session.

After, he spoke about how he is an oddity in the rap scene because he shows up with "the funk and the hip-hop," and how he mixes the "raw essence," of both.

The show ended at 11:44 p.m. with an encore being demanded by the fans. Obliging, Del surprised the crowd by starting up the beat to, and rapping his hit Gorillaz song "Clint Eastwood." Instead of the usual second verse to the song, he changed it and turned it into a shout-out to his fans. After the show, he hi-fived some fans before hopping in a car and leaving with the rest of his band.

Is our existence all one grand illusion? Some say it is

By Tyler Goucher
Reporter

The human species may just be an extremely complex computer simulation.

A recent study out of the University of Bonn in Germany reignites this long-argued and controversial debate.

According to the simulation argument, the human species will be extinct before ever reaching a point of singularity due to the extreme unlikely possibility that a post-human species would create simulations of their own evolutionary histories.

The theory goes on to argue that there is a high amount of certainty that we are currently living in a computer simulation, however, there is a very small amount of certainty regarding our role as post humans.

Many scholars from around the globe have provided their own opinions on the subject, both professional and personal.

Peter S. Jenkins, co-author of "Historical Simulations – Motivational, Ethical and Legal Issues," argues that the future of the human species will be likely to utilize advanced technology to create historical simulations.

This prediction supports the idea that we are in fact forms of artificial intelligence within our own computer simulation.

Author Barry Dainton wrote an abstract response to the study and pointed out that regardless of whether or not computers have the ability to sustain consciousness, the idea that we are living in a simulated reality is still a valid theory.

Swedish Philosopher Nick Bostrom, one of the pioneers of the simulation argument, poses the question,

"If we are in a simulation, could we ever know for certain?"

The following are responses, both supporting and opposing, to this inquisition.

Anthony Gomez, 20 and an old oil field worker, brought god into the argument.

"If life is a so-called computer simulation, there has to be some type of creator and I don't believe the creator would allow the simulation to be conscious of its own existence," Gomez said. "Maybe god is some kind of computer genius."

22-year-old computer expert Nathaniel Hamilton was more than eager to discuss the possibilities of life being one giant

computer simulation.

"On one hand, I can see where the simulation argument is flawed," Hamilton said. "There isn't enough conclusive evidence pointing to where our species progresses to once our simulation ends.

"I think its possible that the universe is really just a giant super computer, but that leaves us wondering, who or what created the computer?"

Some students on campus even have an opinion.

BC student Aaron Newman, 19, said that the argument was interesting but lacked any real

plausibility.

"Lets say we do live in a computer simulation, what's the point?" Newman asked. "Unless we have the ability to manipulate the simulation to benefit our species, I don't see an actual purpose."

Regardless of the flaws, the argument that the human species exists as some type of "matrix-like" computer simulation continues to rile up scholars from all over the globe. As technology continues to advance, the world gets closer to unveiling the answers to some of the biggest questions in the universe.

RELAY: Fundraising starting early for Relay For Life event

Continued from Page 1

all the survivors of cancer walk the track. It's probably one of the most moving experiences that anyone can experience ever," said Irvin. "Watching the kids and the teenagers, it's amazing to watch people continuing to fight."

Another way to support Relay is through luminaria bags. Last year's Relay sold 17,283 luminaria bags, which Cariker described as "a wonderful way to commemorate the passing of a cancer patient and also to honor survivors."

"We always ask that if you have someone who is a survivor and you want to honor them, purchase a Luminaria. They go around the track, and they're absolutely beautiful," she said.

With over 30 thousand people at Relay last year, she stressed the importance of volunteers.

"It takes thousands of volunteers to put that event on, people to serve food, people to pick up trash, people to work the gates, and you get to be a part of Relay," she said. "We like young people, high school and college

age, because you're strong and young with a lot of energy."

Beyond the scheduled events, Relay will have numerous fundraisers on the actual day.

"Last year I was going around giving raffles for six big screen TVs in various places. You can take home some really cool stuff, and all of that gets counted in our total," she said.

She also said that it was important for everyone to participate in Relay even for those who have not experienced the arduous journey of cancer in some way.

"When I was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1989, one out of every 10 women would be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lives.

"That number is now one in every eight," she said. "Cancer is going to touch everyone's lives, whether it's you, a family member, a friend, a coworker, somebody you know is going to be diagnosed with cancer.

"The bottomline for our Relay is always research. We need the money to fund research to find cures for cancer."



MAYAN LARA / THE RIP

Children line up to get lollipops from a booth.

POLICE: BPD on BC campus

Continued from Page 1

surveillance nowadays," said Stokes.

"Unfortunately it's usually crappy. No one buys the nice systems. Sometimes we get lucky and there's a clear picture of the perpetrator."

Stokes and Martinez both answered questions by students and the professor.

Before they showed the students the truck that all lab techs take out when they respond to a call. There was a mention that BPD will be hiring two more lab techs soon.

"We love our work, [but] this job isn't for everyone," Stokes said. "The call-outs can be very

tiring. You have to have stamina and a willingness to work hard. Willing to see and do some gross things."

BC student Ashley Cruc was looking forward to the visit.

"I'm just waiting to graduate. I'm in stage three for the LAPD, which is background checks. It's a four-month process to get accepted to the police academy," said Cruc.

She continued, "Since police and lab tech work so close with each other it was nice hearing what they had to say."

Fellow BC student Sheryl Carter felt the same way. "I enjoyed it. I want to be a probation officer but this was an insight on



MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

An employee from BPD's crime scene unit visits BC.

other possibilities. I will take this over a lecture any day."

Stokes and Martinez showed off their truck, which was filled with different equipment like metal detectors, a finger printing kit, and different bags for collecting evidence. All things that are used when responding to

call-outs. When asked why they loved their job, Stokes said, "It's really thrilling when you're a part of the team that solved a tragic crime knowing you were a part of it. It takes at least two years before you get used to it but when you do it's a very gratifying job."

Women's History Month is showcased at BC

By Patricia Rocha
Reporter

As the month of March approaches, so does Women's History Month here at Bakersfield College. To celebrate WHAM, BC has organized four free events, open to the public, that pay tribute to international women.

These events mainly consist of panels and talks discussing women's issues.

According to the official

WHAM at BC website, "International women will host two different panel events: one that addresses opportunities and obstacles for international students at Bakersfield College and another that addresses the same issues for women in Bakersfield's professional community."

The events will begin with "Child-Citizen Subjects: From Dora the Explorer to Dream Activists" on Feb. 28 in the Fireside room from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

This event will be led by

guest speaker Nicole Guidotti-Hernández, associate professor of American studies and the associate director of the Center for Mexican American studies at the University of Texas at Austin.

The events will continue with two held on March 7 in the fireside room, both led by BC's international student's counselor Shohreh Rahman.

The first, "International Women Students at BC: Experiences and Perspectives" will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and

the second, "International Women of Greater Bakersfield: Experiences & Reflections" will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

The last event will be a showing and discussion of "Pray the Devil Back to Hell," a moving story of a small group of Liberian women who took on an oppressive regime during war time to bring peace to their country. BC's own Elizabeth Rodacker will moderate this discussion on March 11 in Forum East from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

PARKING: Parking issues take center stage to gain revenue



LUIS GARCIA / THE RIP

A view of the free parking area near the baseball fields at BC. Students may have to adjust to the new situation.

Continued from Page 1

-rently] sell and have money to start improving our parking lots. If you go out to those parking lots, we're starting to develop potholes, we're starting really undermine the structure underneath the parking lot. If that continues those parking lots will be gone, and I'm going to have to find a million dollars somewhere else in our budget." James also added that a lot of these issues are well past the point in which they should have been taken care of, thus the hurried timeline. "I was asked to come down here to deal with a number of issues. I started the analysis when I got here and I'm bringing to light some issues that should have been addressed years ago, and we really need to start focusing on them now to move forward."

James admits it's very difficult to deal with these issues while also struggling with budget cuts and a down economy.

"I come in with a very strong budget background, and so when I look at this 'it's are we effectively doing things?' We're looking at infrastructure replacement under the whole campus because water and gas lines are 50 years old. There's been a real [maintenance and operations] issue related to painting buildings and some other general maintenance. We're spending money on that which wasn't done before I got here. So we're trying to upgrade the campus and bring it up to the level that I think everybody expects.

"I don't think people realize, it's either, or. Everybody wants

to do everything, but we have a very fixed budget. If I'm going to spend a million on parking lots, then we're talking about cutting 300 classes. That's a lot of sections to tell students they're not going to take, and they're here to go to school. So we really do need to balance what we're allowed to charge for and providing the education. And I know everybody's reluctant to pull back from the classes and offerings to students, because that's actually what they're here for."

Currently, James has talked with other administrators and the SGA about the proposal and hopes he'll be able to submit the proposal to the school board soon. "I think we'll have something in the next month, to try and bring forward a recommendation to our board, on whether or not to raise the fees and whether or not to eliminate free parking."

The decision to eliminate free parking will not have to go through the school board before it's sent to the president, but the attempt to raise permit fees will. If passed, James has several ideas beyond simple maintenance, including increasing security patrols and ticketing those who park without a permit. James notes that it still may be some time before any improvements can be made even if these proposals are put into effect, as there is currently no money in the budget.

"We can probably talk to the board about borrowing money and repaying it later, it's unlikely until I get some money into the fund that I'll be able to afford any work."

Briefs

- Religious Diversity Panel. Student speakers representing Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Hinduism and Sikhism. Feb. 27 from 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. in the Norman Levan Center.
- Bakersfield College Writing Center contest entries are due by Feb. 28 at 6 p.m. More information can be found at the Writing Center in SS-133 or online at bcwritingcenter.weebly.com.
- Child-Citizen subjects: from Dora the Explorer to Dream activists. Guest speaker Nicole Guidotti-Hernandez speaks for Women's History Month. Thursday, Feb. 28, Fireside room, 6:30- 8 p.m. Free admission and parking.
- International Women's studies at BC: Experiences and Perspectives. Discussion moderated by Shohreh Rahman. March 7, Fireside room, 11 am-12:35 p.m. Free admission and parking. Part of Women's history and more month.
- International women of Greater Bakersfield: Experience and Reflections. Discussion moderated by Shohreh Rahman. March 7, Fireside room, 6:30- 8 p.m. Free admission and parking. Part of Women's history and more month.
- Showing and discussion of documentary: "Pray the Devil Back to Hell" Moderated by Elizabeth Rodacker. March 11, Forum East, 6:30-8 p.m. Free admission and parking. Part of Women's history and more month.
- March 22 is the last day to drop and receive a "W"

Dorner situation evokes mixed reactions

By Adam Cree
Reporter

With the death of Christopher Dorner, many are torn on their opinions of the man and his vendetta against the LAPD.

The former LAPD officer, who was accused of murdering a fellow police officer and attempted murder three others, was cornered in a rural area northeast of Angelus Oaks where the nationwide manhunt came to an end on Feb. 12.

What started as an exchange of

gunfire between Dorner and the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, ended in a blaze of fire.

According to sources, the cabin Dorner had taken cover in caught fire during the shootout, which was a result of tear gas that was shot into the cabin by the SBSO.

Some think that he is rightfully dead for the murder of police, while others think that the LAPD's actions are deplorable.

"He was a sick man," said Michele Rene. "I'm glad the police

got him."

Mike Johnson agrees that the police should have got him but adds, "I don't think he should have been burned alive in some cabin."

But not all opinions agree.

"I don't agree with his methods, but look at the actions of the police," said Logan Brown.

"They shot two cars in a panic. If the police are shooting innocents, something is seriously wrong."

Some even think he might still be alive.

"He was fighting corruption," said Judy Hernandez, who thought that he might still be alive.

"If Dorner is right and the LAPD is corrupt, what's to stop them from faking his death?"

While most pick a side, some look at both Dorner and the LAPD as reprehensible.

"What he did was wrong," said Matt Morrow.

"But the actions of the LAPD are just as wrong.

"It's sad that society is at this place today."

Learning Center an asset to BC

By **Mitchelle De Leon**
Reporter

The Jerry Ludeke Learning Center aids student success by offering free tutoring, writing consultations and various workshops. Despite being a valuable resource, many students are still not aware of it.

The Tutoring Center is one part of the Learning Center. According to Midge Ladd, tutorial coordinator, it is an underutilized resource.

"Every semester when we get a new crop of tutors, we ask them if they had heard about us, and they say, 'No, we didn't even know there was a tutoring center.' I don't quite know why they

don't know," she said.

The Tutoring Center has anywhere between 80 and 100 tutors and 900 and 1100 tutees every semester.

The tutors are students recommended by their professors, and they take a two-unit tutor training program. Additionally, BC's budget pays for the tutors.

Ladd suggested that getting tutoring is a simple process.

"They just need come to the tutoring center and fill up a request. We'll match the times they're available with the times the tutor is available. We'll call and let them know they have an appointment," she said.

All tutoring sessions are one-on-one on all subjects. Only

English and math are available for walk-ins. Students have a limit of one 45-minute session per week.

She also admitted that tutors have limitations in aiding students.

"We need to keep in mind that we have peer tutors, not instructors," she said.

However, according to a survey from the previous semester, the Tutoring Center has a ninety-nine percent satisfaction rate from tutees.

Ninety-five percent of the surveyed tutees believed that tutorial raised their grade.

Fifty percent said that they would have dropped the class had they not received tutoring.

Another part of the Learning Center is the Writing Center. Unlike the Tutoring Center, the Writing Center does not rely on BC's budget.

Instead, it relies on a grant, which established it in 2011.

Five degreed consultants and one CSUB intern are available for free, one-on-one consultations. Each student can get one 30-minute appointment per day.

Kelli Michaud, project leader, said that the Writing Center averages about 50 consultations per day.

During the Fall of 2012, it had 2,273 appointments, exceeding its goal of 1,600 appointments.

According to its Fall 2012 Report, "The most common

comments included to increase appointment time from 30 minutes to 45 minutes, hire more consultants, increase operating hours and appointment availability, and incorporate colorful art and decorations."

Michaud said that the feedback has been positive from staff and students.

She said that improvement in writing takes great effort.

"Students have to take personal responsibility.

What we do is assist students through the writing process, so we can give feedback. We don't write the paper for them. We give them insight and ideas. Just because you go into the Writing Center does not mean you will

get an A on your paper. It's up to them to apply the ideas or not," she said.

On why students should utilize the Writing Center, she said, "Writing is a life-long communication skill. It will open doors for students."

Michaud advised that the most effective way to use the Writing Center is to "come in as soon as you get your assignments.

"The goal of the writing center is to empower the students. We are not a magic fix. We are going to teach them are prioritize, and it takes time," she said.

Visit becademicdevelopmentdepartment.weebly.com for more information on the Learning Center.

Muslim Student Association to be more active at BC

By **Ruben Perez**
Reporter

The Bakersfield College's Muslim Student Association began last winter about two months before the semester ended. Marshel Blackmon, Inter-Club Counsel Representative, said the club was started by a small group of Muslim women.

"We just kind of got together because more people ask us 'Why do you wear the scarves? Why do you dress this way?' and they wanted clarification so it started with us and then it went to everyone."

In the early days of the club it was just a small group of student meeting in the library but the group has grown larger and has already put on an event. Last semester the group put together a Q-and-A with prominent members of the local Muslim community to answer questions about their religion and dispel any misconceptions people may have had.

Club president Shahad Alnagar said the main purpose of the club is to educate and promote the positivity of Islam.

"You see it on TV all the time, all the negative things about Islam," said Alnagar. "We want to correct all those and show people what we really are and what we really do."

An idea brought up by Blackmon was to promote literacy because their Prophet Muhammad was an illiterate man.

"It's not enough that they see we're Muslim," said Blackmon. "We have to show them that we're Muslim. We're not converting anybody, but we just want them to be open."

Club member Izaldeen Gazali said that in the hadith, the words of Muhammad, it shows how important knowledge is.

"He'll say, for example, one hadith that he who seeks a wake for knowledge, Allah makes the way easier for him."

The group also has a Facebook page that is used to share information in case a student cannot make it to the meetings.

"We don't have to meet every week but we have to meet and we have to communicate and the Facebook page is one of the ways that we can communicate," said Blackmon.

As the club is fairly new, they haven't had much exposure and have been contemplating ways to get involved in the community with public events. "We're definitely planning events," said Alnagar. "We don't have any specific ones in mind at the moment but we'll get into those. You're going to see a lot more of us this semester than last."



Science challenge on campus

PHOTOS BY MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Left: Jose Rivera, a junior from Foothill, watches his trebuchet launch a hackey sac as a part of the the design challenge put on by BC's Engineering Club on Feb. 23. The club does the challenge every year, junior high students, high school students and other groups compete for cash prizes.

Bottom: Juniors from Foothill, Alexandria Crisler, left, and Cesar Alcantar, right, watch their trebuchet launches as a part of the challenge.



DREAM Act more complicated than you think

By **Robin Shin**
Online Editor

The DREAM Act may not have passed yet, but when the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals was enacted on Aug. 15, 2012, it was an enactment given to DREAMers to be pardoned from deportation and given the opportunity to stay for two years with a work permit. While it was enacted, many people were misinformed or uninformed of DACA.

DACA does not offer a path to a green card or citizenship.

"DACA is not a law, it is a policy," stated Shohreh Rahman, the BC International students' counselor "There is no appeal process, once denied, you are completely denied." DACA is form I-821D, and it too has requirements a DREAMer or an applicant needs to fit in order to apply for one. You can meet those requirements provided you have or are: under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012, came to the United States before the 16th birthday, present in the

United States on June 15, 2012 and at the time filing your application. These are just few of the requirements must fit in order to apply for the DACA. You can find more about DACA on www.uscis.gov/childhoodarrivals.

Many DREAMers, a group of undocumented youths who support the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act or also known as AB 540, were disheartened when the U.S. Senate failed to pass the DREAM Act back on Dec. 18, 2010. This act would have provided undocumented young women and men the pathway to U.S. citizenship if they were attending college and/or performing military service.

There are qualifications in order to be eligible for the DREAM Act: entering the United State before the age of 15, continuously living in the United States for at least five years, earned a high school diploma or GED, accepted and attending college or university, has good moral character and being 35 years or younger on the date of enactment.

"We are encouraging students to apply for DACA," stated Rahman, "to take advantage of this enactment." Rahman stated that there are currently almost 11.2 million undocumented people in the United States who are from Asia, Mexico, Central America, South America, Caribbean and the Middle East. These people were born outside of the United States and entered either without any form of documentation or through human trafficking.

"Undocumented students are almost always frustrated," said Rahman when questioned about the students, "mostly depressed and often hopeless. Many describe their continuing experiences living in fear and going through nightmares. Their fear is that immigration agents would eventually catch up with them and would deport them along with their parents."

Rahman stated that there are estimated to be 1.5 to 2.5 million undocumented children who are under the age of 18.

"65,000 students [undocu-

mented] graduate yearly from high school," stated Rahman "and 49% of those 65,000 students attend college."

Applying for a DACA for a qualifying applicant will need to pay the fee of approximately \$1,000. It is also only enacted for the time limit of four years. As of current date, it is unknown what will happen after it expires in 2016.

"Through this policy, it is hoped that undocumented youth will be motivated to pursue their education and complete a degree, while empowering them to land jobs in their field of studies that they may have already completed," said Rahman. "They also could have the opportunities to apply for driver's licenses, apply for state financial aids (not federal grants), and travel outside of the U.S."

"It [DACA] allows you to work while at school," she said.

"This could really open up new avenues for these youths, which were previously unknown to them."

Houchin builds new blood bank for Bako

By **Hannah Breeland**
Opinions Editor

After a year of construction the new blood bank is up and running.

On Feb. 11 the new Houchin Community Blood Bank facility in the southwest at 11515 Bolthouse Drive opened.

It was constructed on five acres of land, donated by Bolthouse Properties, in the new Seven Oaks Business Park.

Director Greg Williams said that he's excited it's open "It's finally done, the \$10 million complex finished construction in January."

It is currently up and running but isn't completely furnished and is scheduled for another more public opening toward the end of February.

Williams mentioned even though it was a quite opening

there were still donors ready to give.

"First in line was Margaret Delfino a 94 year old woman ready to give blood.

We also had radio personality Scott Cox come in early to donate platelets.

Along with other people, so that was nice."

The building hours are Monday and Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and closed on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Houchin's other site, the Truxtun Avenue facility, remains as one of two blood-drawing sites.

The new site is now the headquarters for Houchin Blood Bank.

The Truxtun location hours have changed but beside that everything has stayed the same.

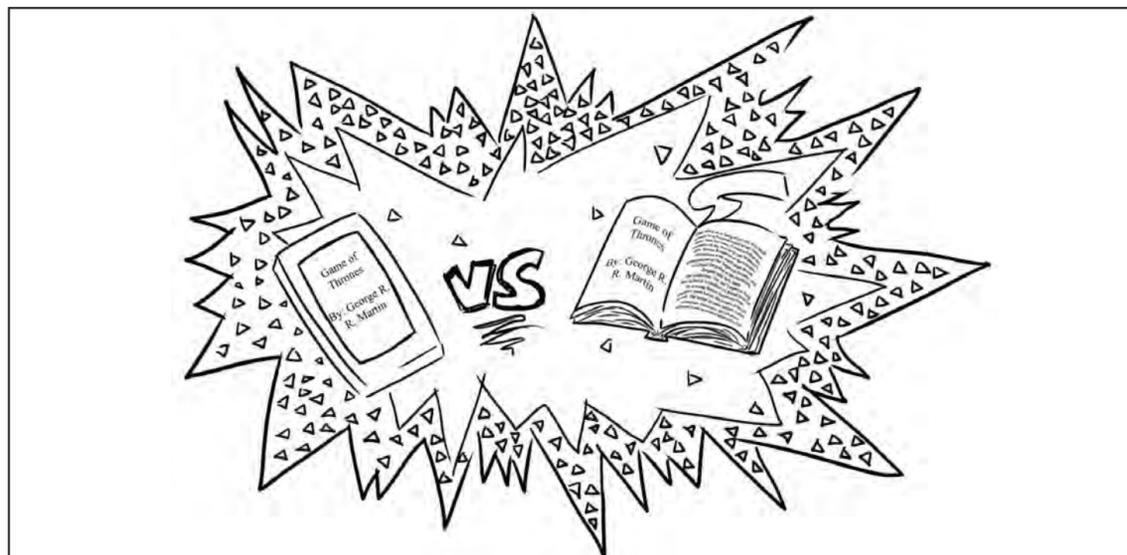


ILLUSTRATION BY ROBIN SHIN / THE RIP

Ebooks better than paper?

By Robin Shin
Online Editor

Ever since I was a child my mother and father bought me a collection of books ranging from science to fairytales. To this day, I have those collections in South Korea and some here in California. I love to read books. They give endless possibilities to another world. The only problem is that they take up a lot of room and have their boundaries in physical form.

When the first ebook was released I was against the idea of buying it due to the fact that I personally have signed books from authors and like to hold and read them with the feeling of self-satisfaction from it. As much as they gave me satisfaction, they also gave me dissatisfaction, or rather my mother to be exact.

Every time I went to a bookstore, I would come back with another book, comic or even manga. I currently have at most 200 mangas in my room and at least 100 books under the roof my family's home. Be it a bargain, or new for a book signing, I would buy it. That was until my mother told me to stop buying books while presenting me a KindleFire for Christmas.

At first I was against using it and only played games on it, but then my friends online told me of cheap bargains on varieties of certain genre of books. I was hesitant at first, but then I began to fill up my KindleFire

with over 300 books in less than an hour.

I used to carry at least one book in my backpack so that I could read it in my spare time. Sometimes the books were small and portable, other times they were so big that they made me look like I was going out for a day trip in the woods. With my KindleFire now holding over 300 varieties of books in my backpack, it is a light travel.

It wasn't just the size and the capacity that made me convert my reading life to an ebook, it was also the possibilities. I was able to read in the dark without the need of an external light. It also didn't collect too much dust as my books did. You can call me lazy, but my books really did collect a lot of dust, especially when I was reading a long novel. Ebooks didn't just give me comfort, but also privacy and access to the Internet to broaden my reading range, such as online works from fans to amateur authors.

It also didn't make me paranoid about ruining the pages. I ruined quite a number of books due to the fact that they slept in the same bed as I did. I rolled over them would end up losing them through the bed cracks and not find them for days. So having an ebook has its advantages being one form instead of multiple.

Overall, I believe that ebooks have changed the way many people read due to the fact that they are easy to use and portable for anyone who loves to read in the comforts of their own time and place.

By Hannah Breeland
Opinions Editor

Ebooks are a cold, lifeless, steely contraption compared to books.

Sure I love technology, but I would choose a book over an ebook any day.

When you look at how far mankind has come with technology it's amazing. It seems every other year something better comes along.

Right now people can get books on their Kindle, Nook, PC, Macs, Kindle Fire and iPads. That's great, but who's to say how long those will last. Books have been around for centuries, and they will never be outdated or obsolete. Sometimes newer doesn't always mean better. To even get ebooks, you need one of the ereaders I mentioned before. There are a lot of families that don't even have a computer to start with. Instead of wasting hundreds of dollars on a Kindle or Nook, people can just get free books from the library, and as many as they want.

Even though I have a job, I still prefer the library. I don't want to spend money if I don't have to. Books are cheap and they can come from the thrift shop, yard sales, or borrowing from other people. One thing you can't do with an ebook is share it. After spending almost \$200 for a device, would you really share it? I love my friends but I would have to give it some thought before I start loaning it out to people.

With an ebook you can't share it, mark on it, or have the author sign it. I have a couple of books, which have been signed by the authors. How could that be done on an ebook?

There are so many down sides to an ebook like my computer crashing or my Kindle getting stolen. I don't have any fear of losing my books beside fire or water and those are highly unlikely. Even if something happens, they're cheap to replace. If you drop a book, it's no big deal, but if you drop a Kindle or Nook more then likely it's broken or severely damaged. Then you're out that much money.

For me, my books hold so much meaning; they really make the story come alive. My favorite books are worn out and have dog-eared pages, but that's what I love about them. No ebook could ever replace the memories it evokes whenever I pick up that book.

For example, my mom used to read me stories from a book she had when she was growing up. I'm in college and I still have that book. Granted, it's a little more worn out, but it's still usable. I plan on holding on to it until I have kids. Which brings up another point. In 20 years, could I pick up a Kindle or Nook and read my kids my favorite story? I highly doubt it.

Just because ebooks can be convenient doesn't make it better. With books, I'll never need to worry about battery life, plugs or Internet connection to read, all I have to do is pick it up and enjoy. Now that is what I call convenient.

Reboot won't win me over

By Samantha Briggs
Reporter

In an attempt to relive the good television of the 1990s, the Disney Channel is rebooting the well-loved television series "Boy Meets World."

"Boy Meets World" followed the lives of Cory Matthews played by Ben Savage, his best friend Shawn Hunter played by Rider Strong, and Cory's girlfriend Topanga Lawrence played by Danielle Fishel. The trio tries to survive the trials and tribulations of high school while learning valuable life lessons from their always present teacher Mr. Feeny.

In the reboot, Savage and Fishel will reprise their roles as Cory and Topanga. The show is set 10 years in the future, and Cory and Topanga are married and have two children, Elliot and Riley. Riley is their youngest daughter and the focus of the new show. Cory will be taking the Mr. Feeny role as he teaches history at Riley's Middle School.

As a huge fan of "Boy Meets World" and a kid of the '90s, I am saddened to say that I am less than enthusiastic about this reboot. The thing that worries me the most is that Disney Channel is the station that picked it up. Disney Channel has produced hits such as "Hannah Montana," "Lizzie McGuire," and "That's So Raven." Those are all perfectly good programs in their own right but none of those shows have touched on real issues the way that "Boy Meets World" had.

The thing that had set "Boy Meets World" apart from normal programming intended for children/teens is it did not treat the audience like they were stupid.

The character Shawn Hunter was raised in a trailer park and didn't feel smart enough to finish high school. His father popped in and out of his life and later passed away.

In an episode in season four, a father was abusing his young daughter so Cory and Shawn

both let her stay at their homes at night to protect her. I could not see the current programming on Disney Channel showcasing issues like those. The most the characters on the Disney Channel have to deal with is a zit on picture day or what to wear to their school dance. In a recent episode of the Disney Channel series "Shake It Up," the title character Cece fakes a leg injury in order to avoid participating in gym class and a supporting character has to take care of a neighbor's dog, which proves to be difficult. That is what constitutes as conflict on the Disney Channel.

I know I'm one of the few people who think that this reboot is a bad idea, but I am not looking forward to seeing my favorite John Adams High couple, Cory and Topanga, get turned into the quintessential clueless Disney parents who are barely on the show and who always seem to get duped by their kid.

One of the things I loved about "Boy Meets World" was that the kids were never smarter than their parents. In Disney Channel shows, the children always seem to make snarky remarks to their parents and they find a way to of being punished.

Cory's Parents Amy and Alan were a great example of strong parental figures that were caring and had a strong moral backbone.

Hollywood just keeps kicking nostalgia while it's down. "Boy Meets World" is one of those shows that should never be touched. It is a program that I hold in high regard and has stood the test of time.

I don't want to see Cory teaching a history class. I want to see him as I saw him 10 years ago, goofing off in Turner's classroom and hanging out at Chubby's. I am a little interested to see Corey and Topanga on my TV screen again outside of watching them on ABC Family reruns, but I am not interested enough to actually watch. Although Corey and Topanga are returning, I will not be.

Letter to the Editor

Tutoring Center rules allegedly broken

Editor:

There is an unbridled party going on right now in Bakersfield College's Tutoring Center located upstairs in the Student Services building.

For years, rules have been broken by both the faculty member and tutorial coordinator overseeing the tutoring program at BC. For example, the no-eating rule has been broken every day religiously by the tutorial coordinator.

Every form of food item has been eaten in the Tutoring Center by the tutorial coordinator and a coterie of her favorite student tutors every semester. The tutorial coordinator and her student tutor friends do it in full view of all the student tutors and lower-ranking student tutors, although the tutorial coordinator is supposed to be setting an example to the students there that such behavior is not tolerated.

Strangely, while the tutorial coordinator enjoys foods and

conversation with her favorites, the least-favored student tutors seem to be doing the majority of the work there.

Furthermore, there must be a "no-talking" rule in the Tutoring Center that is being ignored.

I cannot estimate how many times, while studying, that I have had to plug my ears with my fingers to shut out the cacophony that no authority in the Tutoring Center is trying to curtail, and the discords emanate chiefly from the tutorial coordinator's desk.

Even more infuriating is the double standard concerning the tardiness rule. For example, the tutorial coordinator has permitted her part-time coordinator to show up an hour and half late each day without penalty. The full-time coordinator allows this behavior while penalizing tutees for coming in 15 minutes late.

Katherine Jane White
BC student

Staff Editorial

The Oscars could be a good break

We, as college students, need an escape, just a few hours to forget our problems and not worry about the numerous pressures in life.

For those that are willing to enjoy it, shows like the Academy Awards can provide that.

Sure the whole event is Hollywood simply congratulating themselves, sure at three and a half hours long it goes on forever, and sure most speeches consist of actors thanking family members and agents that we don't know or care about, but it still can be lots of fun.

When you get down to it, everyone has a favorite actor or singer and there is joy in seeing those people dressed in their best. Joys in seeing those people excitedly ramble through an acceptance speech.

In the way they dress and carry themselves we get to see our favorite people in the strange unreal situation that is the Oscars.

We get to see their personality expressed through their words and movements, whether it's Anne Hathaway's dress and her dramatic best supporting actress speech or Ben Affleck's beard and his rushed, mile-a-minute speech for Best Picture.

You can watch Adele's weepy speech or Quentin Tarantino's barely controlled excitement and say to yourself "this is all an act just phony people being phony" or you decide to not worry about it and enjoy watching another person's dream come true.

The glitz and glamour may be a facade. Speeches are rehearsed.

That really doesn't change the fact that for many, winning one of these awards really means a dream fulfilled.

Every time the announcer said, "This is his/her first Oscar," it was a moment for that person.

It's easy to watch that and be happy for that person and why not?

Being jaded and serious all the time is no fun.

If you're watching the Oscars why not enjoy it?

Seth Macfarlane did a great job. His love of old time Hollywood showed in each joke and song.

He found the right balance between celebrating movies and lightly poking fun at them.

The Oscars is also a great way to be exposed to movies that you

may not have heard of.

People in general stick to what they like.

If you like action movies, you watch an action movie.

If you like anime, you watch an anime.

The same film gets nominated again and again so after watching enough clips from a film it may start to look interesting.

It's a way of getting exposed to movies outside of your wheelhouse and that's a good thing.

The length is a problem though. Macfarlane even made several jokes about how long the show goes.

Here in Bakersfield the show went from 5:30 to 9:00.

People don't have time for that. They badly need to shorten the show at least to two hours.



First place general excellence CNPA 2011

Winner of the 2003 and 2008 JACC Pacesetter Award

The Renegade Rip is produced by Bakersfield College journalism classes, printed by Castle Print Inc. and circulated bi-weekly on Wednesdays.

The newspaper is published under the auspices of the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees, but sole responsibility for its content rests with student editors.

The Rip is a member of Journalism Association of Community Colleges, California Newspaper Publishers Association, and Associated Collegiate Press.

The Renegade Rip

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor in Chief.....Martin Chang
Photo Editor.....Luis Garcia
Online Editor.....Robin Shin
Features Editor.....Graham C Wheat
Opinions Editor.....Hannah Breeland
Sports Editor.....Jason Reed

STAFF

Reporters/Photographers: Samantha Briggs, Adam Cree, Priscilla Dauven, Mitchell De Leon, Alana Garrett, Tyler Goucher, MJ Inguito, Mayan Lara, Jazmine Montoya, Robert Mullen, Ruben A. Perez, Bernie Rejon, Sharida Rejon, Patricia Rocha

AdviserDanny Edwards

Write The Rip

Letters should not exceed 300 words, must be accompanied by a signature and the letter writer's identity must be verified.

The Rip reserves the right to edit letters, however, writers will be given the opportunity to revise lengthy or unacceptable submissions.

If an organization submits a letter as a group, it must be signed by only one person, either the leader of the organization or the letter writer. Pen names are not allowed and anonymous letters will not be published.

How to reach us

-Address: Bakersfield College,
1801 Panorama Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93305
-Phone: (661) 395-4324
-Website: www.therip.com
-Email: ripmail@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Movie shows Pirate Bay still alive and well

By Luis Garcia
Photo Editor

There is currently another war taking place, and it is not being fought with heavy ammunition in the Middle East, but with files online. **MOVIE REVIEW** ★★★★★ **TPB AFK: The Pirate Bay** Away From Keyboard," focuses on the three co-founders of what has become the largest peer-to-peer file sharing website, The Pirate Bay.

Under a Creative Commons license, director Simon Klose premiered "TPB AFK" simultaneously at the Berlin International Film Festival on Feb. 8 and on various platforms such as YouTube, purchasable download, DVD, and also as a torrent on The Pirate Bay. It might seem

odd at first to release a film about piracy as a buyable product, but that's the whole point. Klose believes monetary gain can be achieved by giving the film away for free. As of Feb. 20 the film has made \$35,738 stemming from 3,012 paid downloads.

Peter Sunde, Gottfrid Svartholm and Fredrik Neij, were hit with a lawsuit in 2008, with MGM, Warner Bros. and 20th Century Fox calling for millions of dollars in damages.

When I first heard of "TPB AFK," I thought the film might side against the corporate world; instead it sails in more neutral waters. It presents the facts for what they are and leaves the viewer to decide if the trial was fair and how to feel about piracy and copyright laws.

The film is not all about the three-year long courtroom antics, but it also illustrates the lik-

ability of its subjects rather than the righteousness of their cause.

From beginning to end, director Simon Klose rides alongside Sunde, as he recounts Neij's comical attempt to flee the country to Laos. They also joke about the courtroom failed attempts to understand their tech lingo, confusing "bit" with "byte." Svartholm is the most daring of three, dancing around interrogations with brief non-answers that seem to be part of a

comedy routine.

A trio of Mark Zuckerberg type prodigies with a comical twist, make effective claims to the courtroom pointing out that individual users rather than the site itself are capable of uploading illegal content to the servers.

In the beginning of the film Sunde explains, "The trial tomorrow is not about the law. It's about politics."

Sure enough, the United States threatened Sweden with trade

sanctions unless The Pirate Bay was shut down. But Hollywood still needed someone to point blame toward and TPB fit the bill.

After being convicted for copyright infringement and sentenced to one year in prison and ordered to pay \$3.5 million, the men learn that the attorneys pitted against them are shown to be corrupt.

It turns out the judge and all the lawyers assisting the prosecution belong to the Swedish Association for Copyright, connecting them all to the plaintiff's attorney.

Making them all unsuitable to participate in the trial as they can easily be biased in their boss' favor, setting The Pirate Bay up for failure. With the obvious evidence of conflict of interest, no

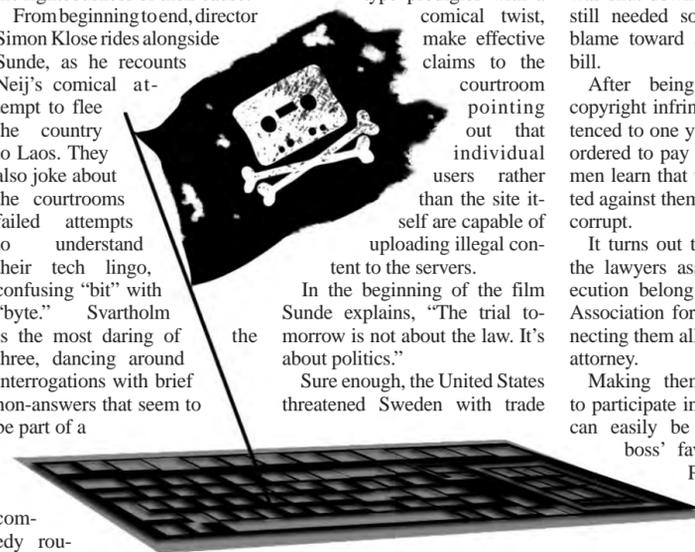
retrial is granted.

Everything soon falls apart and the film becomes hard to watch.

Svartholm takes off to Cambodia on a drug binge, and Neij and Sunde talk trash about one another. Although the three seem to be a close group in the beginning, they soon demonstrate The Pirate Bay, not friendship, is what's keeping them together.

Overall, I really liked the film and made me rethink the ways the media industry is heading. Being a cinematography buff, I really liked the camera work, specifically in the transitional scenes, which set a cold technological feel to the film. Klose does a good job of capturing the trial, appeal and ultimately the conviction, and the black humor. But the story doesn't end there.

The Pirate Bay is still online and more powerful than ever, and Hollywood continues to file lawsuits.



The Rock stars in new film

By Alana Garrett
Reporter

Snitches don't just get stitches, they get a lot more than that in Ric Roman Waugh's film Snitch.

MOVIE REVIEW ★★★★★ **The Rock** Johnson

The film stars Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson and features other cast members such as Academy Award Winner Susan Sarandon and Jon Bernthal, who starred as Shane Walsh in The Walking Dead. The film follows Johnson who plays as John Matthews as he becomes an informant aka a "snitch" to save his son from facing a sentence of 10 years in jail for a crime he was wrongfully accused of.

At times he seems to be trying too hard to act like a tough guy or father. In many of the film's scenes, his lines and actions in the movie didn't seem very natural but a little over the top. It almost felt as if he couldn't shed his "The Rock" persona.

An actor who did an excellent job with his role was Walsh. Walsh does an exceptional job playing an ex-convict who helps out Johnson in the film.

All Walsh's lines and acting seem natural and very believable. You feel the trials that Walsh faces and understand his actions. Susan Sarandon also provides an excellent role as Joanne Keeghan, a district attorney who will do anything to boost her chances for her upcoming campaign.

The film's actions sequences flowed very smoothly, with explosions that looked too real and even gun scenes that made me duck lower into my seat.

I found myself having a surprising squeal fly out of my mouth when there was an explosion or gunfire. The plot is written very well and I sat on the edge of my seat waiting to see what would happen to Johnson and Walsh.

Even though there were a few minor problems, overall Snitch is a pretty good film. The film has a great message and even an emotional ending. Fans of "The Rock", Walsh, and action should definitely go see the film.

Metal Gear true to form

By Graham C Wheat
Features Editor

"Metal Gear Solid Rising: Revengeance" is the latest foray into the rich Metal Gear universe that was created 15 years ago by visionary game producer Hideo Kojima.

While "Revengeance" has its shining moments and keen accessibility to newcomers to the franchise, it has a few downfalls that keep it from reaching that hallowed ground of videogame Valhalla.

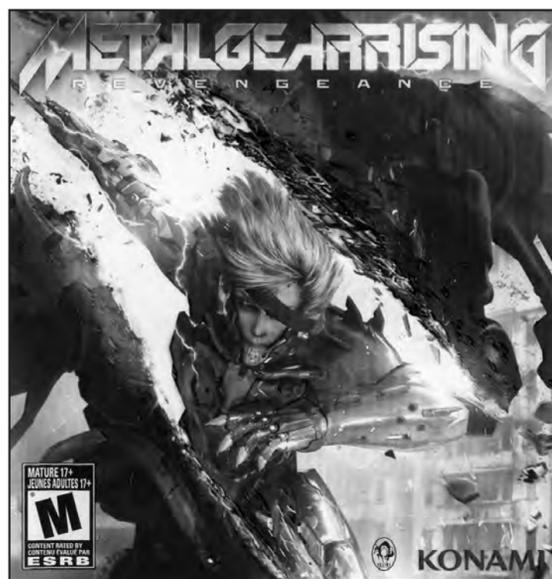
This time around, the main character is a departure from the familiar Solid Snake, and once again highlights the cybernetic-ninja Raiden and his quest for vengeance in a near-future scenario littered with cyborgs and artificial intelligence.

The game is a new collaboration from studio's Kojima Productions and Platinum Games. Kojima is most famous for his direction of the Metal Gear Solid series spanning the NES to the PS3.

Where the story in "Revengeance" is clearly a product of Kojima Productions fortitude in creating compelling characters and tapestries weaving generations of video game series together; this time around the supporting cast and bosses seem only lip service to the main character Raiden.

Beside a few memorable boss battles and some of the supporting cast around Raiden, I wasn't compelled to devote the time to every side conversation that takes place like in past Metal Gear games. Unlike games past, Raiden is no longer whiny and has a great plot twist that keeps players intrigued until the end. Platinum Games was the studio behind the hit game "Bayonetta" that was praised for hits smooth combat and rich fighting system.

The collaboration with Kojima productions has resulted in a



ROBIN SHIN / THE RIP

"Metal Gear Rising: Revengeance" is a great introduction to the world of Metal Gear and the series' stellar story.

game that is easy to pick up yet has a steep degree of difficulty for players looking to take their game farther.

The core of the game revolves around Raiden bursting blue enemy cyborg "juice" to increase his own health and abilities. The Blade Mode that is required to accomplish this, is fairly intuitive but gets a little repetitive after the copious amounts of enemies that you have to vanquish.

For the hardcore gamer, the challenge of collecting virtual enemy dog-tags, finding the hidden VR Missions and achieving high scores will keep re-playability moderately high. There are also some customization options with alternate weapons and gear to keep a player striving for high scores in the combat sections.

The combat can be difficult too, but only when drastically increased through the game's settings. Normal and Hard mode was a breeze. To really showcase the interesting combat that challenged a player's tactics in "Revengeance" you have to go

beyond these modes, but that is the price you pay for getting people into the franchise.

Although I do have a few qualms with the story, repetitive combat and finicky camera, I could not be more excited for this game.

Newcomers who have always felt the task of Metal Gear games too long and daunting can now experience something fast-paced and relatively easy in the convoluted universe that Hideo Kojima has created. People afraid of the stealth-action drama that was the franchise history can now be introduced to the series stellar story arcs and characters and inevitably culled into lovers of Kojima and his amazing stories. So although Metal Gear Rising has had to take a few directions from what the fanboys love, it is reaching a new audience and drawing them into the masterfully told world that Hideo Kojima is responsible for creating. If you have never played a Metal Gear game, this is a perfect time to jump into the convoluted series.

Inexpensive makeup for the girl on the go



IMAGE PROVIDED BY GOOGLE / THE RIP

By Patricia Rocha
Reporter

I spend too much money on makeup. I own all the crazy-shaped brushes, rainbow-hued palettes and I have enough red lipstick

MAKEUP REVIEW ★★★★★ **love & beauty** BY FOREVER 21

to literally paint the town red. The women at Sephora don't even ask me if I'm finding everything OK anymore; they know I know what I'm doing.

So when the time came for me to really crack down on my budget and become the typical broke college student, expensive makeup was the first thing to go. That is, until I discovered Forever 21's Love and Beauty Line. I'm a skeptic by nature, so when I picked up the 100-shadow palette and saw the \$16 price tag I let out a laugh. I suddenly had a flashback of that time my 6-year-old self bought Rose Art crayons over Crayola thinking they were the same thing. Quick to learn from the mistakes of my youth, I set it back down. There would be no way this palette was going to measure up to the Urban Decay, Too Faced, and Nars shadows that have spoiled me in the past. However, I kept coming back to the assortment of treasures on display, and being a sucker for the underdog and anything that has purple sparkles, I bought it anyway.

Someone check the sky for pigs and see if Satan has on

his coat and long underwear because Hell must have frozen over, because this makeup is impossibly fantastic. Don't get me wrong, this palette is in no way a substitution for the quality packaging, pigmentation, and pillowy softness of an expensive eye shadow palette, but it does exceed a lot of expectation. The colors are soft and extremely buildable. I found myself giddy as I swatched each vibrant color on my forearm. With the right primer and base, these shadows are a perfect way to achieve the look you want without having to spend an arm and a leg. Makeup is fun when you have a lot of options to play with, and I think that's what hinders a lot of people from buying the larger expensive palettes. They just can't justify paying almost \$50 for a palette with maybe 8-10 colors that they'll maybe never use. That's the reason neutral palettes are so extremely popular, because people know that brown will never let them down. With this cheaper alternative, I feel it opens up a smarter way for people to buy makeup. If you play with colors in a cheaper palette, you can find something new to fall in love with. Not everyone is going to go out and buy hot pink, orange, or teal shades on a whim, but if it's included with a bunch of other colors for really cheap, maybe it can become a new favorite.

I applaud Forever 21 for their fantastic cosmetic achievement that is their Love and Beauty Line.

Rapper keeps realness

By Ruben A. Perez
Reporter

Hoodie Allen's new mixtape "Crew Cuts" was released for free on his website Feb. 20, and

ALBUM REVIEW ★★★★★ **it's worth the download.**

Allen has been making independent music inde-

pendently since he started and doesn't shy away from the fact that he's a middle-class white guy who went to college.

"Crew Cuts" has a surprising amount of realness, in the sense that he isn't talking about being up in the club, banging 600 girls a night and partying with Diddy. Unfortunately realness tends to be lacking from a lot of up-and-coming rappers, and it's nice to see that for a change.

Before "Crew Cuts" dropped he released the video for "Cakeboy," which was kind of disappointing. It's not the best song on the album and the chorus "You can bake a cake cake cake" makes absolutely no sense. Even in the context of the song, it doesn't make sense.

Fortunately, he also released the video for "Fame is for Assholes" which, like the rest of his songs, is much better. "Crew Cuts" also has great collaborations with people like Chiddy, G-Eazy and Skizzy Mars.

The downfalls of the album are limited to the chorus

to "Cakeboy" and Shwayze's contribution to the song "Wave Goodbye." Maybe it's a bias because Shwayze sucks, but his contribution to the song was so short I didn't even notice it at first. I had to listen again to find his three lines at the end of the song. "Crew Cuts" also has a ridiculous amount of pop culture references. In "Reunion," he references Alanis Morissette, "The Hunger Games," "30 Rock" and Charlie Chaplin in only the first half of the song, but he can pull it off. Unlike Lil Wayne or somebody that just says a name because it will fit or it rhymes well,

Allen uses the references to say how cool he is and how well he raps and does it without looking like a douche. There are also no rap skits on the album. Usually with a mixtape there are some skits that sometimes work really well, but most of the time are just interruptions between songs.

"Crew Cuts" is very good, has catchy beats and shows that Allen can deliver. Unfortunately, my standard for rap mixtapes is very high after "The Bake Sale" by The Cool Kids, and Allen hasn't made it to that point yet, but "Crew Cuts" shows he's getting there.

'GADE FEEDBACK "What film do you think should win Best Picture at The Oscars?"

Editor's note: 'Gade Feedback is a feature that asks students their opinion on various topics.

Compiled by:
Graham C Wheat / The Rip



Alex Wooner, Criminal Justice: "I want Django Unchained to win because it was pretty badass."



Kimberly Duran, Engineering: "Life of Pi because I really liked the adventure in it"



Shabee Naqvi, Computer Science: "I want to see Lincoln win because it is informative and had good historical content."



Paul Georgi, Psychology: "I would love to see Django Unchained win, but Lincoln will take it because The Academy likes boring stuff."



P.J. Pierce, Theology: "Argo because it was a movie about a fake movie. It had a cool spy plot."

Perspectives

Perspectives on life and what makes us who we are.

Page 8

The Renegade Rip | www.therip.com

Wednesday, February 27, 2013



SHARIDA REJON / THE RIP

Local dancers Tyler Hernandez and Beatriz Cervantes rehearse a bachata routine.



SHARIDA REJON / THE RIP

"It is one thing to dance with your feet, and another to dance with your heart."

Dance can be so much more than just moving

By Sharida Rejon
Photographer

"Oh my god, stop dancing while you're driving or you're going to kill us!" These are words that are often said to me by whoever is in the passenger seat in my car.

It doesn't matter where I am: the supermarket, the mall, work, standing in line in the cafeteria, in my seat at school, and yes, even behind the wheel. If I feel like dancing, I will dance. I don't even need music, the rhythm is within me.

It all started when I saw a live production of Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" when I was 4. I remember so vividly being amazed by all the performers and the glitz and glamour of the stage that I leaned over to my mom and said, "I want to be up there. I want to be on that stage."

My mom replied, "You can, if you work hard enough." And that was the moment. The moment I decided to make performing my life and the day my dream was born.

After that trip to Disneyland in the summer of 1993, we returned to our home in Mexico where I started taking ballet and jazz lessons, as well as voice lessons.

I became involved in musical theater and performed in numerous shows and recitals throughout my childhood. I quickly fell in love with the stage. It was my home.

However, my life as a performer took a dark turn when my grandparents, who live in California, became ill, and my family decided to move to the United States so my mom could be close to them and take care of them.

I was OK with the move itself, after all, the stage of my dreams where I saw "Beauty and the Beast" is in California, but I just did not feel ready as a performer yet.

However, performing became the least of my worries when my real torture began: I was teased and bullied at school, beat up and thrown into trashcans. Black eyes, bruises, a hurt ego and being made fun of became an everyday thing for me.

Kids always found a reason to torture me: my appearance, my clothes, the way I talked, the books I read, even my favorite color would become the subject of their cruel jokes. In the first few months, I couldn't understand a word anybody was saying, since I didn't speak English.

I thought the kids in the English Learners program would be supportive and understand what I was going through, but I was sadly mistaken. They did not like me and they also made fun of me for having a different accent than them.

I did not fit in anywhere. Do you remember that scene from the film "Mean Girls" when Cady would lock herself in a bathroom stall and eat lunch by herself? That was me, except I didn't eat lunch because I was starting to develop an eating disorder.

I just cried and told myself that things would get better eventually. When I started to feel like they weren't, however, I became isolated, insecure, sad and felt worthless.

With all this going on in my life at the tender age of 12, I distanced myself from dance studios and dance classes, but I started doing a lot of self-training at home.

I would choreograph my own routines and watch dance shows, music videos, concerts and dance in front of the television. I managed to learn English in a few months and eventually returned to the stage, as a singer this time, and although my social life was still non-existent, all I cared about was performing. Being on stage was the most amazing feeling in the world, and that was enough for me.

Things were OK for a while. Although the teasing and bullying, along with my battle with the eating disorder came back in high school, I had a few friends who knew about my dancing abilities and I was comfortable around them.

I wouldn't dare mention the word "dancer" to anybody else, sim-

ply because I was extremely self-conscious and felt embarrassed and afraid that they'd make fun of me.

Unfortunately, I learned to bottle everything up and never talked to anybody about my problems and worries. It is almost as if I had something against expressing any type of negative emotion, and became under the impression that shedding tears was a sign of weakness, so I stopped crying.

I survived those tests, but then in college, my problems became overwhelming. This time, they were more "grown-up" problems. It just became too much for me to handle, I fell into a state of depression and felt completely lost. It didn't help that my habit of keeping everything to myself was still haunting me.

My little bit of remaining strength was running out and it felt like my life was hanging on by a thread, and I was ready to let go.

Then, I came across a prestigious dance school in Los Angeles, and although I felt like I had no chance, I took a leap of faith and got into their summer program. Little did I know that was going to be the summer that was going to change my life.

Being away from home for the first time, completely by myself was difficult at first, but from the moment I walked in that studio, it became clear to me that this was a whole different environment. I instantly became inspired and amazed by all the talent surrounding me.

It was surreal to me: all the dancers that I looked up to growing up, and still admire to this day, all those people performing on the dance shows, music videos, and concerts I watched when I trained at home were now my teachers and classmates. It was truly a dream come true.

On the last day of my trip, I had a conversation with Robert Baker, the founder of the school, who told me that I had talent and that my passion for dance was visible.

He also mentioned that they were not only his words, but some of my teachers as well. Those words will live in my heart forever, for they changed my life.

Although I have been back to that studio countless times and I am inspired and motivated each time, that first trip was special. It helped me find myself and the purpose of my life, as well as restoring my confidence. I never once looked back into the darkness, and it is always positive thoughts with me now, even through rough times.

I learned that dance is a form of expression, and I no longer just dance with my feet, but with my heart and soul. And even though I am still not very verbal about my feelings, I let people see me, the real me, when I dance.

Now my goal in life is not only to follow my own dreams, but also to inspire others to do the same with theirs. Since that summer trip, my life has consisted of auditions, rehearsals, performances, and being on camera. The first time I was on set, filming a promotional screening for the dance film "Footloose" was my first "oh my god, this is really happening" moment when I had to pinch myself.

Since then, I have done countless performances. I will soon be attending the International Dance Academy of Hollywood, as well as performing in a professional dance show in Hollywood, and was recently invited to perform in "The Dance Awards" in New York City this summer.

I now own a dance studio in Bakersfield where I get to teach and inspire kids every day. Remember that stage I talked about where I saw the live production of "Beauty and the Beast?"

This year, I will not only perform on it, but I am taking my dance students as well for their moment on that stage, and I am just getting started.

Dance not only saved and gave meaning to my life, but it is my everyday motivation because like one my teachers, who is now my friend, once told me, "Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain."

That, today, is my life motto.

A love not strong enough to die for

By Alana Garrett
Reporter

It was love at first bite, and I am still in love. No, this isn't going to be some cheesy article on why I love vampires. This article is about my love and addiction to food. Food is one of my weaknesses.

Yes, I have a kryptonite, and it's most likely covered in caramel, has cheese or it's fried. Food for me is probably the equivalent of someone's addiction to drugs, gambling or any other type of addiction. Once I've got food on my mind there is no changing it until I get some food. In class I'm the student whose stomach you hear growling loudly as the instructor rambles on. I find food to be the most important part of my day. It doesn't matter if it's breakfast, lunch, or dinner, I cherish each meal and bite.

I couldn't imagine my life without food. Of course, we all need food to live but could you imagine if you just ate for nutrients. Holidays would never be the same.

Yes we all celebrate holidays for certain reasons, but one of my reasons is the food. I mean, what would Thanksgiving be like without a giant roasted turkey,

cooked golden brown to perfection with a side of mashed potatoes and brown gravy. The Fourth of July is Independence Day but just imagine it without the delicious barbecue ribs, burgers and chicken.

Don't get me wrong. I love Christmas and the meaning behind it, but I also love the Christmas cookies that are decorated in colorful icings, and sprinkles that bring sweet burst of flavor to my mouth.

I eat all kinds of food and I don't get very picky as long as it's delicious. I even invent my own special meals from Oreo pancakes to chocolate burritos drizzled in chocolate sauce and whipped cream.

In my free time when I am not eating food, I spend time looking at pictures of food. This is usually what some people call food porn. I get on Pinterest or Instagram looking at pictures tagged as food porn.

I look over all the delicious pictures of just baked cinnamon rolls with white icing melting off of them or cheesy covered pizza with all the right toppings. I get hungry just thinking about it let alone looking at it. So I guess you can call me a food porn addict.

I'm sure it's no surprise that I work at a restaurant

where I get to feed my addiction and have the freedom to fantasize about food. I can't even watch The Food Network or any type of cooking show because I'll get too hungry and I'll have to have food.

The only problem my love for food presents is that most of the food I love is bad for me. All that delicious friedness is actually not healthy and it's making me unhealthy. I recently encountered some health problems that pointed to my unhealthy addiction. My doctor and a nutrition specialist told me that I had eaten so much bad food my kidneys couldn't process the waste.

But that wasn't the worst part. The worst part was I had to be put on a diet. A diet is a word I never wanted to hear, but while I would love to keep eating all my favorite foods, I don't want to end up in a hospital. While I know I can't cut out all the foods that bring me pleasure, I have learned to enjoy my favorite foods in moderation.

I'm sure I will never get completely over my food addiction, but I have gone to get help and I've cut back on my food porn searching, a little. But the next time you're at a restaurant, beware, I may be looking at your food and fantasizing about it.

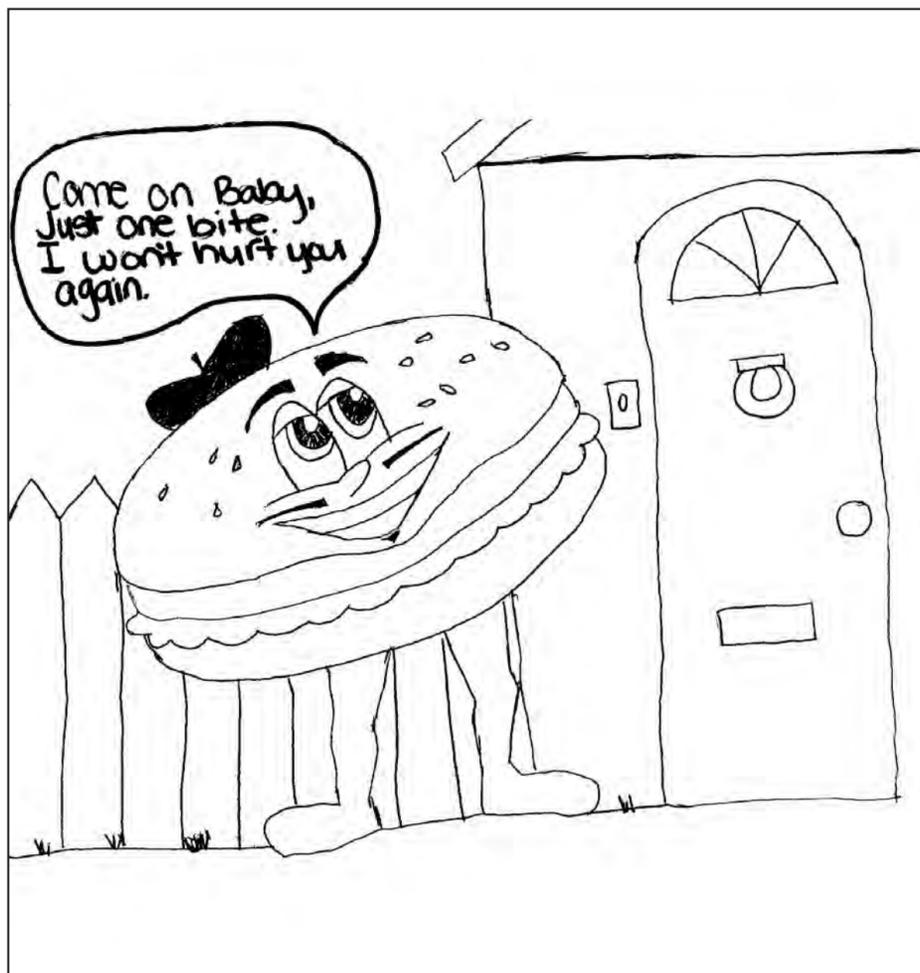


ILLUSTRATION BY ALANA GARRETT / THE RIP

BC softball team off to a rough start in the season

By Robert Mullen
Reporter

Bakersfield College softball has hit the season hard, playing eight games in the last two weeks, leaving their current record at 1-10.

On Feb. 12, the Renegades traveled to Taft where they lost 7-6. Taft College scored four runs in the first inning, one in the fourth, and two in the sixth, while BC scored one in the first, three in the second, and one in each the fourth and fifth innings. "We out-pitched them and out-hit them," said Coach Sandi Taylor. "We just could not play defense in that game."

On Feb. 15, BC played at home against Santiago Canyon College, and lost 13-2 in the fifth inning. In the third inning Morgan Peterson scored a run, as did Brittney Roberts in the fifth. Santiago Canyon scored four runs in the first inning, one in the second, five in the fourth, and three in the fifth.

Also on Feb. 15, BC played Cuesta College, and won its first game of the season, 18-10. Kris Jones, Jalyssa Farley, Katie Hoffman, and Kaitlyn Diffenbaugh all scored one run each, while Peterson, Brook Charles, CJ Sagasta, and Kylee Rice scored two apiece, and Shelbe Pennel and Roberts each scored three runs. Both Jones and Charles hit a home run.

"I was proud of our girls for swinging the bat, and finally getting a win," Taylor said.

On Feb. 16, BC went to College of the Sequoias and suffered another loss, 5-0. "We pitched well, we played defense well, we only gave up one run in five different innings, but that's a good sign because we could get out of an inning where [before] we've had trouble getting out of innings and you start to see a snowball effect." While Taylor admits the team had difficulty hitting the ball, she was still pleased with the overall performance.



LUIS GARCIA / THE RIP

Kelsey Best pitches against Cypress in a game on Feb. 24.

On Feb. 21, BC went to Antelope Valley College and lost 9-1 ending in the fifth inning. Heather Rayhill scored the only run for BC in the third inning. "Overall I think we got outplayed. I don't think we had much energy," said Taylor.

Over the weekend of Feb. 23-24, BC hosted several teams at the season's first BC Classic. On Feb. 23 they played Mt. San Antonio, which resulted in another close loss at 5-3.

"I was really pleased with our efforts against Mt. SAC," Taylor said. "We played a complete game. They came up with a big hit at the end, but I was very happy with [the game]."

Mt. SAC scored three runs in the fourth inning, while Pennel, Roberts, and Charles scored in the fifth. Mt. SAC returned with two more runs in the seventh, including a home run. Taylor cited the team's pitching as a primary factor in keeping Mt. SAC from scoring, as well as some fantastic hitting.

"Early on, Morgan Peterson

pitched and really kept them off balance," Taylor said. "They scored three runs early, and then we answered back. We actually had runners [on base] every inning in scoring position. We had to hold them in that seventh inning, but one just got away from us."

BC's lost the second game of the day to Southwestern 12-0.

On Feb. 24, BC played Cypress, losing 10-1. Peterson scored the game's first run in the first inning, but Cypress returned with two runs in the second and third, five in the fourth, and one in the fifth. Taylor was pleased with the team's pitching, but wasn't too happy with the general defensive play. "I thought Kelsey [Best] was a little unlucky, she threw a pretty good game even if we got a ball we could handle, we bobbled two or three."

BC will play at Cerritos College March 1, followed by a rescheduled home game against Ventura College on March 5. They will then host LA Valley College on March 7.



LUIS GARCIA / THE RIP

Shortstop Brittney Roberts, left, catches a throw and tags out a Cypress runner at second base at the Feb. 24 game.

Complete Your Degree or Credential at University of La Verne's Bakersfield Campus

Available Programs Include

- Business Administration*
- Organizational Management*
- Public Administration*
- Health Administration
- Liberal Studies (Teacher Preparation)**
- Multiple or Single Subject Teaching Credential
- Special Education: Mild/Moderate
- M.S. Educational Counseling
- M.Ed. Educational Management
- Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership

* Also available Online

** Also available in Delano & Taft locations

Attend an Information Session

Wednesday, March 13, 2013 at 6:00pm



UNIVERSITY OF
LA VERNE
Bakersfield Campus

Call toll free at 877-GO-TO-ULV
degreeinfo@laverne.edu
laverne.edu

Kern County Regional Campus
1201 24th Street, Suite D-200
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Again
One of
America's
Best Colleges
U.S. News & World Report and Forbes Magazine

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY®

TRANSFERRING?
FINISH SCHOOL
YOUR WAY!

At National University, we know you can't sit in class all day or lock yourself in a library—you've got work, family, and friends. You're transferring because you want to finish your degree and begin the next chapter of your life. National University makes that possible.

- » Streamlined admissions
- » No enrollment fee
- » Flexible scheduling
- » A unique one-course-per-month format
- » Scholarship programs

BAKERSFIELD CAMPUS

4560 California Avenue
Suite 300
661.864.2360



NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

800.NAT.UNIV | getinfo.nu.edu/transfer

Track and field gets a good 'jump'

By Jason Reed
Sports Editor

The Bakersfield College men's and women's track and field teams each took second place in the Battle of the Regions meet that featured nine schools Feb. 15 at Bakersfield College.

BC men took second place with a score of 126, trailing first place San Joaquin Delta College, with a score of 162.5. Santiago Canyon College finished in third with 110.

BC women also took second place with a score of 107.5, trailing Ventura College, which dominated the meet with a score of 167. San Joaquin Delta women finished in third place with a score of 88.5, just squeezing past fourth place Antelope Valley College, which finished with a score of 88. "I think we had some really good performances today," BC head coach Dave Frickel said on his team's second-place finish. After not having a meet in three weeks, Frickel believed his team put up a great effort. The Renegades had several first-place finishes.

Michael Norwood won the men's 200-meter dash with a time of 22.39 seconds, and Jade Gridiron won the women's 200 in 26.74. Natalie O'Dwyer won the women's 400-meter at a time of 58.37 seconds. David Loustalot took first in the men's 1500-meter run, with the time of 4:03.87 seconds, and Tejera Dial took first in the women's 800 with 2:23.39. Matt Dunn won the pole vault.

The women's 400 and 1,600 relay teams won in 49.12 and



Richard Langdeaux, right, tries to make up ground during a track meet held at BC.

4:07.62, respectively. The men's 400 relay team won in 42.40.

BC's Evan Eggenberg took second place in the men's high jump at 6'6".

"We're going to improved tremendously," Frickel said when

asked about how the team will improve over the course of the season. "This is great. We had three weeks in between meets and these guys have been training really well and they're doing really well."

Frickel said even though the team had nearly a month off, he still expected good performances from his runners. BC's next scheduled meet will feature five other schools, March 1, at Ventura College.



A group of Renegades run as a team during a meet held at Bakersfield College Feb. 15.

BC baseball starting off the season right

By Jason Reed
Sports Editor

The Bakersfield College baseball team continues to win and are now 10-2 on the season as they cruised through two straight Western State Conference wins, by beating (1-11-0) L.A. Valley College 9-3 Feb. 21, and avenged an earlier season loss to (4-7) College of the Canyons, beating the Cougars 13-0 on Feb. 22.

The game was originally scheduled to happen Feb. 19, but was postponed due to a rainout.

BC came out swinging in the first inning, building a 4-0 lead against L.A. Valley. Catcher Justin Martinez got the Renegades on the board with an RBI single to right field, scoring outfielder Kyle Nixon.

Outfielder Cole Hallum doubled to right center, allowing infielder Erik Williams to score, giving the Renegades a 2-0 lead.

BC capped off the first inning, when outfielder Justin Turner doubled to left center, scoring both Hallum and Martinez. Turner finished the game, going 2-for-4 at the plate, with one run scored and three RBIs.

"We feel good," BC head coach Tim Painton said when asked how he felt about his team winning its first conference game.

BC right-handed starting pitcher Ryan Stapp pitched eight innings for the Renegades, allowing one earned-run on just two hits to pick up his fourth win of the season, improving 4-0.

"I felt like he did a really good job of going out and attacking the strike zone with his fastball and pitched really well," Painton said about Stapp's performance.

Painton thought the offense for the Renegade was the key to the team's success in the win, as they were able to string together back to back hits throughout the game. Painton said that he believed it was big for Stapp, because it kept him in a rhythm and limited L.A. Valley's chances of making a comeback.

"I just feel like I walked too many guys," Stapp said when asked how he felt about his pitching performance. "Other than that I was in a zone most of the game and we were able to keep them off balance," he also added.

L.A. Valley threatened to make a comeback in the second inning, as they were able to capitalize on an error by BC scoring two unearned-runs. Right fielder Andrew Saldana and first baseman Madison Dang for L.A. Valley were responsible for the two runs, as both players were a combined 0-for-5 in the game.

After the first inning, BC went into a four inning slump, but were able to put the game away in the sixth and seventh inning, by outscoring the Monarchs 5-1. L.A. Valley batted a woeful, 2-for-29, leaving four men on base.

"Yeah we didn't score for three or four innings, but we were able to come back and add runs on, which is important so that you can distance yourself from the opponent," Painton said.

BC has outscored its last three opponents 30-5 and are now 3-1 in conference after dropping its WSC game to College of the Canyons back on Feb. 16. BC won the second game against L.A. Valley 8-2 on Feb. 23.

The Renegades will play host to (8-5) Citrus College Feb. 28.

BC reps give opinion on Olympic Committee's possible ban of sport

By Jason Reed
Sports Editor

Recently the International Olympic Committee has announced that it will drop the sport of wrestling from the Summer Games in 2020, but will let it go on in the 2016 Olympics.

"Their restructuring of things, I have to say, is more politically motivated and fanatically financially motivated," Bakersfield College wrestling coach Bill Kalivas said when asked what he thought about the IOC's decision to cut wrestling from the Summer Games.

With four rounds of voting, the IOC removed wrestling from the list on the 2020 Summer Games program. The same IOC group will vote again in May to decide which eight sports, including wrestling, to recommend for the 2020 Olympics, which is required to have 28 sports. Every IOC member will then decide this September, which sports will be approved.

"I doubt very seriously that they're going to eliminate wrestling, they've discussed it. Sports have become big business and unfortunately that's just how things are. I'd like to think that they're not going to eliminate it," Kalivas said. Kalivas believes that there are still things that can be done to make the sport more exciting to the fans. He said high caliber Olympic style of wrestling against really skilled opponents is not real exciting.

"The way the rules have been manipulated, now it's about position and the minimization of scoring," he said. "I have to believe that they're going to try and make it more exciting."

"They talk about eliminating wrestling, but what I don't understand is, how is BMX a traditional sport? You're going to put golf in the Olympics but you have the World Golf Championship, the Masters, the British Open and you got the U.S. Open. You got all of these huge tournaments. It makes no sense to me,"

he said. Kalivas also talked about the effect it will have on up and coming wrestlers who dream of making it to the Olympics. "The dedication and sacrifice you have to make to become an Olympic athlete is tremendous," he said. "Wanting and doing are two different things." Kalivas said in order for this to have a major effect on young wrestlers is, if their willing to sacrifice what Bakersfield High School graduate Jake Varner sacrificed.

"Are their young men willing to sacrifice what he sacrificed since he was six years old? Is there anyone out there that is willing to sacrifice 20 years and then the chances are what if you don't ever achieve that? Where are you going to be, what are you going to do?"

"How long will you last if you don't have the work ethic," he added.

In the 2012 Summer Olympics, wrestling had athletes from 71 different countries.

Men's tennis finishes in seventh place; BC golf team continues to struggle on the year

By Robert Mullen
Reporter

Men's tennis played a tournament in Modesto over Feb. 15-16, where they came in seventh of 14. The team won five matches in the main draw, and six consolation matches. Coach Teri Lynott felt the team did better than they had during their first match. "The improvement I saw was not on the court, it was off the court. We worked through some issues about preparation and stuff, before we go out there to play, and that was good. Even though it wasn't on the court, it was well worth the experience."

While the men struggled early on during their first match, Lynott feels confident for the future of the season, but she notes it will be a struggle. "We have a very good, strong team, we're just in a conference where traditionally, if they bring the same teams that they always have, it's just going to be hard. Every team in our division is extremely good."

On Feb. 28 the men's team will host Santa Barbara College, while the women's team will travel there. March 5 will see the men hosting Ventura with women away. The match set for Feb. 19 against Glendale, which was rained out, has been

rescheduled; the women's match will be March 1 at home and the men will travel to Glendale on March 7.

Golf

Men's golf has played five tournaments so far, with their best standing at fourth of 10, at the Double Eagle Invitational on Jan. 28-29 in Bakersfield.

They made seventh of 14 at Stanford on Feb. 4, sixth of seven at College of the Canyons on Feb. 11, third of four on Feb. 13 in Ojai, and last of seven at Santa Barbara on Feb. 18. BC's next match will be on March 3 at Santa Barbara.

THIS MOMENT BEGAN WITH A CHOICE.

CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD
NATIONALGUARD.com

He chose to make a difference. Chose to get a degree. To learn new skills. And it was all made possible by the National Guard.

EDUCATION BENEFITS • SKILLS TRAINING • PART-TIME SERVICE

Contact Staff Sergeant Frank Diniz at 661.472.3303

1-800-GO-GUARD

BC men's hoop team finishes 10-15



Bakersfield College forward Damian Robinson dunks over an L.A. Valley player Feb 13.

By Jason Reed
Sports Editor

The Bakersfield College men's basketball team ended its final game of the season in the Western State Conference tournament by beating L.A. Valley College 60-57 on Feb. 21. Because BC and L.A. Valley were the lowest ranked teams in the conference, they played a one-game tournament matchup.

BC forward Conroy Lester led the way for the Renegades in scoring with 25 points, at just 7-for-20 shooting, including going 10-for-12 at the free-throw line and grabbing eight rebounds, just two shy of a double-double. BC as a team had 45 rebounds, with 12 coming from guard Ed Daniels.

BC finished the regular season at 3-7 in the WSC and 10-15 overall, going just 4-7 at home. BC went 3-2 in its first five conference games, before dropping five of their next six, including five straight losses.

"It was disappointing," BC head coach Rich Hughes said, when asked how he felt about the Renegades 2013 season. "We didn't get more wins, but almost every game was close. So we were just right on the verge of getting some more victories, but it didn't go our way."

Hughes said that the team struggled to score during games. He said there were moments where his team would look good and moments where they would have meltdowns.

"We were unable to stop the other team during those moments where we couldn't score. Our chemistry was good. We competed all year long but just couldn't come out ahead."

On Feb. 13, six BC sophomores played their final game at Bakersfield College, when the Renegades played host to (5-19) L.A. Valley in BC's final home game of the season. BC lost the game 76-72. Lester scored a game high 34 points on 12-for-25 shooting, including 10-for-13 at the free-throw line.

L.A. Valley led by 15 points with 12:10 remaining before the Renegades attempted to make a late game surge, cutting the Monarchs lead to five, with 51.1 left in the game. BC would then miss shots down the stretch, causing them to get in foul situ-



MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

BC forward Conroy Lester battles for the basketball against L.A. Valley College. Lester led the Renegades with 34 points.

ations, which caused L.A. Valley to close out the game at the free-throw line.

"We didn't come out with any intensity," Hughes said when asked what went wrong. BC shot just 35 percent on from the field, going 28-for-81 as a team. "You can't win a lot of games like that," Hughes said.

BC would then go on to lose at Citrus College 85-67, in their final regular season game. Guard R'mand Harper led the Renegades in scoring with 19 points on 8-for-15 shooting. Citrus had four players in double figures, led by guard Kerry Carter who scored 20 points and had eight rebounds.

Women's basketball team finishes 7-5

By Jason Reed
Sports Editor

The Bakersfield College women's basketball team finished third in the Western State Conference at 7-5 and 14-13 overall, just missing out on the playoffs. After a 6-2 start in their first eight conference games, the Renegades dropped three of their final four, which cost them a chance at repeating as WSC championship and clinching a post-season playoff berth.

BC was tied with College of the Canyons and was one game behind 2013 WSC champions L.A. Valley College, with two weeks remaining in the season before losing three in a row, including losses to L.A. Valley and Canyons.

On Feb. 23, both Bakersfield College and West L.A. College came into their final regular season game on three game losing streaks.

BC didn't disappoint. The sophomores for the Renegades played their final home game at BC and avenged an earlier season defeat by the Wildcats, beat-

ing them 73-54.

Four of the six sophomores for the Renegades scored in double figures, led by guard Emilee Parks with 15 points and six assists on 6-for-17 shooting, including 3-for-6 at the three point line.

The sophomores scored 61 of BC's 73 points.

Forward Brittney Smith was second in scoring with 15 points and seven rebounds, on 6-for-12 shooting.

Bakersfield College head coach Paula Dahl said her team did a great job of taking advantage of West L.A. guards Cheyenne Bonam (who finished with a game high 18 points) and Ashlie Bruner (who led the Wildcats second in scoring with 16 points) being benched to start the game, because the two players showed up late to the game.

BC also got a big lift from guards Andrea Harris and Haley Huntington.

Harris scored 11 points to go along with six rebounds including going 5-for-5 at the free-throw line.

Huntington scored 12 points

for BC and grabbed five rebounds to go along with three steals and two assists.

"I was really proud of what they did tonight, they came out and played with more confidence than we've seen in a long time. We started making shots and it was amazing," Dahl said, on her sophomore's performance in their final game at BC. "I wanted them to have the kind of game that they had tonight and they did it," she added.

BC led West L.A. 30-26 at halftime after being up by 11 points mid-way through the first half.

The Wildcats closed the half on a 17-10 run, trailing by only four points. West L.A. never led in the game.

BC would then open the second half on a 7-1 run and led 37-27 before completely running away with the game and finishing 8-4 at home.

BC's bench finished with 21 points, led by sophomore forward MacKenzie Odle who scored nine points on 4-for-6 shooting, with three steals and seven rebounds, three shy of a



MAYAN LARA / THE RIP

Bakersfield College guard Emilee Parks dribbles the ball down the court Feb. 27, in a 73-54 rout against West L.A. College. Parks led the Renegades in scoring with 15 points.

double-double. Other sophomore, Christina Soto, finished her last BC home game with two steals and two assists, pro-

viding great energy for her team throughout the game.

After the game, Dahl talked about how she felt about the sea-

son. "I'm really happy, I was hoping for a winning season and we got a winning season," she said.

'GADE FEEDBACK "How do you feel about the Olympic Committee removing wrestling from the games?"

Editor's note: Sports Feedback is a feature that asks students their opinion on various sports topics.

Compiled by:
Graham C Wheat / The Rip



Adam Zanoff, Music: "It is one of the oldest sports, why would they get rid of it? Bring back naked wrestling."



Ariea Thomas, Digital Arts: "I don't think it is a good idea. Wrestling is a huge part of Bakersfield. They shouldn't take that away from our community"



Brandon Gifford, Fire Technology: "I wrestled in high school. It takes a lot of skill and the Olympics are about true skill. Why get rid of it?"



Raul Medrano, Undecided: "Why would they do that? It's not fake WWE wrestling."



William Paulovitz, Physical Education: "I am a martial arts guy, and it is a basic for so much in that sport. It seems dumb to get rid of it."

Color run for charity

A thousand celebrate in the Bakersfield sun in vibrant style



MAYAN LARA / THE RIP

At the Color Me Rad event held on Feb. 16, participants celebrate the completion of the run by throwing color packets at each other. There were over 1000 runners.



MAYAN LARA AND MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Above left: Runners enjoy throwing color packets at each other after completing their run. Above right: Caleb Cuch coughs after being drenched by a color throw at Color Me Rad.

By Jazmine Montoya
Reporter

On a tour of 63 cities, the Color Me Rad run found its way to make it back to Bakersfield for a second year.

"This is our first race to be twice in one city so we're super excited," said Kristine Peterson, volunteer coordinator.

Over 1,000 people took part in the fundraiser put on by CSUB. A portion of registration fees and any extra donations went straight to the Children's Miracle Network to provide medical care and help kids who are suffering from an illness or others who have been injured.

People from a wide range of ages participated in the 5k race, which started at the Kern County Fairgrounds. Participants ran up South P Street, down Belle Terrace and made their way back to the fairgrounds, stopping by four color stations on the way.

Volunteers at the stations were prepared for the runners with paint in hand to make sure the runners left with more color on themselves than they already had.

As participants crossed the finish line, booming music and others who had already finished the race welcomed them. A "color bomb" or a small plastic bag filled with color, was handed to

each racer. Every 15-20 minutes a color bombing party occurred to make sure everybody was covered in pink, yellow, blue and green.

Mayra Trejo, UCI student, came home to Bakersfield to take part in the event.

"My sis told me about it, and I saw YouTube videos of last year and I wanted to get involved," Trejo said. "I'm glad I did. I didn't think running could be as much fun."

"Forty-three dollars was a lot to run a 5k, but it felt good to be able to give back and have fun with the ones I love all at the same time."

A renewing of vows marriage

ceremony was held. The groom was in his best suit as well as the bride who was dressed in a color-blasted wedding dress.

Ashli Behill took part in the event for the first time.

"It was the most fun I ever had running," Behill said. "It was strangely motivating to run to each color station to get color bombed even though it kept getting in all the wrong places like my mouth. I would definitely do it again. But next time with more friends."

Peterson said the event was a success and the outcome of this year was even better than last year. "We love Bakersfield, and we'll be back next spring."



PHOTOS BY MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Runners are pelted with pink color packets as they cross the finish line. The sunglasses were given before the run began.