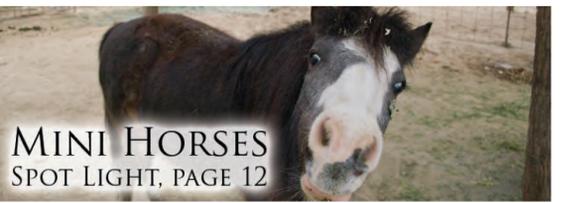




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The Renegade Rip

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

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Women's History Month



SHARIDA REJON / THE RIP

Mayra McArthur, middle, discusses women's issues at the International Women of Greater Bakersfield panel held at BC on March 7.

Student elections are near

By Hannah Breeland
Opinion Editor

The presidential elections may be over, but Bakersfield College is just getting started. The Student Government Association is holding elections for next semester a little bit early.

Elections are being held after spring break on April 1-4. Students can vote by going onto BC's main page and following the link.

SGA general counsel Nick Acosta explained reasons behind the change in election dates and why it is taking place so soon in the semester.

"I've noticed that the further in the semester it gets, the less students we have," he said. "Drop dates and Withdrawal dates really contributes to it. Then students stop showing interest in other activities because of midterms and finals. Their main focus is on going to classes then studying. With all that in mind, we still can't hold it too soon."

To run for any of the positions, all of which are open, students need to get an application packet form from Campus Center 4. Those packets must be turned in by 5:30 p.m. March 18. Originally, the packets had to be turned in a week earlier, but now there's still time to apply.

"I changed the dates because we weren't really getting a lot of packets turned in or people showing interest in running," Acosta said. "Every year the only people running are the senators. We are trying to advertise to get more people beside the ones who have already been in it because it almost seems clique-ish."

Acosta mentioned a few qualifications for running. Students must have a 2.0 GPA and be enrolled in six units, which is considered being part time, as well as attending the mandatory candidates meeting. The meeting date is on the

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International women give perspective on unique lives

By Ruben A. Perez
Reporter

Bakersfield College was able to hear world perspectives through the eyes of international students as a part of Women's History Month. The panel of international students was on March 7 and had students from various parts of the world that are currently students at Bakersfield College.

Most of the women had similar struggles first arriving here, most notably with the English language. Maria Vilella from Honduras couldn't believe she wasn't doing well in her English classes.

"When it comes to writing, you think to yourself 'Did I really go to

school and did I really learn English?' because I was so disappointed when I would get a C on my paper," said Vilella.

Polish student Magdalena Bogacz said, "I understood probably 5% of what the teacher was saying. It was like Chinese. I couldn't even raise my hand to say that I'm here when they were taking the roll call because I was so afraid to say here."

Other differences the women saw here were with our school system. Bogacz said that in Poland students need to pass calculus three in order to graduate high school.

"I think we're ahead when it comes to math and I think that's the only field where we're really ahead of you

guys."

Other differences the women saw were in simple day-to-day life. Alfeah Muharram from Yemen had a hard time with driving laws. "We don't have any laws for driving in Yemen so I passed every stop sign here."

"I couldn't pump my own gas. In Yemen they do that for you. I sat clueless, half an hour at the gas station waiting for someone to pump my own gas for me."

Deborah Ramos, who was raised in both Spain and The Philippines, had a hard time understanding American currency.

"Whenever I had coins, I would throw them out somewhere. I just couldn't figure it out," said Ramos.

The women also pointed out the differences in the roles of women here and in their home countries.

Esther Anazado of Nigeria said, "Girls ages 15-21 get married and end up being housewives."

"We sit at home, make babies, get married, die, that's it."

The women in Yemen also have a similar living.

"She is the mother; she is the caring housewife; she is the nurturer of every child," said Muharram. "She is uneducated, unhealthy, uncared for and so she will raise children who will carry the same ignorance creating a new generation of ignorant children with no improvement whatsoever, which is

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Polish student breaking barriers

By Robin Shin
Online Editor

America is a country of the free, power, resources and, to some, the beginning of the rest of their life. It is a country where many immigrants come in order to further their education and even gain things that couldn't be dreamt of being gained in their own country.

Currently studying clinical psychology in neuroscience, Magdalena Bogacz, 21, is from Poland and has been on United States' soil and studying at Bakersfield College for the last two years.

She is currently in the process of obtaining her AA-T and is planning to transfer by May.

"It was super hard after high school," said Bogacz. "I mean I knew, since ever, that I'm just not going to stay in Poland. I never fit in, you know the society is very, very bad."

"The government, the politics, the church, you know, the religion. Plus my field in psychology and neuroscience, there is no future in Poland with those majors. We don't have money for programs; we don't have money for research. I do believe this is my calling, and I knew that I couldn't do it in my country."

Bogacz came to the United States with a

student visa, but it wasn't easy for her to get here. It took two years for the U.S. Embassy to answer her request in order to obtain a student visa to come to the United States.

When she requested for a visa the first time, she was rejected. The U.S. embassy had told her that there is no reason for her to come to United States because she was Polish, and due to that, she should stay in Poland and continue her studies there and not in the U.S.

During her quest of obtaining her student visa, Bogacz was already accepted to continue her studies at BC. She had already prepared her papers and had passed all the required exams and tests.

"I got accepted at school, and I really want to move to America to study, not to become an illegal immigrant and go to work," Bogacz said. "They didn't believe me, so I basically spent two years waiting for the American Embassy in Poland to say yes, and they finally agreed."

Before obtaining the visa, Bogacz was able to visit the United States for the limited time of six months but wasn't able to study here.

She also considered studying at CSUB but wasn't able to due to the tuition for international students. She never regretted

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ROBIN SHIN / THE RIP

Magdalena Bogacz has been in America for two years.

Banquet shows the other side

By Michelle De Leon
Reporter

The Student Government gave individuals the opportunity to learn more about poverty through an interactive experience called the Oxfam Hunger Banquet on March 8.

Upon entering, guests randomly drew tickets that assigned an alias for the night and an income level, representing the latest statistics of people living in poverty worldwide: 15 percent is in upper class, 35 percent is in middle class and 50 percent is in poverty.

Guests who took one of the upper class tickets sat in an area of the room with black linen tables and silverware, including a dinner with fillet mignon as the entrée.

Guests in the middle class sat on white tables with plastic utensils, and they were served a small portion of pasta and bread, reflecting limited access to nutritious food.

One of the guests in the middle class attended the event with a goal that resonated with many other guests.

"I hope I can educate myself to better myself," said Stella Llamas, communications major, who took the identity of Romeo from Guatemala.

Tanya Morgan, biology major, was another individual placed in the middle income group. For her, the event was eye opening.

"It's actually a very interesting subject because you don't think about how bad the poverty is in the world, especially here in America," she said. "People don't realize how many kids don't have the food to go home to. We don't realize how many of our fellow students are in

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MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

One of Rincon Cubano's signature dishes, Pollo Al Ajillo, is sure to please customers.

'Rincon' delivers true Cuban flavor

By Martin Chang
Editor in Chief

For those in Bakersfield looking for a piece of Cuban culture, there is local restaurant Rincon Cubano.

Rincon Cubano has been open for about eight months. It is a family run restaurant that serves mainly Cuban food but also

serves some Mexican dishes.

The owner, Releydis Andreu, describes Cuban food as a mix of cultures from different regions, places like Spain and Africa. Andreu believes it gives Cuban food a "more unique flavor."

Andreu says that Cuban food is well seasoned without being too spicy. When she makes her

food, she "mixes it all together" and uses ingredients like garlic, onions and bell peppers. Their signature dish is their pojo al ajillo, which is a garlic chicken dish. The dish is first roasted, and then is fried. A mojo sauce is then combined with onions and garlic. All their dishes come

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ROBIN SHIN / THE RIP

Robin Richardson, 24, and AJ Medina, 25, cosplay as characters from the game Team Fortress 2.

CSUB hosts second Gamer Education Day

By Alana Garrett
Reporter

Cal State Bakersfield's Campus Gamers student organization surprised many gamers and non-gamers alike with their Second Annual Gamer Education Day. The Gamer Education Day, or GED as many staff called it, was March 1 in the CSUB student recreational center.

It started at 6 p.m., but there was a pre-show costume contest that filled the room with contestants dressed up as many different characters. The characters ranged from "Slender Man" to Juliet from "Lollipop Chainsaw." There was also a raffle with prizes like an Xbox 360 and gift bags.

When the event officially began, it started out with a discussion panel on the music of games.

The panel consisted of game composers Christopher Tin and Jack Wall. Tin has composed songs like "Baba Yetu" from the game "Civilization IV." Whereas, Wall has worked on music for "Mass Effect" and "Call of Duty: Black Ops II." Tin and Wall both discussed their favorite parts of making music and answered questions on the game industry.

Gamer Louis Murphy, 21, whose favorite game of choice is "Call of Duty" said, "I really liked hearing the music panel speak about music in games. I make my own beats and I hope to make a sound track to a movie or game one day."

Carlos Ferro was a favorite of everyone that attended GED, as he received an exciting applause walking on stage. Ferro shouted his signature catchphrase "Sons of bitches!"

Ferro provided the voice of Dom Santiago in the "Gears of War" video games and Leonardo da Vinci in the "Assassin's Creed" video games.

Devin Lawyer, 20, who stated she is more of a casual gamer and plays mostly Nintendo 64 games, commented on Ferro.

"I am excited to see Carlos Ferro this evening and hear what he has to say," Lawyer said.

A student staff member Brock Williams, 19, also said he was looking forward hearing Ferro speak. "I want to hear what the speakers have to say but I'm definitely excited to see Carlos Ferro," Williams said.

Ferro gave an energetic and exciting speech about his work as Dom and working with a fellow voice actor John DiMaggio.

There were also musical performances by the Bakersfield Video Game Choir. The choir performed the main theme from Tetris and a few other songs.

"We hoped the event would educate everyone about games and the gaming industry," Williams said when asked what CSUB campus gamers association hoped for. The event concluded with prize giveaways and a thank you from CSUB campus gamers founder Edward Webb.

Gamers and non-gamers alike would have enjoyed the event and should attend next year.

Bringing back good music

By Graham C Wheat
Features Editor

The music world is full of artists who seem to be larger than life and unreachable. Plastic personas and producer-driven hooks dominate the airwaves while artists seem to drift further from the listeners.

In a world of impersonal musicianship and music, one man strives to bring Bakersfield good music and keep it coming back.

Matt Salkeld is a local guitar player and songwriter, among other musical endeavors, who has been playing music since 1998. He keeps his punk rock-influenced music personal, and he is finding that he is still evolving as a musician.

"It [my music] has changed a little bit over the last year or so," said Salkeld. "Last year I put out two records, a full length that was all heart-felt life experience stuff," said Salkeld concerning his latest albums. "Then I went on tour and wrote another record after that. That one was about being on the road and with friends, stuff from that perspective. I really feel at home when I am out there on the road."

"Now the songs are more like stories to be honest. Sometimes I am pulling lyrics from experiences that happened five years ago."

When asked to play some of that evolving music, Salkeld responded with true punk rock in a guitar player fashion.

He jumped a fence near his Southwest home that led to a ponding basin for runoff water, right behind a massive box store. Sitting down amongst the graffiti and old beer cans, he played a new song about a harrowing drive up Highway 101 that happened a few years ago, and how he almost crashed a van. The song was called "Back In Gear", and when asked if it had any double meanings, he simply said, "I want my music to be meaningful in many different ways for people."

When he isn't writing new music, he also devotes time to being a promoter who relentlessly pursues authentic music and delivers it to Bakersfield, one song and one band at a time.

3rd World Booking, a promotion company that started in 2007, is Salkeld's other passion. Like his musical ventures, he continues to add his own personal touch.

"It started in January 2007. I was on Myspace listening to



LUIS GARCIA / THE RIP

Matt Salkeld tunes his guitar for an impromptu outdoor jam session near his home.

a band I liked, and I saw something saying that they needed tour dates. I talked to some people and got a show for them and a couple other bands," said Salkeld. "That was the first show I ever booked. I saw a band that wanted a show, and I got it for them. Now it has bloomed into a network. But I still do it for the exact same reason as that first show."

Being a musician has given him new perspectives as a promoter too.

"I can picture myself in their situation, you wanna tour and get heard by people."

The last band that Salkeld brought to town was an unsigned southern California punk/hardcore/metal band, Drown The Witness, who played at local watering hole called Riley's Tavern

To illustrate his genuine enthusiasm and commitment to the music scene, Salkeld told the story of the weekend that the band played and how the rockers lodged in his home. "At the show the lead singer was going crazy, and there was a three foot gap between the stage and the first sacred hipster girl. I was right up there rocking out with him."

"They stayed the night in town at my house to the dismay of my roommates," said Salkeld.

He is continuing his musical journey with a new split album and has a tour in the works to promote it.

"I am pretty stoked about the new music, the new stuff is different," said Salkeld.

"I am doing a split album with Jared from Sic Waiting. We have done acoustic tours together and talked about doing a split record, but didn't really have the time. Now we are going to do six songs each and then go on tour sometime in the summer."



LUIS GARCIA / THE RIP

Salkeld plays some of his newest material. He has been playing music since '98.



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The Foundry hosts young and old artists

By Martin Chang
Editor in Chief

Every March The Foundry celebrates the creativity and imagination of children with their Art Imitates Art exhibit.

In the exhibit, which is in its second year, The Foundry asks children to send in their drawing of their pets, like fish and turtles, their families, or whatever the children wants to draw, then an artist is assigned to reinterpret the drawing. They paint and sculpt using the shapes and colors of a child's imagination as inspiration.

The show opened March 1 as a part of First Friday.

Jorge Guillen has participated in the show for the last two years it has been held.

He explained the process that he went through working off a child's piece. "You have to stick to the core principles in the shapes of the original piece," he said. It's up to you to make it your own and it stick to the fundamentals that the young artist developed."

Guillen's piece "On the 5th day the sun rose" was what he called "Mayan inspired."

"I added glyphs representing The Foundry, glyphs representing themes in the original draw-

ing," Guillen explained about his piece. "There's elements of cubism, there's elements of graffiti."

Guillen enjoyed the process of the Art Imitates Art exhibit.

"I like it because there's elements of a bunch of different art styles. It's a really good experience," he said.

Debbie Korhonen, an artist in the show, had three of her kids contribute to the show.

Luke, age 4, drew a monster because he "liked them."

Luke said he liked what the adult artist did with his drawing, but when asked what he liked about it he simply replied "monsters."

Ethan, age 8, was a bit more articulate. He said that he painted "a turtle in a cage" because they have a pet turtle at home.

He liked how Teri Webb, the artist who did his piece, made the eyes of his turtle "kind of the same" and "stick out like 3D." Webb's piece used nuts and bolt glued to a painting to create that effect.

Briel, age 6, described her piece as "fish, and turtle, in the ocean." Similar to Luke she drew those things because he liked them.

Korhonen enjoyed watching her children spread their wings.

"It's a great opportunity. Peo-

ple have been wanting to shake their hands and that's sweet," she said.

According to Christina Sweet, a co-owner and executive director of The Foundry, the show is popular every year and this year was no exception.

"[The show is going] wonderful. It's twice as big. The crowd has been pouring in all night long. Sales are great. Kids have been coming in sipping sparkling cider. It's definitely been a great success," she said.

Sweet thinks this comes from the show being a family outing.

"It brings out family that normally wouldn't be out on a Friday night with their kids," she said. "It just brings in their parents, it brings in their grandparents, their sisters, brothers, friends, and it's just a big crowd pleaser."

For Sweet, who herself participated in the show, one of the goals of the show is to challenge the adult artists.

"I like the challenge it poses. To use the exact shapes that the children uses and to create something or embellish on it," she said.

Sweet explained how she addressed that challenge when she interpreted a piece by a 3 year old that drew her family.

"You just have to use your



BERNIE REJON/ THE RIP

Linda Brown, a local high school teacher, looks at the "Fishy" drawing at The Foundry.

imagination," she explained. "It's just squiggles and shapes here and there. I had to turn them into worms having a garden party. You just have to open your mind and do whatever fits the shapes you end up with."

Sweet's top goal and favorite part of the Art Imitates Art shows is how it encourages children to

continue their artistic impulses.

"My favorite part is when the kid sees what their piece has turned into," she said. "They [the children] giggle, they laugh and they smile. It's almost like watching mini-adults having a good time at an art exhibit. They're sipping their cider, tasting their candy, walking around,

they're opening their eyes to others art, not just not looking at the piece they did."

"The goal is to make the children proud of their artwork, to encourage them to keep going. That's why we're going to have it every year. We want all the artist kids to come back every year and participate and grow."

The Empty Space presents a play of life, death and relationships with 'Wit'

By Jazmine Montoya
Reporter

The tragedy of death was brought to life on stage this weekend. Director Porter Jamison, along with his cast, put on Margaret Edson's "Wit" at the local Empty Space Theater.

The story takes place in and near a university that is associated with a research hospital. It accounts for the final hours of Dr. Vivian Bearing's life, an English professor of 17th century poetry,

as she battles with terminal stage-four metastatic ovarian cancer. Throughout the play, Bearing, who is played by local actress Alissa Morrow, takes a look back on her life taking the audience back in time as to what lead her to her current self.

Morrow claimed that she didn't know anything about the play beforehand. She read the script and was simply touched by the words. "I'm a word nerd myself; I found I have a lot in common with my character."

She explained that, although she hasn't had any one in her family that has been through the same experience, her character has. This prompted Morrow to take on the role, "I knew it was important to do and it would touch a lot of people."

Bearing shares her love of language and literature throughout the play and often recalls the wit in metaphoric poetry of John Donne. Coming from a family with no siblings and no family of her own, Bearing surprisingly

discovers while going through the course of dying that she begins to prefer kindness rather than intelligence.

The cast included an array of talent including Claire Rock, who played Bearing's oncology nurse who helps her through the last moments of her life. "I really hope a lot of people come out to see it because it's a really powerful show, and I think it carries a great message," Rock said.

She has been acting as long as she can remember and said being

a part of "Wit" was a special experience for her.

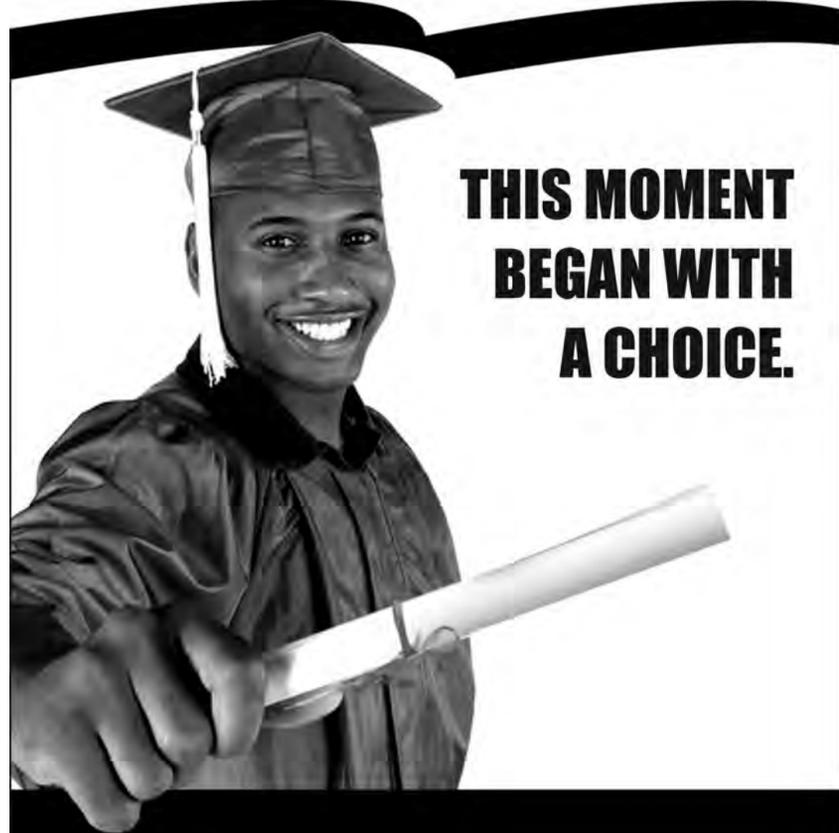
Director Porter Jamison said everyone should come out and see the show. Jamison has wanted to direct "Wit" ever since he first read it.

He describes the play as a humorous text. One that speaks intelligently of the things a person begins to understand fully, only when facing death.

"I feel a lot of us lately have been faced with little deaths, not as big as cancer, but things such

as having to drop out of college because you don't have enough money, losing a job, a lover leaves you... I mean there are all these things that happen that we go through and we have to go through the concept of death, even though it's not a big death," he said.

"Wit" will be playing at the Empty Space March 15, 16, 22, and 23, at 8 p.m. Admission is free with a suggested donation of \$15 for general admission and \$10 for students and seniors.



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MARTIN CHANG/ THE RIP

Ezekiel Hughes, left, plays along as Alexandra Ortiz performs her spoken word piece.

Home opened for creative expression

By Martin Chang
Editor in Chief

People are invited to the personal home of LisaAnn Lobasso to celebrate the magic of poetry, art and song. She calls this place in her home Nx Cafe.

One of these celebrations is The Speakeasy. People with a song to sing and a poem to hear are given a platform to say what is in their heart.

Alexandra Ortiz planned The Speakeasy.

She wants it to be a place any artist can express himself or herself.

"[I want The Speakeasy to be] a place where anyone at any level can express themselves," she said. "[I want] to have a place to let it out, for them to try out a new song if they just wrote one, or for more seasoned artists to have a time to perform in a more informal setting."

With it's turned down lights and laid back atmosphere, The Speakeasy is a place for artists, poets and fans of art and poetry, to appreciate these expressions in a place where people can be comfortable to say and hear what an artist has to say.

Beatrice Boswell has been writing poetry since she was 11. She read poetry and participated in the art show called Blank Gone

Wild at The Speakeasy. She said that her poetry is more "personal" and her art expresses "her beliefs about the world."

Boswell likes the vibe at The Speakeasy.

"It's in a home, so it's like a home. It's a family. It's fulfilling," she said. "You really get to see the audience and you really get to see the look on their face. You get to hear the audible gasps if you read something that is really confessional. This whole place is organic. It feels like a living breathing thing."

Brittany Koenig is a returning Bakersfield College student after a 10-year break. She has been to The Speakeasy several times. She finds Nx Cafe and creative celebrations like The Speakeasy to be a place where she can truly be herself.

"I love everything about here. It's just comfortable. You are fine with yourself anywhere, but here everyone is fine with you too," Koenig said.

"Even if people are yelling at each other, it's still comfortable. You have the room to yell if you need to and realize that you're just a person, and tomorrow you're just the same person but you get to be human here without worrying about society."

Koenig doesn't feel quite as outgoing or expressive as artists

like Boswell, but despite this she feels like this is a place to express yourself and let loose.

"For those of us that care a little bit [about how people judge.] It's like here you don't have to care."

Eli and The Soundcult, a band that now comes from San Diego, played the Speakeasy on March 8th. The lead singer, Elijah Jenkins, grew up in Bakersfield but has not been back for 10 years. He had this to say about coming back.

"It's as weird as coming back to any home town. It nice to see and play music for old friends," he said.

Eli and The Soundcult are on a tour of house shows, but they have been playing houses with a more party atmosphere than The Speakeasy.

Jenkins still enjoys playing The Speakeasy.

"It's nice to play to new people and other artists," Jenkins said. "I think there's a certain appreciation not just for the product but the effort that goes into it. Artists understand the process. This group looked at everything that we've been working on, a group that looks at all the stuff we hauled down and how long we drove down to play and maybe appreciates the effort a little bit more. Any appreciation is nice."

Tobacco-free policy moves through Senate

By Graham C Wheat
Features Editor

The policy to make Bakersfield College a tobacco-free campus has cleared the next hurdle in the administrative process, although two more committees still must support it before being considered by the BC Board of Trustees.

On Feb. 27, the Academic Senate, the voice of faculty in matters concerning local and statewide policies, showed their support for the 100 percent tobacco-free campus policy with a majority of the members giving a yes vote.

Out of the nearly 25 faculty members that make up the Academic Senate, only two votes against the support of the policy were raised and only two votes abstained.

The next step for the policy is support from the Administrative Council and the faculty and department chairs.

Nick Acosta, Student Government Administration general counsel, stated that he would take the policy before the Administrative Council on March 18 and subsequently to faculty and department chairs on March 22 to ascertain the fate of the smoking policy.

Acosta was happy to see support from the Academic Sen-

ate and is looking forward to presenting the policy to other agencies. "I am happy to see the support," said Acosta. "I knew there was already some support there, but having it confirmed was exciting."

"In the past, the policy didn't get through all the steps or was missing something critical. It's nice to be reaffirmed."

Of the dissonant voices on the Academic Senate, Communication professor Michael Korcok was asked why his vote was one of no support for the policy.

He cited three specific points that made him vote in that manner.

"The first is that there is no evidence showing that this policy has worked," said Korcok concerning no-tobacco policies at other colleges and universities.

"There are nine or ten community colleges in California, out of 110, that have tobacco free campus. There was not any evidence

that I could find... that says that this has been good on those campuses. If there was good evidence that the policy was effective on lots of campuses, I would be behind it."

Korcok said that studies concerning outdoor second-hand smoke were inconclusive and outdoor second-hand smoke was a minor externality.

"The third reason is I think this policy is needlessly divisive," said Korcok.

Students weigh in on Fall parking changes

By Robert Mullen
Reporter

With news of the proposed changes to parking circulating, student opinion seems to be swinging against it. Gunnar Fredericksen, theater major, understands that budgetary concerns might be causing this, but he isn't pleased with the removal of free parking and increase of daily permits.

"I think it's a little ridiculous that they're taking away the free parking," Fredericksen said.

"A twenty dollar increase is way too much." Kevin Bush, business major, doesn't

like the idea either. "I don't agree with it, I think they should make it more accommodating for students," Bush said.

"It's a rat race trying to get in here." Marcos Cruz, undeclared major, already parks off in the streets but thinks BC is going the wrong direction with the parking situation.

"They should have more free parking if anything." Vivi Ajon, criminal justice major, also parks in the free parking but is thinking about getting the permit because of how long the walk to her classes are.

Alex Raines shares the senti-

ment.

"I'd probably have to get the permit at that point, but it'd be really inconvenient because [school's] already kind of expensive," Raines said. Allyson Hollis, business major, won't be at BC next semester, but she does think that permit price increases and getting rid of free parking is horrible, though she said she would still buy the permit.

Fire science major Juan Carbajal already parks on the street, and he will continue to

do so, though it seems that he might have some competition for those select few spots. Psychology major Anthony Danker rides the bus, but he thinks

that eliminating free parking is just going to cause people to park across the street and inconvenience the surrounding businesses. Even some students who plan to attend in the Fall of 2013 weighed in.

"I probably wouldn't like it, but I would put up with it," said Josh Martinez. "Or I would park across the street." "I want it to be cheaper," said Crystal Valdez.

Valdez is another new student for the upcoming 2013 semester. Valdez said that the price might cause her to end up taking the bus.

Local high school students' competition well received



MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Over 100 high school students competed in the second annual Drafting CAD Competition held on March 1. Shown above is a student competing in one of the hand drawing competitions.

By Michelle De Leon
Reporter

High school juniors and seniors had a preview of Bakersfield College's Industrial Technology programs during the second annual Drafting CAD Competition on March 1.

Over 100 local students participated in the six areas of competition: Mechanical Hand Drawing, Architectural Hand Drawing, Architectural CAD, Mechanical CAD, AutoCAD and Sketch-up CAD. The winning students received prizes that included gift cards and drawing kits, provided by various sponsors such as Studica Inc., a software vendor.

One of the students who participated in the event was McKenna Kitsch. Kitsch, a junior at Centennial High School, competed in the Architectural Hand Drawing area. She attended the event because she aspires to be an architect. She prepared herself for the competition and for her desired career path by taking a class called Drafting 1 from Centennial's Industrial Technology department.

Of what she wanted to get from the event, she said, "[I hope to increase] my knowledge on where I need to be by the time I apply to college."

Similarly, Norma Felix, a senior at Arvin High School, had

taken classes geared toward her career interest, engineering. She said that she plans to study chemical engineering at a four-year college after high school.

"[I want] to get more knowledge on career pathways," she added.

Greg McKinsey, construction/building trades teacher at Arvin High School, believed that the event was a valuable experience

just the next step, and a lot of people get lost in the shuffle. They drift from one thing to another and before you know it you have a 100 units in the JC system." Beyond the competition, students also attended an informational session about BC's Industrial Drawing, Architecture and Engineering certificates, degrees, and programs. Willis wanted students to consider BC as an option.

"We were trying to make some connections with the high schools that have industrial drawing programs," he said. "We thought it would be good for the students to come up to the site and then see some of the faculty and what happens up here. [We wanted to] let them know that coming to BC

graduation.

"[For] a lot of young people, your goal is to get out of high school," he said. "You're not thinking about what you want to do after that, and I think the only thing you pick up while you're in high school is someone keeps yelling at you, 'You have to go to college.' And you don't know why. You don't know what you even want to do, really."

**"[I hope to increase] my knowledge on where I need to be by the time I apply to college."
—Norma Felix, Senior at Arvin High School**

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do not have clear plans beyond

is not a second choice."

Last year, the event drew 80 students.

After correcting what he called "a few bumps last year," he believed that this year's event was a success.

"In our first year, the problems that we gave to the students were a little hard to finish in the allotted time, so we tried to scale back on the overall size of the project and focus on the quality aspect that they had to produce," he said.

Furthermore, he received positive feedback.

"The instructors have all emailed me telling me that the kids enjoyed it, they had a great time...that it was a good event," he added. "They hoped to have another one next year."

Willis planned on expanding next year's event by increasing outreach. Through outreach, Arvin High School and Mojave High School joined an increasing roster of schools.

After promoting the event to East High School students, he found that there were more students from East attending the event than any other participating high school.

"For the next year, I want to go out and publicize it to the schools that didn't participate," he said. "I need to market it better next year and actually visit the sites."



MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Greg McKinsey believes the competition is valuable for students like the one pictured above. "They learn a little bit of confidence and self-esteem," McKinsey said.

Chavez blood drive challenge back on campus

By Ruben A. Perez
Reporter

The Cesar E. Chavez Blood Drive challenge is back at Bakersfield College.

The blood drive is a part of a national competition among colleges to donate the highest amount of blood and to educate in general.

"It's pretty much to raise awareness on health issues re-

lated to blood and also the title, Cesar E. Chavez, is to raise awareness on the progress that has been made due to Cesar E. Chavez for migrant workers," said SGA council member Rudy Strong.

The SGA will also be recording how many students will be donating for the competition.

"That's where the competition comes in," said Strong. "How many Latino Americans or His-

panic Americans came to your blood drive, pints you got and everything."

This information is sent to the organization to see who won.

"Last year we competed and got fifth in the nation, which was a big accomplishment."

Bakersfield College beat out schools like Duke University, Texas A&M International University and University of Arizona.

"We got a plaque for it," said Strong.

"Some scholarships are available to the top 10, so that's always good."

To donate blood, a donor has to have a picture ID with a date of birth.

A donor also cannot have a cold or flu and have waited a year after getting a tattoo or piercing.

The last day to donate blood is March 13 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

AA-T degrees make transfer easier

By Patricia Rocha
Reporter

An Associates Degree of Transfer is a new way of getting students through college quicker and more conveniently.

Bakersfield college transfer counselor Sue Granger-Dickson talked about how this new transfer degree came to be and how it benefits students.

"[Senator Alex Padilla] got a lot of complaints with how long it took students to get through their community college and then how long it took them to get through to complete their bachelor's degree," she said about students who take major-related courses at a community college and then must take similar courses again at a CSU or UC because they weren't granted credit for it.

Padilla then had a series of hearings to develop what is known as Senate Bill 1440, or

the Student Transfer Achievement Reform (STAR) Act.

The bill requires that community colleges and CSUs come to an agreement as to what qualifies as lower division, and gives a student who complete that approved major-related course credit when transferring, calling them "transfer model curriculum."

"It really forced the California community colleges and the CSUs to collaborate in order to create these degrees and the obvious benefit is for the students, she said. "When a college submits a TMC, they also have to make sure that their courses are up to date and that they are similar in terms of their student learning outcomes.

"They don't want one college to say, well I'm going to have my Psych 1a to be this way, and another one to have it be this way.

"Now there's some flexibility, but they basically want their stu-

dents to come out of the course with the same learning outcomes, because then that kind of guarantees that they're covering the material that they need to cover."

Though it may be a little confusing in the short term, this new transfer degree system only benefits the students.

"The benefit of these degrees is saying, if a student gets an associate of arts or an associates of science degree for transfer in a subject, they have 60 units; 18 units in a major and completion of the CSU general education breadth pattern or the IGETC pattern, which is about 39 units.

"They then take maybe one elective, which amounts to 60, and they have a 2.0 GPA.

"This guarantees priority admission at their local CSU or a non impacted local CSU that accepts that transfer degree."

BC currently has four of these degrees, including communica-

tions, psychology, sociology and the most recent, studio arts.

There are also quite a few still coming up for approval.

When these TMCs, AA-Ts or AS-Ts are being submitted, they're going through the Course Identification Number System network to be reviewed and approved.

"When they're approved, a course gets a C-ID number that a student can use to transfer anywhere in the CC system or CSU system," Granger-Dickson said.

"Whether or not they get the AA-T/AS-T, the course is recognized. A Psych 1a is the same as Psych 100 or a Psych 205 anywhere, so it's trying to reduce the confusion that students face when they're looking at transferring.

"What I like best about these degrees is that they create a clear pathway. Students can get accepted mid-year with this de-

gree, where as they couldn't get accepted mid year without it."

The website www.adegree-withaguarantee.com shows which schools have approved AA-Ts and AS-Ts and which CSUs will accept them.

Though this system is only directly affecting those who transfer to a CSU, the UC system has taken notice.

"They're at the table," said Granger-Dickson. "They've decided for students who complete the AA-T or AS-T at a community college, that they will give a second review of their application.

"So they're not going to grant them the 60 units and priority and all that, but it's a great benefit.

"If a student, for instance, has written a very compelling personal statement, it will get read again, and often times things will be uncovered that would be to the student's benefit."

Info on majors provided

By Patricia Rocha
Reporter

The Bakersfield College transfer center has begun a semester's worth of workshops to inform students about different majors and the careers they lead to.

One of these workshops was for those interested in psychology, led by CSUB's Steve Bacon and held on Feb. 28.

Bacon, a clinical psychologist and educator, spoke about what being a psychology major really means by informing students on what they need to know right now to prepare for a future in the field.

Transfer counselor Sue Granger-Dickson spoke afterward on the success of the workshops. "This was a fabulous workshop," she said. "Whether you're going to CSUB or you're going to any other school, this gave students the information they needed not just as far as a major goes, but as a career goes."

Psychology major Daniel Castro, 22, agreed, finding the workshop, as well as the informational pamphlet provided, to be extremely helpful.

"I think if [more students came], it would be to their benefit," said Castro, who claimed that the workshop answered some questions he had.

"I thought it was bachelor's, master's, and then Ph.D. He (Bacon) said you can get the Ph.D. after you get the bachelors, so I thought that was pretty cool."

"That's why I was looking forward to coming over here, because by the time we get students as juniors, there's not that much time for them to think about that stuff," said Bacon about the workshop.

"I would have liked to get that kind of message out earlier, so yeah, I like this kind of forum because the school is sort of communicating this with students early on."

Granger-Dickson talked about how important it is for students to think about more than just a major choice but also how that major can lead you to different career opportunities.

"Some students get upset about a major, but it's maybe easier for them to think about a career. If you went to this presentation, you thought, 'Yeah, OK, I've always wanted to go into business, but I don't want to be a business administration major, I can be a psychology major because I love my psych classes.'"

She said, without this information, students can often times feel stuck and apprehensive about choosing a major right away.

"I've actually had students tell me that, 'If I pick wrong, oh my gosh, I'll be stuck in the wrong career for the rest of my life,' but what they don't realize is that there are very few degrees that actually lead to one career," she said. "Many of them give you a set of skills that enable you to do a variety of careers."

Choosing a major is an important aspect of an effective educational plan, qualifying for financial aid and priority registration.

"We're just trying to get this information out to students," she said. "We're using BC faculty, as well as faculty from the local colleges too."

She said she hopes this can become a long-term tradition. "This is the first time we've done anything like this," she said.

"My hope is that this is something that's going to grow. I'd like to have a major career workshop every single week in the spring, and then focus on the actual nitty-gritty of transfer in the fall."



MAYAN LARA / THE RIP

Nicole M. Guidotti-Hernandez speaks about issues of immigration and freedom.

Speaker targets immigration

By Mayan Lara
Photographer

Associate professor of American Studies and Associate Director of the Center for Mexican American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, Nicole M. Guidotti-Hernandez, spoke for Woman's History Month on Feb. 28th.

People of all ages gathered in the Fireside room to listen to Professor Hernandez.

Seats were filled with both students and faculty eager to hear her speech on immigration and the Freedom University.

Nicole Guidotti-Hernandez is a graduate from the University of Texas in Austin.

She takes pride in her research of Transnational Feminism, Critical Race Studies, Chicano and Latino Studies, Violence and Citizenship, and Indigenous Cultures and Nationalism.

She spoke to her audience about how Dora the Explorer is portrayed as an illegal immigrant and also about the DREAM activists at Freedom University.

With the misuse of Dora's pictures on the internet being projected on a board for all to see, Professor Hernandez started her speech on how Dora is often perceived as a potential illegal immigrant.

The first image shown on the projector is of Dora being halted by the authorities and someone yelling, "Freeze! Phoenix Police! Lets see your papers..." which then led Hernandez to argue that the images found on the Internet are a nexus between violence, subliminal messages and political satire.

She believes that these images represent the questioning of Dora's mobility, illegality and potential threat to society.

To her, Dora is a figure which Latino children and adults can identify with in a political platform. She believes that Dora does not represent just one nationality, which "this figure has become so generative" but that she represents the "compositor middle class society" who "moves across social strata."

Along with her presentation on Dora, Professor Hernandez also spoke of the DREAM ac-

tivists at Freedom University in Georgia.

Freedom University is home to many different types of immigrant college students who don't have citizenship.

These college students, unlike others, don't get credit for the courses they take.

Most students who attend Freedom University are involved in Chicano activism. They feel it is a safe place for them to speak their truth.

Hernandez explained that most "hotbeds for Chicano activists are New York, Florida, and Los Angeles."

She is amazed that Chicano activists are now appearing in places in the south like Georgia. Professor Hernandez hopes to inform people of the actions of society and those of the DREAM activist at Freedom University.

She also hopes to reach out to others through speeches, presentations, and through her book, "Unspeakable Violence," to help make them aware of what is actually happening in the world in terms of immigration rights.

Religious diversity takes center stage at Norman Levan Center

By Robert Mullen
Reporter

Student Government Association hosted a religious diversity panel in the Norman Levan center Feb. 27. The panel had two speakers, a Muslim and a Catholic, both Bakersfield College students.

The panel began with a brief introduction from Nick Acosta, the SGA general counsel, and each speaker was given a ten-minute window to discuss their religion, what it meant to them, how it shaped them, and how religious diversity is important to both the college and community.

A question-and-answer session followed, which took up the greatest part of the hour-long panel.

The first speaker was Marshal Blackmon, a Muslim and child development major. She greatly enjoyed the panel and hopes to be part of future discussions. She felt that as a Muslim woman she could bring a certain perspective from her religion that isn't often seen.

"I think we kind of get the short end of the stick when it comes to how society looks at us," she said.

She feels that people often judge Muslim women because of their appearances, especially because they aren't often represented when the rest of the world views their religion. "They don't know who we are. They don't know what we can do. They're constantly looking at what we have on our heads, and they're not looking in our heads."

The second speaker was Spencer Pruett, a Catholic and math major. "It was nice, I've actually spoken about my Catholic faith a lot, though to a group of Catholics, so I've never actually discussed it in front of such a large group of people who weren't Catholic."

Pruett said he'd enjoyed the panel and hopes that there are more and that they can be larger and more varied, even though he plans on transferring after this semester.

The panel was the brainchild of Jack Hernandez but run by Acosta. Acosta said Hernandez needed someone to help run the panel, and he wanted to do it. "I've always been interested in religion, so I jumped at the opportunity," said Acosta. "When I first talked to [Hernandez], one of the big things he wanted was for it to be student run, student involved, student managed. He didn't want people from outside the college, from religious organizations, coming in to talk about [their religion]. He wanted it from the student perspective."

While Acosta notes there are difficulties, including two speakers who did not show up, he doesn't think finding people who are willing to talk about their re-



TYLER GOUCHER / THE RIP

Spencer Pruett gives his perspective on being a student and a Catholic.

"They don't know who we are. They don't know what we can do. They're constantly looking at what we have on our heads, and they're not looking in our heads."
-Marshal Blackmon, BC student

ligion is that hard. "I think the most difficult part about it is actually finding people of other religions. It's hard if they don't stand out."

Though Acosta says he won't be returning next semester, he hopes to expand the panels by adding more speakers and including some that are more specialized and focused on the Abrahamic or eastern faiths.

"We want to do something, maybe twice a semester, or maybe once a month," he said. "It would be a little more work on the speaker's part, but I think the benefit of having that would be great."

With elections coming up and other SGA business, Acosta can't really focus on running any more of these panels during this semester, but he is hopeful that they can continue.

"My main concern is finding someone who is going to take up the call to do this, to basically set this stuff up," he said. "Jack has all the resources to do this, he just needs someone to do the footwork for this, to talk to the speakers."

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Oz may not be so great after all



GOOGLE IMAGE

“Oz” begins great but the rest is a colorful trainwreck.

By Patricia Rocha
Reporter

“Oz the Great and Powerful” is an intriguing and fascinating movie, at least for the first 10 minutes.

MOVIE REVIEW



The rest of the 2 hours is pretty much a colorful train wreck. The Wizard of Oz has been my favorite movie since I was in kindergarten, so I went into the theater really excited to see how modern movie magic would pay tribute to the original.

Some of the classic details were there, such as Glinda’s pink bubbles, the yellow brick road and even a nod to the horse of a different color. What wasn’t present in this movie was a well-chosen cast.

There is a part in the movie when a shocked character asks, “This is the wizard?” and though I’m a huge James Franco fan, I couldn’t help but think the same thing. The same goes for Mila Kunis’s character, the wicked witch Theodora.

These two characters are pivotal to the movie, but they lacked so much depth.

I understand this was primarily targeted to little kids, and the extra-cheesy dialogue of the scenes made that pretty obvious, but the reason the original stood the test of time is because it never talked-down to its audience.

It wasn’t just a great children’s film. It was great film overall. This film just didn’t cut it. It was, at best, an average children’s movie. There are some

easy laughs and some heartfelt deeper moments for good measure, but the majority of cheesy moments just overwhelmed the more promising parts. The only two reasons I would see this movie again are for the visuals and score.

There is no denying that this movie is nice to look at.

The costumes, colors and detail of every scene is pretty spectacular. Even the spiders are pretty, and if you weren’t scared of flying monkeys before, you will be now.

There’s a part where Oz falls down a waterfall, and watching it makes you feel as if you’re going down the waterfall yourself. The heroes of this movie were hands down, Danny Elfman and Michelle Williams. Elfman, who’s done the soundtrack for Beetlejuice, Edward Scissorhands and Big Fish, completely nailed the feel of this movie.

As his circus-themed music began with the opening credits, I was in love. Williams also knocked it out of the park with her role as Glinda.

She was the only actress who I actually believed deserved to be a part of this film, and I couldn’t imagine anyone else doing as well, honoring Billie Burke’s legacy. Even with Elfman’s score, Glinda’s charm and the dazzling emerald city, this movie is likely to be forgotten in a couple decades like the last time someone tried to recreate the magic of The Wizard of Oz. If you see this movie expecting to witness a classic, be prepared to sit through two hours and seven minutes of disappointment.

This might be a giant letdown



GOOGLE IMAGE

The new “They Might Be Giants” album is too long.

By Ruben A. Perez
Reporter

They Might Be Giants is back with their 16th album “Nanobots.” The album’s 45 minutes long with 25 songs, but sometimes it feels like it should end sooner. The first song, “You’re On Fire,” sets off the album with a somewhat danceable feel to it.

ALBUM REVIEW



The rest of the songs either employ a simple rock melody or you can hear the band playing a variety of instruments with different beats.

Some of the earlier songs on

“Nanobots” feel like they should end a bit sooner. Songs like “Black Ops” and “Tesla” just felt like they were too slow for the rest of the album. The second half of the album consisted of shorter and groovier songs. Some of the songs are under two minutes and these feel like the best songs on the album. They’re quick, to the point and stay with the band’s unconventional style.

Fans of the band won’t be disappointed. Plenty of the songs have the band’s groovy sound and fun lyrics with songs like, “Nouns.” It’s a 17 second song about how there is no punctuation.

Overall the album wasn’t anything too special. It’s still good though.

Dr. Phil’s ‘Life Code’ gives readers surprising insight

By Robin Shin
Online Editor

Let me start this review by telling you that I have never watched a single episode of Dr. Phil’s show or even heard much about him, except in parodies where they made fun of him or he made fun of himself. This book gave me the first impression from anything Dr. Phil related. What was the first impression?

BOOK REVIEW



It was really good. Maybe I am just very naive or desperate for advice, but this book really helped me get a better view of life. My life.

It’s the type of book that’s written to be interpreted differently by the readers. If you’re like me and in need of a hand in life, this book would be helpful in one way or another.

If you don’t need help or may even be one of the BAITERS (people who are: Backstabbers,

Abusers, Imposters, Takers, Exploiters and Reckless) he describes, then I suggest you give the book a try and read as much as you can.

There is even one part of the book where he calls out for the BAITERS, though I personally read some of the parts directed at me.

Everything that seemed like a flaw to a human, I took directly at myself.

I didn’t deliberately try to take all negative things he wrote in his book as an attack at myself, but I mentally took it. I guess it’s because I personally hate myself and think very low of myself in everything I do.

As the book went on from picking out the BAITERS around you and how to handle the BAITERS, he came to a chapter where you can first love yourself, or as he called the chapter “Your New ‘Life Code’ Book.” I won’t write anything

on this review of my personal problems which I came to face while reading the book, but let me just say that it really helped me evaluate myself.

I am sure some of the things he told me are some things that someone in my life had told me.

Sadly, I personally don’t like taking advice about self-esteem from non-friends, but peers around me, mostly because I think it’s all a form of pity. The book started out a bit slow, and actually I didn’t want to read the book because as of late, I’ve had troubles with anything “helping” me.

I didn’t think that a book would help me look at myself more, but I guess I really did need a hand from someone who has had way more people experience than myself.

After I had finished reading chapter one, I was hooked. He has pages where they show examples as to making lists and

categories for variety of things such as BAITERS around you, things you can do about them and many more. I didn’t make a list, but I began to mentally take notes on this and was surprised I actually had something of a list going on in my mind.

There is a chapter in the book where parents can help their children out with the road ahead of them. There is no downside to his advice as long as you take it in a positive way and not negative.

Sure, the book didn’t fix me up completely, but it gave me new ways to view people and situations around me. For those who are in need of a hand in getting further into your life, I suggest that you take a chance with this book. At first, I was very skeptical about picking up the book for even a review because it was Dr. Phil, but that would be just judging a book by its cover.

Or in this case, the author. Ignore that fact, don’t let it stop you and take a chance or as he says in his book “What you should do is suspend judgment until you know more.”

“What you should do is suspend judgement until you know more.”

–Dr. Phil

Budweiser’s addition fails to live up; Beck’s Sapphire doesn’t wow

By Graham C Wheat
Features Editor

Budweiser Black Crown is the newest entry into the family of beers produced by Anheuser-Busch, and it is by far their worst

BEER REVIEW



beer for a few reasons. At first glance, the beer seems to be appealing. It has a rich amber color reminiscent of a craft German brew. However, that is where the similarities end.

The initial pour yielded a nice bouquet that was sweet and corny and almost grassy with a small amount of foam (that dissipated quickly leaving none and hardly any lacing), but the first sip told me this was an American beer.

Either from the bottle or a pilsner glass, Black Crown has a muddled, watered-down hoppy flair that barely breaks the barrier of what an amber lager should be. The sweet malty flavor almost overpowered the slight hop flavor, resulting in a one-sided mixture.

It also left a noticeable metallic aftertaste, which I was not a fan of. After the third beer, they were starting to get better, but I could never get over the initial taste.

It reminded me of mixing a regular Budweiser with something like pale ale to achieve a strange concoction that is the essence of neither one.

Although it has a much more rich flavor profile than regular Budweiser or Bud Light Platinum, it doesn’t burst from the bottle by any means.

The concept and vision behind Black Crown is a valiant effort to get Americans to drink a more robust beer with a better flavor



GOOGLE IMAGE

Both Budweiser’s Black Crown, left, and Beck’s Brewery’s Sapphire turn out to be underwhelming beers leaving strange aftertastes and average flavors.

profile. Black Crown ultimately falls short because Americans like their beer the way it is, watery and easy to drink. It seems more a slap in the face of discerning beer drinkers than an effort to please them. As if Anheuser-Busch was saying, “We know what you drink, and we know what is good beer. Here is our best effort to make good beer less complicated so you will swill it down.” Something only InBev seems to be able to do.

Beck’s Brewery

Beck’s Brewery, maker of the world’s best selling German beer, also has a new beer to compliment their already large line of brews. Beck’s Sapphire is an effort to capture the

twenty-something nightlife demographic.

This beer may bear the Beck’s name, but, rest assured, it is brewed in St. Louis.

BEER REVIEW



Initially, it pours with that golden straw color many are familiar with, yet just a shade darker than regular Bud.

The ever-critical foam gave a one-finger width and lasted throughout with good lacing on the glass, better than the Black Crown.

The aroma was hard to detect, and it took three big whiffs to get a sweet, grassy smell that I was expecting. That sweet-

ness persisted in the flavor and ended with a nice malty flavor, although both were subtle.

The result was nice and clean with a bit of bitterness, yet the taste never left me wowed.

It ultimately felt bland after a few sips when the carbonation faded. I was left thinking, “How long ago did I pour this beer?”

The feel of the beer evoked much of the taste, clean with a medium carbonation. However, it was only a marginal compliment to the overall character of the beer.

Though it had its shortcomings, Beck’s Sapphire was passable, although uninspired, and the clean flavor would compliment a warm summer afternoon.




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Bakersfield ranks last on literacy

By Robin Shin
Online Editor

When I heard that for the second straight year, a study showed Bakersfield to be the most illiterate city in the United States, I was very shocked. Maybe it is because I hang out with people who love to read and I too like to read. Even before going to bed, I can't sleep until I read a chapter or more of well anything! Books, stories written by my friends online, and even just interesting articles of studies from all over the world.

Now, reading status updates from your friends on Facebook and Twitter is not really considered reading, but going to the library once to read will not hurt, especially when you're a college student and the school library is opened for students.

"I wish there's a place where you can get books for free!" That is supposedly a joke my friend

online told me once, and to that she told me that there are people who supposedly "joke" about it. Well, I guess in Bakersfield that might as well be an honest question, because we supposedly don't read.

Now, not knowing where you can borrow books for free may be irrelevant to some when it comes to reading, but we aren't all too busy to read once in awhile. I mean, we all know about the public library, right? We aren't that interested in reading that we don't even know about a place where we have the right to borrow books for free.

I wrote an article about ebooks in the previous issue of the newspaper, and it will make it easy for anyone to read. Now I'm not saying that everyone has to go out and read one book a month for the entire year, but I guess I'm saying if we can take the time for watching YouTube videos, then we have time for

reading. You can start by reading books on anything, there are books on every subject.

Go to your local bookstore, library or even just a thrift store where they have used books for sale. I bought John le Carré's "Our Kind of Traitor" for 75 cents at the local Goodwill, and it was basically in new condition! And don't even get me started about Amazon.com and their "used" book prices.

Books help broaden your imagination, and I know some people close to me who spit on that idea. Okay, so you don't need imagination to live, but reading won't hurt you.

If you are in need of help but don't want to talk to the mental health counselor or have the money to see a therapist, well then there are self-help books out there for you. If you want to read about a major collection of books on the history of serial killers because you were inter-

ested in such things, then there are books like that out there too. There are literally books for anything, on everything!

I know reading calms me down, it gives me a time to be in my own world. I don't have to worry about anything and just think about what will happen to the Hand of the King, or even wonder how this author can help me even remotely of how I can handle certain situations.

Sure, there are shows and movies based off of books, but they are different. I've been reading "A Song of Ice and Fire" series by George R.R. Martin, and I know there's a series on HBO for it, "The Game of Thrones."

I love the show as much as I love the book. Actually, the show is what got me into reading the book, and so far I love both the book and the show equally! The book has more thoughts and backstory to the characters than the show, but the show was the

trigger which got me into reading this amazing series! You don't have to read the book first, but having the trigger really helps you get into reading. Find the motivation for reading or else you won't enjoy it.

The study also showed us that Washington, D.C. is the most literate city for the third year in a row, and I'm not saying that we should make our way up to being the most literate city, but at least we can all try by reading more and get away from being listed as the most illiterate city in the United States.

If you can't read and want to read, there is a board of Kern Adult Literacy Council who provides one-on-one tutors for those who want to learn to read at no charge! Though I doubt you can read about it on this article, if you can't read, thus those who can read should help and tell those who can't read about this opportunity.

Staff Editorial

Positive side to removal of free parking

Looks like the jig is up.

Next semester, Bakersfield College is planning to no longer offer free parking on Haley St. and University Ave., as well as raising prices on parking and day passes. To be fair, you have to keep in mind that California law does not require colleges to provide free parking. So think of this while you work on controlling your sudden heart rate.

BC students need to look on the bright side; the glass is half full so to speak. We have so many parking options; we should consider ourselves lucky, especially because other colleges have little parking and no free parking.

Not to mention their prices are twice the price of ours. Granted our prices are going up, but we are sure it will stay with in reason. As BC students, we should accept it and move on, and worry about more concerning matters.

Sure, the free parking was a million miles away and didn't have lights at night but it was still free. Now, if you think about it, this is a good thing. BC has finally found a better alternative for making money. Right now they need \$1 million to fix up and repair our parking lots, which is the equivalent to 300 classes. It should be kept in mind that people come to BC for classes, not parking.

Do you really want BC charging more for classes? Fees for classes got raised, and that was a big blow. It's already hard to get into classes that you want. It's not like people would say, "I didn't get into the class I wanted, but there's still free parking."

Times are tough right now, and BC is doing its best to keep the students' best interest in mind.

On a positive note, now that students have to pay soon, they can park where they want to instead of out in the boondocks. There will be lights and more security. It's true what people say: You get what you pay for.

It's time for Madness to begin again

By Jason Reed
Sports Editor

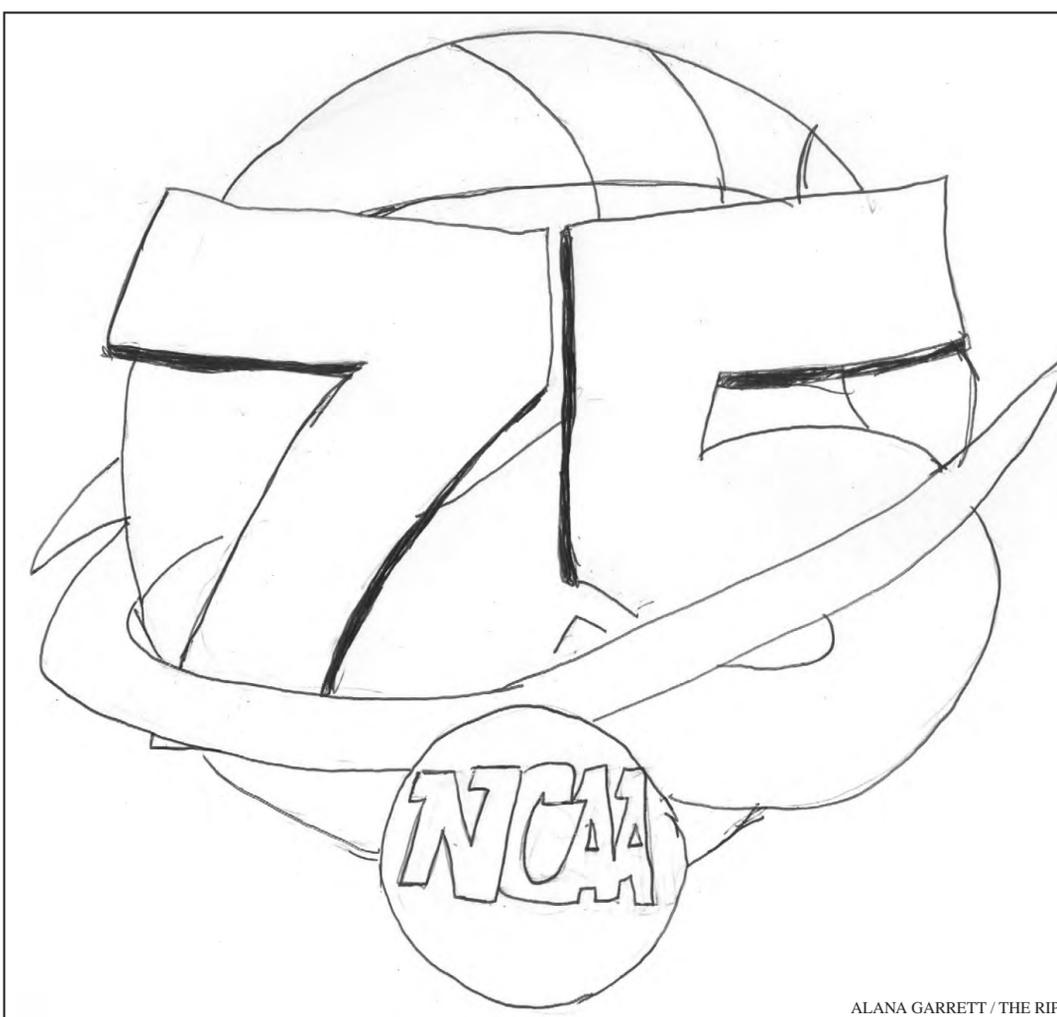
It's that time of the year again, which means March Madness is here and the NCAA basketball tournament is right around the corner. I believe this year's tournament bracket will be the toughest bracket I've ever made. With so many teams in contention to win the championship, I have a hard time deciding who's going to bring the hardware back to their school.

Over the past three years, the NCAA tourney has been very kind to me, with the exception of last year's tournament. The Kentucky Wildcats and the Kansas Jayhawks shocked me with their appearance in last year's title game. The reason I say that is because they are the two teams most people I know picked all the time to make the National Championship. But they always disappointed. But I was never sold on either of them because I thought they were both overrated.

Back in 2010, I picked the Syracuse Orange to win it all and I also picked the Duke Blue Devils as their opponents. Syracuse ended up losing to the Butler Bulldogs in the Sweet 16. I felt good about Duke winning because I wanted them to, but I also thought Syracuse would have gotten the best of them.

The very next year, when I saw that the Big East Conference was going to have 11 teams in the 2011 NCAA Tournament, I knew that one of those teams would come out as champions.

People doubted me for picking the Connecticut Huskies to win it all, but they did. People thought that winning the Big East Tournament—five games in five days—would have a huge effect on how they performed in the NCAA Tournament.



ALANA GARRETT / THE RIP

I was right; the Huskies won the NCAA Championship game by 12 points against Butler, who once again busted everyone's brackets for the second year in a row.

It's going to be interesting to see the team people are going to pick to win this year's tournament.

I believe the Gonzaga Bulldogs have a good shot to make it deep in this year's tournament but will eventually fall to a real division-one powerhouse team.

The Miami (FL) Hurricanes also have

the potential to make noise, but they turned heads for the wrong reason back on Feb. 23, losing its first conference game, 80-65 against (12-16) Wake Forest, after a 13-0 start.

I can see Indiana being that top seed that gets upset early in the tournament, but I won't take anything away from how well they've been playing this year.

I've been following Duke throughout the 2013 season. After a 90-63 blowout loss by the Hurricanes back on Jan. 23 at

Miami, I wasn't sure who the Blue Devils were. Since that loss, Duke has gotten back to playing more aggressive on defense.

This year I'm going to go with the Blue Devils to win it all. I believe any team could be upset, but someone has to lose and someone has to win.

March Madness 2013 begins March 19, and the National Championship game will take place April 8, at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta.

Early sex education acts as prevention

By Hannah Breeland
Opinions Editor

Parents need not fear giving "the talk," at least in Chicago. The Chicago Board of Education is now mandating that a set amount of time will be spent on sex education in every grade beginning in, wait for it, Kindergarten. I think this is a great idea. The only problem is people focus too much on the wording "sex ed."

The school board has emphasized that kindergartners would be learning basics about anatomy, reproduction, healthy relationships and personal safety. From kindergarten through third grade, student's lessons will be focused on family feelings and appropriate and inappropriate touching.

Now that doesn't sound so bad. If parents are still against it, they can choose if their children will take part in the lessons, which I feel is unfair and would be a disadvantage to the children all because the parents are uncomfortable with it.

This could be a stepping-stone in raising awareness of sexual abuses. Children aren't aware of what could be happening to them. Children are so innocent and I feel if the information is delivered in a delicate way, then their innocence won't be affected.

At least once they learn about inappropriate touching and know that it's a "no no," there might be a higher chance that they will tell an adult.

Once kids start learning about the basics they will become more aware, and it might even open the door for kids to ask

their parents questions, so once they get older the conversation won't be as awkward.

The school board also said from fifth through twelfth grade students will learn about reproduction, prevention of HIV and AIDS, as well as sexual orientation and gender identity.

I feel that could prevent the contraction of HIV and AIDS and bullying. These are hard topics I feel would be too awkward for parents to discuss with their kids, so why not have the teachers doing it?

Then there are children who don't have parents that are willing to talk to them about sex education.

All schools should follow Chicago's lead; after all, it's not like there's going to be showing kindergartners how to put on a condom.

Letter to the Editor

Tutoring Center complaint is without merit

Editor:

If there was an unbridled party in the Tutoring Center, I didn't get the invite.

Being a former tutor, I feel compelled to address a Letter to the Editor published Feb. 27 concerning favoritism among tutors, a "no-talking" rule and tardiness, tutees and double standards.

Let us first consider the least favorite overworked tutor versus the favorite tutor. All tutors are required to spend a certain number of lab hours at the center whether a session is scheduled or not. If a tutee is not scheduled, then tutors help the coordinator with clerical tasks or they do homework.

I never witnessed any kind of fa-

voritism or ranking system. There were only new tutors, returning tutors and an in-house tutor.

A no-talking rule in the center doesn't seem feasible. Tutors must converse with tutees. It is a tutoring center, not a library.

Concerning tutee tardiness and double standards, understanding the importance of time management helps the tutee become a self-sufficient student. Being on time for scheduled appointments is part of that process.

As to the part-time coordinators propensity for tardiness, I wonder if the letter writer has an inside track on work schedules or is she just making assumptions?

Joy L. Wheat
BC student

'GADE FEEDBACK "What are you doing for Spring Break?"

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



Austin Lemon, Forestry: "I'm going to Tijuana!"



Joe Kenyon, Undecided: "No plans, I'm a typical boring guy."



John Abercrombie, Nutrition: "I am trying to go to the beach."



Rodney Douglas, Computer Science: "I'm going to Oklahoma to check out University of Tulsa's Cyber Corps program."



Leandre Rodriguez, Kinesiology: "I am not doing anything. I'm lame."

Compiled by:
Graham C Wheat / The Rip

Perspectives

Perspectives on life and what makes us who we are.

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The Renegade Rip | www.therip.com

Wednesday, March 13, 2013

Your own worst enemy

By Samantha Briggs
Reporter

For most of my life women have constantly confused me. Although I am female, I was raised around boys so there are some things that I just don't understand about women, like why we wake up two hours earlier than we have to just to apply makeup and do our hair to impress people that don't matter.

It wasn't until I moved to California from North Carolina two years ago that I began to have female friends, and as I started to hang out with them I noticed women like to engage in something called fat talk. Fat talk is when a girl says "Oh my god I am so fat." I think every girl is guilty of doing this.

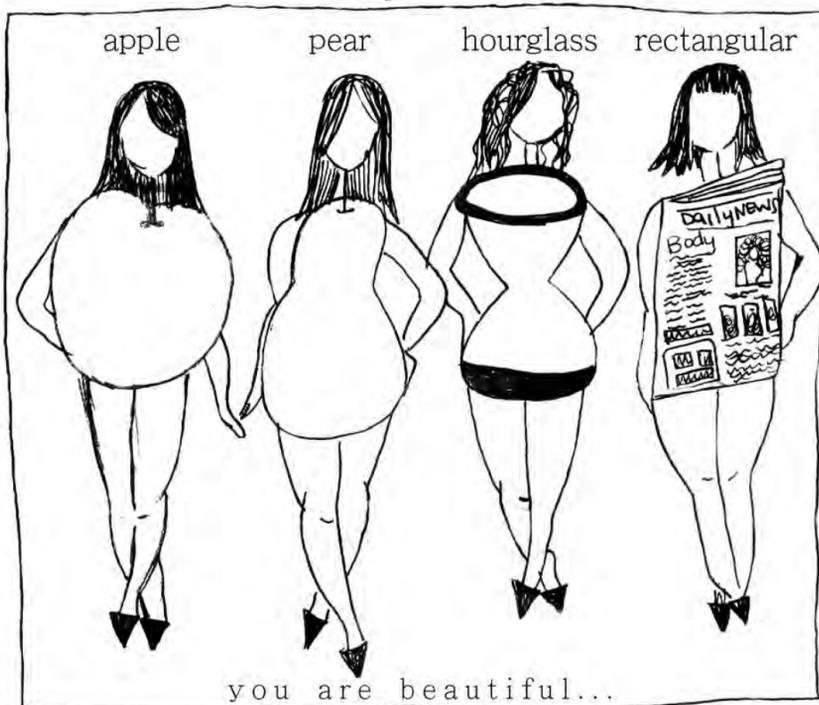
When I first heard my friend, who is at least a size four, say that she is fat, I was a little insulted because I am obviously bigger than her. If she thought she is fat, then she had to think I'm enormous.

Then I thought she has to be saying this for attention because there is no way a girl her size could possibly think she is overweight. She just liked to hear other people say, "No you're not, you are so skinny." Maybe she just needed that reassurance.

My friend and I attended a Christmas party recently and there were people taking pictures of us and every time my friend looked at a picture of herself she kept finding a new way to insult it. Whether it was about her chubby cheeks, her stomach or stubby fingers. I didn't know there could be so many things someone could find wrong with theirself. Finally, I had to ask her if she really thought she was fat. Her response was yes.

Then I asked if she thought

Society sucks...



PRISCILLA DAUVEN / THE RIP

I was fat and she said no, she thinks I look good how I am. How can a girl who is a size four tell me, a girl who is a size twelve, that I look great but still think she is too fat.

I could relate to my friend in a strange way. I have never had any serious body image issues, but as a teenager I remember constantly comparing myself to the women on television and in magazines. I always wanted to be an actress and these television and magazine images influenced how I thought an ideal body should look. Luckily, early on I realized how delusional I

was and I learned to stop comparing myself to other women on television or in real life.

Fat talk becomes the norm and almost a social ritual between friends. Women get so used to it that they don't realize when they're doing it anymore. We have heard fat talk everywhere. We hear it from our friends, the females in our family, television and even strangers on the street. I think fat talk reinforces people talking negatively about the female body.

We are too entangled with how the media says we're supposed to look and fail to realize

that we all come in different shapes and sizes and we are all beautiful.

I would be living in a fantasy world if I thought that fat talk is going to end.

It can be seen as a way to bond with friends or express insecurities but it could be harmful to someone who is struggling with her weight and overhears thin women say that they are fat.

It can be harmful to young girls who over hear their mother or sister say they're fat, it can affect how they see them self in the future.

Parties suck, have a kickback

By Tyler Goucher
Reporter

Aw, another eventful Saturday night in the happening town of Bakersfield ... not! Just like the weekend before and the weekend before that, what starts out as promising plans turn into a struggle to find some place to go before the liquor stores stop selling alcohol.

Welcome to Bako nightlife. A text always shows up on my phone with either an address or someone asking if I know of an address.

After hours of figuring out where we're going and what we are going to do when we get there, we finally make a decision and designate someone to be the driver for the night.

Of course, the first address we show up to, it isn't even a house. The whole condo community is flooded with cars blasting loud ignorant music and drunken people walking around aimlessly.

The unfortunate conclusion we end up coming to is that this party has no women. This normally wouldn't stop us from going in anyway to check it out, but the host of the party was charging \$3 a head to get in.

Statistically, parties that charge an entrance fee are doomed to end early, one way or another.

It's a good thing we decided to leave because a fight broke out among the crowd, prompt-

ing the owner of the condo to kick everyone out. What a great way to make money on the weekends. Throw a huge party in a not-so huge condo and charge \$3 to get in, all while having the intentions to stage a "fight" in order to stop the party early.

After leaving, we decided to head in the complete opposite direction, to a friend's house, so that we could at least drink and play beer pong. This happens like clockwork most weekends.

The night goes on to turn into a pleasant kickback with close friends and acquaintances ... and alcohol, lots of alcohol.

Most of the time is spent in the kitchen, where beer pong is set up on the center island and people on the sidelines are playing various drinking games.

The backyard is, of course, designated for smokers and tokers.

And yes, there was plenty of "toking" going on as well.

Hours go by as the crowd dies down and people begin passing out. When the music stops, it's time to go.

After saying our goodbyes, we secure a safe way back home.

Along the way, we stop at Del Taco to satisfy our long overdue munchies.

Not to say that this wasn't a fun night, it was just not what we expected, and it never is.

One thing is for sure, when you have great friends, alcohol, and a big house, you're going to have a good time.

"Statistically, parties that charge you an entrance fee are doomed to end early, one way or another."

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BC teacher remembered

By Robert Mullen
Reporter

Adie Geiser, Bakersfield College's longtime assistive technology specialist, passed away on Feb. 23 at Memorial Hospital at the age of 49.

Geiser had been with the college for 14 years, since being hired into his current role back in 1999.

Geiser also taught technology classes for disabled students, consulted for the school on matters pertaining to technology used by disabled students, and

ensured that the school stayed up to code when providing special technology to disabled students.

Skip Hill, a deacon with St. Luke's Anglican Church, was interviewed by Geiser for a role as a counselor for disabled student services in 2000, which he did until he retired in June of 2012, and knew Geiser well.

The two kept in contact even after Hill's retirement and return to the church.

"Adie and I would chat, whether on our lunch hours, or on private time, or just back and forth."

Hill said Geiser was a great part of the college community.

"He was with a lot of committees on campus, and was a part of a lot of the different things that were helping to move technology forward, just in general, on this campus," Hill said.

"He was a great person just to talk to, for a lot of students who just loved his caring attitude. He was very patient, and he was just a really neat guy."

Students or others who want counseling can contact Hill on his cell, 661-203-8663, or email him at deskpistlukes@att.net

You might have a disability

By Luis Garcia
Photo Editor

There are some people, incredibly intelligent people no less, who suffer from a learning problem associated with the inability to handle numbers and mathematical calculations.

Just as dyslexia is a learning disability that inhibits the recognition of words and sentences, dyscalculia is a neurocognitive learning problem associated with the inability to handle numbers. Most dyscalculics are good writers, have vast imaginations and tend to see the whole picture of a situation.

It affects one in 20 people, can damage their confidence and frequently leads to humiliation of counting on one's fingers. Although not much is known about dyscalculia, it is thought to be biological, and research has shown it is possible to correct it to some extent if it is identified in early childhood.

"Dyscalculia is a dysfunction with calculations. A person who has average or above average intelligence and who is otherwise skilled and knowledgeable in other areas has very great difficulty when it comes to how their brain processes information when it comes to symbolic reasoning or long-term retrieval. Whatever that affects them

mathematically, can be due to a number of different syndromes within learning disabilities," said Joyce Kirst, Academic Development professor and BC learning disabilities specialist.

"Dyscalculia has a strong genetic link and also manifests itself outside the classroom," says Kirst.

Dyscalculics are unable to read time on analog clocks and have poor ability to budget or balance a checkbook. Some have trouble with concepts of time, such as sticking to a schedule, which is responsible for constantly making them late. Most dyscalculics are unaware they have it and claim they have a phobia. Dyscalculia is listed as a disorder on the International Classification of Diseases 10th edition's website.

In order to diagnose dyscalculia, an individual must first acknowledge they might have a learning disability, and then he or she must become his or her own advocate to seek further help. Methods of diagnosis differ widely, but in general, students are interviewed about a full range of math-related skills and behaviors. The evaluation compares a person's expected and actual levels of skill and understanding while noting the specific strengths and weaknesses.

Interim director of Disabled

Student Program and Services Ellen Young says many schools have policies to modify students' curriculum to make transferring easier.

"A number of accommodations may be appropriate. It depends on the individual and their own learning profile. Sometimes these help and sometimes they don't, so it really has to be individualized."

Some accommodations include: providing extra time on exams, extra tutoring and a designated note taker in class. "BC is lucky in that we have the math lab for some of the developmental levels of math. Students can take more than one semester if needed to take things at their own pace," said Young. She added that the accommodations are not a "guaranteed free ride" for dyscalculics and students will still have to put in effort in their courses. Young went on to say students must be careful not to "over diagnose" and make themselves believe that they have dyscalculia due to a lack of motivation to attend classes and complete assignments.

Dyscalculia also affects the most successful people, such as: Benjamin Franklin, Bill Gates, Mary Tyler Moore, Cher, Thomas Edison and even the man credited as "father of rocket science," Wernher Von Braun.

STUDENTS: International students of BC panel



SHARIDA REJON / THE RIP

The women from the International Women of Greater Bakersfield panel discuss issues.

Continued from Page 1

causing it to be a Third World country. Most of it is that [women] aren't encouraged to have an

education."

This was only the second event planned for women's history month.

Another event showcasing international women of the Bakersfield area was held later that night.

BOGACZ: Polish student reflects on her time here as a student and an immigrant at BC

Continued from Page 1

choosing BC over CSUB.

She was given 30 days before the school semester started in order to adapt. This meant holding a conversation in English and preparing for everything in order to study in a community college where the main language spoken and written by the students and professors is English. This is the international students' regulation.

"I knew some English, of course I did," she said. "But I couldn't express myself in English just yet. I had to translate everything from Polish to English in my head."

On the first day of class, Bogacz stated that she may have understood about 5% of what was spoken in class. She couldn't even raise her hand during attendance to state that she was there due to all the stress she received from her new environment.

It wasn't only the language that she had trouble with, it was also the education and how it was taught.

"It is completely different from the way it is taught in Europe, and nobody prepared me for that. We don't have such a thing as units, we don't have transfer classes," said Bogacz.

"Everything is different, examinations, quizzes, everything."

Bogacz said that based on her experience in BC, schools here are much more interested in broadening the student's mind with more interactive and friendly instructors while in Poland they aren't as open-minded and the instructors are much more strict.

"To be obedient to authority is a big deal in Europe," said Bogacz. She also went to add onto her statement that in Po-

land, you cannot speak up and keeping one's mouth shut is considered a safe way to fit in.

When Bogacz came to BC, she was helped by the BC English Second Language professor Elizabeth Rodacker, who helped Bogacz fit in more and taught

"It is completely different from the way it is taught in Europe...We don't have such a thing as units...Everything is different, examinations, quizzes, everything."
— Magdalena Bogacz
International BC student

her to be more Americanized. She is also the one who promoted and recommended Bogacz to be an ESL and math tutor at the tutoring center.

Bogacz went on to state that due to the high scoring of her math placement test, she didn't need to take a math class, but out of curiosity took Math BD to see how math was in the United States.

She said she was surprised at how old some of her classmates were, some being over the ages of 50. Even if the class was easy for her, she helped her classmates out and passed the class with an A.

Bogacz said that manners and etiquette are different here. She was surprised to see people come to school dressed in pajamas.

She also stated that she actually felt left out when she dressed up for a classical concert and found herself to be one of the very few who dressed in a formal outfit and stated that people didn't really keep a stan-

dard.

When Bogacz wanted to take the test for her driving license, the DMV offered her a version of the test in Polish. She was very confused.

"I couldn't read any questions in Polish they provided for me, and I was like 'this isn't Polish,'" she said.

In the end, Bogacz waited until her English improved to her level of confidence and took the test in English and passed.

"Tuition for international students is ridiculous. We are doing the same exact work as every single American here, or even more because we have to keep up with language," stated Bogacz, "and I have to pay at least 500 times more than regular citizens.

"You know, I'm not opposed to paying more than citizens, because I'm not a citizen," said Bogacz, who is taking 24 units at BC.

A week after Bogacz arrived in the States, she fell ill and went to the hospital and received a shot. Seven months later she received a bill for \$15,000.

"It's not because I can't buy insurance," Bogacz said. "It's because I am not a citizen."

If Bogacz wasn't able to pay off the bill, she was told that it would be held against her in the future and that she would be deported.

"I got accepted to every single school I applied for, including Pepperdine and Loyola Marymount, San Diego Cal State, Fullerton, Long Beach and Cal Poly," stated Bogacz.

"I don't want to be Polish and American at the same time. I want to be American. I want to get rid of my Polish citizenship, I don't want to even go back to Poland, ever again."

SGA ELECTIONS: A new way to vote this election

Continued from Page 1

packet, which is located in CC-4.

"We have the election debate forum on March 20 at noon," Acosta said. "This isn't going

to be a debate but a time where students running can say this is why I'm qualified for this position. It's going to show if they're really here to help and not just here to get their name on a busi-

ness card.

"Students can ask questions about what they want to do or how they're going to help. It's so this doesn't turn into a popularity contest."

RINCON: Family brings Cuban to Bakersfield

Continued from Page 1

with black beans, white rice and plantains.

Andreu has been cooking since she was little with her mother and grandmother.

"I have always loved being in the kitchen and learning to cook," she said. "It pleases me to see how people can enjoy the food."

Andreu was a chef at the two Cuban restaurants in Bakersfield and when some closed she wanted to open one of her own to keep Cuban culture alive locally.

"I love my culture and my people and everything my culture has to offer," she said. "I really didn't want that to die and for it to stand out among so many other cultures here."

For Andreu she celebrates her culture by making her restaurant "feel like home." Even the name of the restaurant, Rincon, translates to little place.

"Even in the decoration we want to show what Cuba is like," she said. "We wanted people that walk in, or people that are from Cuba that haven't been there a long time, to feel like they are at home."

She feels that she has been successful in giving her restaurant that homey, Cuban, atmosphere.

"Every time we get customers from Cuba or places that are much like Cuba, they have told us 'this feels like home,' people from Puerto Rico, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Venezuela, they always express that and we're

very glad to have accomplished that," she said.

People not as aware of Cuban culture still enjoy coming to Rincon Cubano.

Yaissel Andreu, Releydis's daughter, describes how people for whom Cuban food is new enjoy the restaurant.

"The response from the people has been really good, even from people who have not tried this food before," she said. "For them it's new and they still love it. They feel really good about it and express it that way."

"We have really good reviews at yelp.com and most of the people that have left reviews are people that have not tried it before or are not actually Cuban but are from different cultures."

Briefs

- Mar. 13 and 14, CSUB will have representatives on campus to help students with the application and admittance process to register for Cal State. The event will be in the foyer outside the Fireside Room from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- "Poverty 101" Workshop will be hosted here on campus, Mar.15 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free.
- On Mar. 17, BC's choir and Chamber Singers will put on a St. Patrick's Day concert at 4 p.m. The concert will take place at the First Congregational Church, located at 5 Real Road, on the corner of Stockdale Hwy. and Real Rd. Admission is free.
- The STEM Speaker Series will be hosting guest, NASA Astronaut Jose Hernandez. Hernandez started picking crops along with his parents at a young age to help ends meet, but didn't wish to live that life forever. Instead of simply quitting after applying 12 times to NASA and failing to be admitted, Hernandez took a different approach and received his pilot's license, became a master SCUBA diver, and learned to speak a new language. Through it all he finally became what he is today. Come out and hear more of Hernandez's amazing journey. From the Fields to the Stars, Mar. 19 12:15 to 1:00 p.m. at the Levan Center on campus. Admission is free and everyone is welcome.

POVERTY: BC poverty event humbles students

Continued from Page 1

poverty."

The poverty group consisted the most people. They sat on the floor, served with only rice and water, and they had to find a way to split it among themselves, reflecting one of the opening statements of the event.

"Hunger is about power. Its roots lie in inequality to access resources," said Tawntannisha Thompson, one of the event's two hosts.

To further reflect reality, guests were moved from different income levels.

Bakersfield College President Sonya Christian, who was one of the night's speakers, was moved from the poverty group to the middle class group, reflecting a positive change in circumstances.

The event gave individuals the opportunity to discuss varying views on poverty. One of

the topics discussed was how personal choices affect an individual's income level.

Danielle Ante, nursing major, believed that the issue was complex.

"I do feel that people have a choice to make improvements in their lives, but there are also people who don't have that opportunity," she said. "There are opportunities around us, but people have to be willing to take risks."

Because it was the first time that SGA hosted the event, SGA President Danitza Romo believed that they could improve on some aspects of the event for next year, but she said she was proud of how the event went overall.

"The organization could improve a little bit and the way the event was being MC'ed," Romo said.

Beyond its efforts with The

Renegade Pantry, SGA decided to assist lower income students through awareness by dedicating the month of March on poverty.

"Our hope is not just that students have conversations about poverty, we want faculty, staff, administrators, and community leaders to have this discussion as well, because it is something that not only impacts our community, but everyone in the world," Romo said. "I think that it is important for everyone to understand that not everyone has something to eat every day. Sometimes, students in our very own campus go hungry and it is important that we start educating ourselves and try find ways to better assist these students."

Another event on the issue is the Poverty 101 workshop on March 15, led by Dr. Donna Beagle.

Three BC track runners win multiple races

By Jason Reed
Sports Editor

The Bakersfield College men's and women's track and field teams each took second place in an invitational meet involving Western State Conference teams March 1 at Ventura College.

Sophomores Davis Loustalot and Tejera Dial each won two events for BC. Loustalot took first place in the men's 800-meter run, with a time of 1:56.73

and 4:06.86 in the 1500-meter run. Dial won the 800 at 2:23.65 and then finished with the distance of 35 feet in the women's triple jump.

Freshman Jade Gridiron won three events for BC. Gridiron took first place in the 100-meter dash at 12.63.

She also took the 200 with a time of 25.87. Gridiron was also part of the women's 4x100, along with Natalie O'Dwyer, Reshana Watson and Mollie Fitch. BC

took first place at 48:84.

Santa Barbara City College's men finished in first place with a score of 128.5.

BC finished second with a score of 116, College of the Canyons finished third with a score of 110, and Cuesta College scored 97.5 finishing in fourth place.

Allan Hancock took fifth place scoring 57 and host Ventura finished last with a score of 49.

Ventura's women took first

place with a score of 149, BC finished in second place with a score of 135, and Santa Barbara took third, scoring 123.

Cuesta finished fourth with a score of 87, Canyons took fifth scoring 33 and Allan Hancock finished in sixth place, scoring just 26 points.

For the men's 200, sophomore Michael Norwood took first place for BC with the time of 21.89. Misael Herrera also gave the Renegades a big lift, winning

the 3,000 with a time of 9:50.98.

"It was pretty good," Herrera said, when asked what he thought about winning the 3K.

"I went out and did what my coach told me to do. He said go run, I guess he had confidence in me and he knew that I would be able to take it."

Freshman Deion Loudon took second place in the 400-meter hurdles.

"It was pretty good," BC head coach Dave Frickel said, when

asked about the team's performance.

Freshman Moriah Millwee took second place in the women's 3,000, with the time of 11:43.43, and Sophomore Ensley Davis finished second in the long jump at 15 feet 7 inches.

"Everyone stepped up and did what they were supposed to do. Overall, I was really pleased with the results," Frickel said.

The Bakersfield College Re-lays will take place March 16.

Softball gains 2nd victory

By Robert Mullen
Reporter

The Bakersfield College softball team won their second game of the season against L.A. Valley College 12-11 on March 7, bringing their record up to 2-12. This was the second game of a doubleheader against L.A. Valley, the first game of which BC lost 10-4.

In the first game, BC led up until the fourth inning. L.A. Valley was up 5-3, and then gave up four more runs in the fifth before scoring their final run of the game in the bottom of the sixth inning.

In the second game, both Britney Roberts and Kelsey Best hit a home run, and the team put up 13 hits. Coach Sandi Taylor was pleased with the team's performance in both games.

"You know, in game one it was closer than the score indicated," she said. "We were right in that ball game. We had one inning that got away from us, but we matched up pretty well with them. In game two, we kept the tenacity, we kept battling, [the



MJ INGUIITO/THE RIP

Bakersfield College first baseman Katie Hoffman gets L.A. Valley's Erica Perez out at first base. BC won game two of the of the March 7 doubleheader against the Monarchs.

girls) kept digging [their] heels in."

BC played at Cerritos College on March 1, and lost 15-1. Morgan Peterson put up BC's only run during the fourth inning.

"We played with absolutely no energy that day, we had some injuries and some illnesses, but it was a very lethargic day and it showed in the scores. They definitely reflected our energy level,"

said Taylor.

This week sees BC traveling to L.A. Mission College on March 12, and a doubleheader at College of the Canyons on March 14.

Student wants men's soccer club in 2013

By Jason Reed
Sports Editor

In the past, Bakersfield College got rid of its men's soccer team due to budget reasons. BC student Raul Carrillo, 20, is looking to bring soccer back to BC by starting a men's soccer club at the school.

Carrillo, a kinesiology major, said he wasn't aware that BC didn't have a men's soccer team when he started attending the school two years ago.

"Soccer is my thing," Carrillo said. "I want to go pro. It's more than a game for me and I'm sure that it's more than a game for a lot of people."

Carrillo said he's been trying to create a club ever since he got to BC. This semester, he has been working on the paperwork and creating a constitution for the club as required to start a club on campus.

"I'm only going to be able to play for like one year, and that's fine with me," Carrillo said.

Carrillo said that he just wants to leave the future athletes of BC something they can use to try to make it to the next level of soccer.

Carrillo said that he is being advised and supported by BC

women's soccer coach Scott Dameron and Student Government Association members Nick Acosta and Alex Enciso.

Carrillo said he's planning on attending a four-year college in Los Angeles. He believes there's a better opportunity there for him after BC, in terms of going pro.

"For me that's where the opportunities are, Los Angeles, that's where you have the MLS. That's where professional clubs go, and they recruit people from there," he said.

Carrillo said he plans on putting fliers around the school to spread the word on the soccer club. He stated that the constitution allows 12 board members and he has already met that requirement.

"He has been working really hard to get the club going," Dameron said when asked about his position on helping Carrillo. "Everyone always talks about it, but nobody ever does anything about it. There is so much interest in the sport here, I get questions all the time about how to participate, so that's what they're trying to do."

Carrillo said Enciso believes the club should begin this fall.



MAYAN LARA/THE RIP

Fabian Cardenas of Bakersfield College serves the ball to his opponent in a Feb. 28 game against Santa Barbara City College. The BC men lost the match 9-0.



MAYAN LARA/THE RIP

Vitor Ikeda attempts a return in a match against Santa Barbara City College on Feb. 28.

Men's tennis beats Pierce 5-4, women can't find rhythm

By Robert Mullen
Reporter

The Bakersfield College women's tennis team has continued playing a tough season, taking three losses. Meanwhile, the men's team continues to struggle but have added another win.

BC women played against Santa Monica College on Feb. 26, losing 8-1,

while the men traveled to L.A. Pierce College and won 5-4.

On Feb. 28, both teams played Santa Barbara College, with the men's team losing 9-0. The women played a closer match but lost 5-4.

"The bottom half singles struggled a little bit. They played well, they just weren't converting points out of their rally," said assistant coach Charles

Provencio.

March 5 showed similar results, with both teams losing, men 9-0, women 5-4.

Even with these losses, head coach Terri Lynott remains hopeful for the women's season.

"I look forward to the second round," Lynott said. "Last year, some of the players, after the first round, felt discour-

aged, and I feel like this time around, I don't feel that way. I feel like they're encouraged to get the opportunity to play these people again, knowing that it's going to be tough, they're working hard and they're working to pull something off."

The men also showed improvement despite their record.

"I'm really impressed with the guys

and how hard they're playing and they're taking the toughest teams that there are in junior college tennis.

"And they're making them work for it, we're making them mad a little bit," said Lynott.

BC men's tennis will host Pierce College March 19 while the women will travel to Santa Monica College March 19.

'GADE FEEDBACK "What team do you want to win the NCAA basketball tournament?"

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

Compiled by:
Graham C Wheat / The Rip



Alfonso Osegeuda, Criminal Justice: "I'm not a basketball fan. I am waiting for baseball season to start."



Cesar Luna, Engineering: "I like Kentucky because they are a popular team."



Corey Frison, Business: "I need Kentucky to take it."



Jeff Crawford, Undecided: "North Carolina Tar Heels. I have always liked watching them play."



Dionisio Hill, Business: "I don't follow college basketball, but I am a USC fan. Go Trojans."

BC pitcher 4-0 on the season

By Jason Reed
Sports Editor

The Bakersfield College baseball team is off to a 15-3 start in the 2013 season and part of it has to do with right-handed sophomore pitcher, Ryan Stapp.

Stapp, a Bakersfield High School graduate, is in his second year at Bakersfield College and has posted a 4-0 record with five starts. In those five starts, Stapp has a 3.38 ERA to go along with 22 strikeouts.

Stapp mentioned that he plans on being a professional baseball player and is undecided on his major at the moment.

Stapp has been playing baseball since he was 4 and mentioned that he concentrated only on pitching as a sophomore in high school.

"My dad kind of got me into it," Stapp said when asked what made him start playing baseball. Stapp said his dad was a basketball player when he was younger. His dad wanted him to be involved in sports, and Ryan played basketball, football and baseball in high school. Stapp played receiver in football and forward in basketball.

"My senior year, I was going to play basketball and then a guy from CSUB asked if I wanted to work out with them," Stapp said when asked what made him choose baseball over football and basketball.

He said he had to quit basketball conditioning at Bakersfield High in order to train at Cal State Bakersfield, and at that point he

decided to play baseball only.

The ace pitcher for the Renegades allowed only two hits and one run in BC's season home opener this year. The Renegades won that game 10-1 against Porterville College. Stapp allowed no earned runs and struck out four batters.

"I just try to relax," Stapp said when asked how he prepares for a game. "I look at another team's chart because we chart before the game. We track every pitch that every hitter sees. I look at those and see what their tendencies are. I like to focus on each individual hitter."

Stapp earned his second win of the season against Hartnell College on Feb. 8, with a 6-5 win. Stapp struck out seven batters in the game but allowed four earned runs in his six innings on the mound.

"He's a major impact," said coach Tim Painton when asked what Stapp meant to the team. "It has transitioned into a starting role, and it has made an impact on our ball club this year, certainly in a positive way."

Stapp mentioned that he has improved a lot since his first year at BC. He added that lots of the credit for his success should go to Painton, who has been a big part in terms of helping him prepare for the next level.

"I came here not really knowing a lot," Stapp said. "Coach P. helped me with a lot of stuff when I first came here. It's matured me, too, because I was really immature coming out of high school."



MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Pitcher Ryan Stapp throws the ball to first base in a 10-5 BC win against Citrus College on Feb. 28.

Stapp said Painton has also done a good job of helping the team with life lessons. He said the things he has learned in baseball can also be used to help him in life off the baseball field.

"I think he's grown as a person and as a player," Painton said, when asked how being at BC has helped Stapp. "Part of that just happens naturally, but I think it's due to the fact that we're on the field every day. He's really grown as a baseball player. His velocity has jumped up. He's got better velocity now than he had coming in, and he has just continued to mature as a person and as a player."

Stapp said he's gotten calls from University of Kentucky and Penn State but hasn't been offered anything at the moment.

When asked about the team's goals for this year, Stapp said he really wants to win a conference title, get into the playoffs, and see where they can go from there. "Hopefully, we can win state," he said.

Stapp added that the Los Angeles Dodgers is the favorite team of his family, when asked if he had a favorite Major League Baseball team. He said he enjoys watching the Cincinnati Reds play, but he just enjoys the game and really doesn't have a favorite team.

In his fifth start of the season, Stapp received a no decision in a 10-5 BC win in a Feb. 28, game against Citrus College. Stapp allowed three earned runs on eight hits in six innings before being taken out.

BC baseball scores

The Bakersfield College baseball team continued its hot streak with a 15-3 record, winning eight of its last nine games. BC has scored eight runs per game in its first 18 games and is only allowing just 3.6 runs per game this season.

Feb. 28

BC 10, Citrus 5

BC's starting pitcher Ryan Stapp took the mound for the Renegades, allowing three earned runs and eight hits in six innings. BC was down 5-1, before scoring six runs in the eighth inning to earn a 10-5 comeback victory over Citrus College. Center fielder Kyle Nixon and first baseman Blayne Ontiveros both had two RBIs for BC.

March 2

BC 8, L.A. Mission 6

BC took its six-game winning streak on the road against L.A. Mission College and jumped out to a 6-1 lead in the third inning. L.A. Mission then went on to outscore BC 5-2 throughout the remainder of the game, but the Renegades held on and secured an 8-6 victory. Catcher Justin Martinez had four RBIs for BC and scored two runs on 2-for-5 batting. Starting pitcher Justin Kelly got the win for BC, improving to 3-1 but allowed five earned runs over six innings. Outfielder, Jake Aucelluzzo got three RBI's for L.A. Mission.

March 5

BC 8, L.A. Mission 7

BC's winning streak was once again tested against L.A. Mission. Pitcher Brad Lindsley allowed seven hits and gave up four runs in eight innings. Center fielder Kyle Nixon had three RBIs for the Renegades. Third baseman Nick Sakowski scored three runs, going 2-for-3 at the plate. Right fielder Spencer Daniels had four RBIs for L.A. Mission.

March 7

BC 8, Glendale 6

BC extended its winning streak to eight games. BC jumped out to a 6-2 lead in the first five innings of the game before the Vaqueros attempted a comeback, outscoring the Renegades 4-2 in the final three innings. Right-handed pitcher Sean Deweese got the save for BC. Designated hitter Luc Pomales went 3-for-5 with three RBIs, and right fielder Jordan Turner went 3-for-4 with two RBIs. The win improved BC to 6-1 on the road.

March 9

Glendale 3, BC 2

BC's winning streak was snapped at eight against Glendale, falling 3-2. BC left-handed pitcher Justin Kelly gave up three earned runs on five hits and struck out three batters. Tei Vanderford of Glendale pitched seven innings and struck out 11. BC fell to 15-3 overall and 8-2 in the Western State Conference. Glendale improved to 11-5 and 6-2 in the WSC, two games behind BC in the win column for first place. BC lost its first home since Feb. 3, and is now 7-2 at home. BC will host 8-9 Merced College March 14 in a non-conference.

Student Government Association

SGA Elections

THE SKY
IS THE
LIMIT!



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

March 18

Deadline to turn in completed
Election Packet

March 20

Candidates forum in
Campus Center Quad Area

April 1-4

Election dates

Why Follow When
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Detailed information available in
the Student Activities office (CC-4)
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ROBIN SHIN / THE RIP

Becky Summers, 58, pats one of her miniature horses, Fuzzy, after feeding him one of the horse treats she has in her hand.



ROBIN SHIN / THE RIP

Chris Bozarth, 65, pats Pixie, one of the miniature horses he takes care of at the Tanglewood Farms.

Tanglewood Farms and their mini horses

By **Mitchelle De Leon**
Reporter

Lois Anderson first saw a miniature horse in 1971 on The Johnny Carson Show. "Oh my gosh," she thought. "I gotta have one."

It took her two years to find a breeder. She then went to buy a stallion from Kentucky and three mares from Georgia. Today, Anderson has 61 miniature horses, or minis, at Tanglewood Farms, a full-service stable that trains, boards, and sells minis.

Along with her sister, Lora Bozarth, and her brother-in-law, Chris Bozarth, Anderson manages the minis 14 hours a day, seven days a week.

A typical day at Tanglewood begins at 4 a.m. They train and feed them alfalfa hay at particular times of the day.

They even put a blanket around horses that don't have their natural hair to protect them from the weather. At 74 years old, Anderson acknowledges that the work is difficult, but she thinks it's worth it.

"It's like having a furry kid," she said jokingly. "They're very affectionate, and they're very loyal little things. Trust me, we get a lot out of them."

She described her relationship with the minis as close.

"We're right there when the foals are born. We do what is called imprinting, which is a bonding process between humans and babies, so they become 'people-lized.' They're very compliant," she said.

However, she emphasized that minis are still horses.

"You can't treat them like little dogs, but these horses really have sweet dispositions," she said.

The youngest minis at Tanglewood Farms are 9 to 10 months old. The oldest one is PJ, which

is turning 37 in April, exceeding the typical life span of 30 years old.

"He worked very well all his life, so he deserves a good retirement," she said. "We are going to take care of him until he dies."

In 1989, PJ along with other minis were with Lois at the Rose Parade, but she thought the experience was a disaster.

"We had to be there at 1 o'clock in the morning. We almost froze to death," she recalled. "It didn't make the horses all that happy. We did it once. That was enough."

The cost to purchase minis varies. Lois said the horses have gone as far as New York and Hawaii, preferring to sell them at around 2 years old.

"People buy horses and don't do anything with them. We like to sell trained horses, so that they'll have homes for the rest of their lives. People get tired of one that just eats and doesn't do anything."

She said that it's difficult not to get attached with the horses.

"It hurts sometimes when they leave," she said. "We make darn sure that they go to good homes."

In some instances, Lois bought some minis back because she didn't feel that they were going to good homes.

Because of the economy, they are breeding fewer horses than usual this year.

"We're cutting back just a little bit because the economy's so bad. We only bred two mares this year. Normally, we breed eight or 10," she said. "We don't want to raise so many horses that there aren't any homes for them. We raise them to train and sell."

Of the 61 miniature horses on their property, 12 of them are boarders, which are minis owned by other people but live on Tan-

glewood. One of the boarders is actually part pony, which is different from a miniature horse. Ponies developed out of naturally harsh conditions.

They were horses that got smaller and smaller because conditions were so severe that the smaller ones survived and the bigger ones did not. Minis, on the other hand, are man-made, bred down from full-sized horses. They are also smaller than ponies.

"Ponies can be a little bit ornery sometimes. Miniatures are very smart little things. They do things that you wouldn't believe," she said. "They grow on you. They're wonderful companion animals."

They have even rescued minis from different states that looked like "concentration camp horses."

According to Lois, horses have excellent memories.

"They remember all the good that happens to them, but they also remember all the bad that happens to them," she said. "It makes them valuable as working animals."

The minis draw a lot of attention when they take them out with carriages, especially on the highway.

"We get a lot of positive remarks when we're out driving. People take pictures," she said. "We handle them, so they're well-trained. They trust their people, so if you tell them it's OK, it's all right."

All of the minis at Tanglewood Farms are of the American Miniature horse breed, which is the result of highly selective breeding, dating back to the 17th century when minis served the ruling classes and kings in Europe.

Today, minis offer an affectionate alternative to its larger counterpart.



ROBIN SHIN / THE RIP

Lois Anderson, 74, one of the owners and caretakers of Tanglewood Farms, holds a sweet complimentary filled moment with her horse Shennanigans.



ROBIN SHIN / THE RIP

Mickey looks into the camera, he is one of the many miniature horses being taken care of at Tanglewood Farms.



ROBIN SHIN / THE RIP

No Eclipse, one of the farms more stoic mini horses, poses for a picture while in his pen.