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# The Renegade Rip

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## Celebrating 100 years at Garden Fest



MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Agricultural Science club member Lauren Summerhays plays a game with Ryelan Hunley.

By Patricia Rocha  
Reporter

Students, faculty, community members and their families all came out to this year's Garden Fest for a day of botany-themed fun. Though there were plenty of vendors, demonstrations and many children's activities, the real star of the show was the planting of the 100th tree in honor of Bakersfield College's centennial celebration.

The idea for planting 100 new trees on campus was Vice-President Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg's initially, and she said she was pleased with the way it finally turned out.

"I didn't think it would be this big," said Gomez-Heitzeberg about the celebration. "As we were talking about 100 years

I just kept saying, 'we have to leave something behind for the next 100 years,' so every meeting I went to I think I said, 'don't forget those trees, don't forget those trees, don't forget those trees,' so today, to see this one planted, is a big deal."

She says the real big deal is how volunteers and organizations helped make this possible, and how this act of generosity will be a lasting one.

"Think of all the people that helped plan the other 99," she said. "It took a lot of people to get this done. They really stepped up from the community to help support us so we could make this happen."

The 100th tree, is a live oak, which is a symbol of strength and is usually planted in histori-

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PHOTOS BY MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

Above: At Garden Fest, the 100th new tree was ceremonially planted on campus to celebrate the 100th anniversary of BC on April 20. Planting was, left to right, mayor Harvey Hall, Bakersfield College president Sonya Christian and vice-president Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg. Left: Retired professor Dale Gradek explains planting technique.

## New SGA president revealed

By Jazmine Montoya  
Reporter

As the spring semester comes to an end, BC welcomes incoming SGA president Travis Tillis. Winning by 228 votes in the elections that recently took place a couple weeks ago, Tillis has accepted his duties as the new president, and he will begin his duties during the summer of 2013.

Tillis said he was happily surprised when he was told he had won.

"I was ecstatic. I was so happy," Tillis said. "I have a deep faith in God, so I knew if it was



PRISCILLA DAUVEN / THE RIP

Newly elected SGA president Travis Tillis greets a fellow Bakersfield College student.

his will it would be done." Tillis said his strong leadership skills and creative mindset

are just a few qualifications that make him ready to represent BC as SGA president along with the

fact that he enjoys organizing. He says he wants to help make

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## Smoking policy is left up in the air

By Graham C Wheat  
Features Editor

The proposed smoking policy at Bakersfield College is still in administrative limbo, and the ultimate fate of the policy may not be resolved until over the summer break. This policy may also become a district-wide policy if the legislation approves it.

According to Nick Acosta, SGA general counsel and spearhead behind the tobacco-free campus policy, the issue may not be resolved this coming fall semester as planned. However, Acosta is taking steps to further the initiative.

"From what I hear, they [the board of trustees] are really looking at it positively, the policy and the idea," said Acosta.

"I think it will take effect, it is just a matter of if it will be in the fall or if it will be delayed a little bit."

So far, Acosta has presented the policy to numerous boards that control the outcome of campus-wide policies, such as the Academic Senate, the Faculty and Department Chairs. The final word on the matter, which is appointed to the board of trustees and chancellor of BC, has not been handed down.

It seems to not be a lack of effort on Acosta's part though. Granted he was not able to present the policy at the last board of trustees meeting, he and BC president Sonya Christian have broached the subject with the powers that be.

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## Students get information about studying in other countries

By Hannah Breeland  
Opinions Editor

Bakersfield College students don't need to settle for a university in California or even in the United States. It's never too late to rule out studying abroad.

A Transfer Abroad Guide is available online at TransferAbroad.com

Eric Tiettmeyer, editor of the

guide, felt there was a strong need for students to have information about studying abroad.

"I published the Transfer Abroad Guide because I saw a need for students to finish their degree abroad in three years and in most cases transfer and finish in 1 to 1.5 years," he said. "There are all these opportunities to study abroad, even for a semester, and use your FAFSA financial aid. Finally, the cost

is usually the same or less than here in California."

Tiettmeyer is determined to help students receive this information. He has delivered copies to 50 community colleges across California.

The guide is filled with tips on travel, university requirements, transferring units and three universities that are located in paradise where students wouldn't think to transfer to.

For example, a university located in the Caribbean that has 80-degree weather year round will cost less than \$20,000 for one year.

In the guide, there are six pages filled with 300 universities that do and don't accept FAFSA, along with several profiles on current students studying abroad. Tiettmeyer was inspired by his studying abroad experiences that motivated him to make

the guide.

"I worked in Switzerland when I was 20, cleaning rooms and washing dishes in a 13th Century chateau just north of Geneva," he said. "I also did independent study with an art teacher from Saddleback College, going to museums around Europe and writing about it when I got back and getting credit. It really is a life-changing experience to study abroad, so it's exciting to have a

guide that is reaching those that don't really know about it."

With the first guide out, Tiettmeyer plans on four additional guides for the next academic year.

"Nobody has really promoted direct enrollment to universities abroad in the past," he said, "and there certainly hasn't been a magazine or guide about it. So it's exciting to have this first guide about that."

## Two worlds shape a distinctive sound

By Graham C Wheat  
Features Editor

Making Movies is a band that carries a heavy burden. They are rooted in two different places, musically and culturally. They have one foot in the old and one foot in the new, and they carry the weight of two cultures and two styles of music.

Yet it is this grounding in two distinctly different places that armors them and helps them create the sound and personality that makes them so unique.

The band, which played in Bakersfield on April 27, blends elements of afro-Cuban rhythms and the old feel of Latin rock with a mixture of modern indie rock.

Lead singer and guitar player Enrique Chi, 26, belts out a smooth, melodic voice complemented by guitar playing reminiscent of early '90s rock. Brother Diego Chi, 21, plays bass and lends a groovy line to every track on their sophomore album "A la Deriva," which means "adrift." The majority of the songs on "A la Deriva" are sung in Spanish, yet somehow that has no bearing on the listenable quality of the songs, even for someone who doesn't speak Spanish.

Brothers Enrique and Diego Chi hail from Panama originally, and were young transplants to the band's hometown of Kansas City, Mo. Both grew up with ties to their origin of birth and developed roots in the Midwest town. Drummer Brendan Culp, 25, went to high school with younger brother Diego and even started a band with him, although both joked that they hoped no one would ever hear that music. Percussionist and keyboard player Juan-Carlos Chaurand, 26, who grew up close to the rest of the band, rounds out the lineup.

Diego elaborated on the close-knit nature that the group shares. Speaking of the recent touring schedule, driving across America



LUIS GARCIA / THE RIP

From left to right: Juan-Carlos Chaurand, Enrique Chi, Brendan Culp, and Diego Chi of Making Movies, jam out using traditional instruments.

in an old van, he said, "When we are on the road, there is no big drama. We get on each other's nerves every so often, but it's like having your little brother in the car. At the end of the day, we put aside our differences and realize that we are working toward the same goal." That goal is the dedication to the music that the group makes.

Enrique spoke of some of the things that he thought defined the band's dual nature. "When I was growing up, I had to ride the short bus to school

with the other foreign kids, and I used to hate being weird. All the other kids rode the regular bus. It took me a while to realize that being weird was a good thing."

Enrique spoke of how that feeling of alienation persisted on his trips to his home of Panama. "When I would go to Panama, I was the American kid. And when I was here, I was the Panamanian kid. It took me a long time to embrace that, and now as an adult I realize what a huge asset it is."

It seems that asset translates into their music as their Latin-

infused sound draws more and more non-Latin listeners.

"We were doing a show at Summerfest in Kansas City, and I think most of the audience was American as opposed to Latino," said Enrique.

The group also has another hurdle to overcome; they have no label and no booking agent, relying solely on themselves to spread the sounds of Making Movies.

The group agrees that it can be a double-edged sword.

The band said that recording

"A la Deriva" was a wholly satisfying experience with producer Steve Berlin of Los Lobos fame at the helm. The band gave nothing but praise about the recording process, which took 12 days in Portland, Ore., saying Berlin took time from his already busy schedule to facilitate their creative process.

"I was reluctant during some of the recording process. I thought I was being too weird, with my playing style or song choice," said Enrique. "Steve told me 'get weird' and encouraged me so

much."

The band also spoke of the process it self, like using old microphones for recording and playing as an ensemble for the record.

The band is positive about their future and believes the mix of cultures and musical styles will be their banner.

"We have one foot in Latin America, and one foot in America," said Enrique. "It is the same with our music. We have one foot in the old, and one foot in the new."

## Students create chainmail with updated medieval hobby

By Jazmine Montoya  
Reporter

Chainmail is no longer just a thing of the past. It also isn't the kind of chainmail you're thinking of.

Two Bakersfield College students have taken a hobby and made a way to bring back the

medieval armor and use it in more ways than what it is originally intended for.

Marc Core, who is studying to be a math teacher, and Carlos Rubio, computer science major, make chainmail wardrobe as well as jewelry and other knick-knacks, out of different types of metals.

Chainmail is based back to the Middle Ages, when knights would use the mail, or chainmail, as a suit as a way of defense. If a sword or sharp point were to try to break through the suit, it would then be turned into a blunt instrument to protect the knight from getting hurt. The tradition of making chainmail is now see-

ing a resurgence in popularity. Not for its defensive purposes, but rather as a hobby for aficionados of the ringed gear.

Today's chainmail, however, is made much the same as the chainmail from old, though today it is made from some different materials that weren't available to craftsmen of the past, such as aluminum and titanium.

Core and Rubio connect small metal rings to make patterns, such as vests, bracelets, necklaces, rings, just to name a few examples.

The metals that are accessible to use are aluminum, steel, brass, bronze, copper, titanium, silver, and gold.

They also take time to make colorful creations by changing the color of aluminum by anodizing and sending electrical currents through it.

Core said out of all the metals they've used, niobium is his favorite.

"It's mostly used in electronics," he said. "It's a rare earth metal, pretty expensive, not like gold or silver, but it can also be colored like aluminum."

Core said he started his first project about 10 years ago.

"I was a freshman in high school and just in the last two years.

"I've gotten a lot more into it and making money off of it," Core said. He originally began because his brother got him into it."

Core and Rubio both graduated from Liberty High School and have been friends since then.

Although Rubio hasn't been involved in making the chainmail projects as long as Core, he's making up for it now. He has made a sleeve made of aluminum black-and-red scales and 3/16 size steel rings.

The two have been taking their work to First Friday for about a year now, selling and sharing with the public their artistic designs.

First Friday is an arts and crafts fair held downtown every first Friday of the month. Items range from \$10-\$40.



LUIS GARCIA / THE RIP

Carlos Rubio, left, and Marc Core pose in their medieval inspired chainmail outfits. The duo connects small metal rings to make patterns such as: vests, bracelets, necklaces and rings. The chain vest and head gear weigh a total of 20 pounds.

Even if they don't sell anything, they say they have fun going out and meeting different people who are interested in their work.

"We get tons of people coming up to us saying how cool it is. That's almost as good as selling twenty, thirty bucks of stuff," Core said.

"Free karma is what it is," Rubio said with a grin.

The money that comes from the things that they sell helps them in funding their bigger projects, such as a full-on outfit that is made all out of metal.

The materials put into a shirt that Core made was said to be about \$120 dollars.

A local band that carries a Me-

dieval type theme, Heralds of the Sword, discovered Core and Rubio's work at a First Friday event and asked if they could make a chainmail cap that the band plans on raffling off at the concert.

While showing off their work may generate business for them, Core says it's not why he does it.

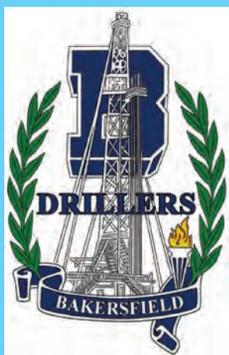
"I'm not out there to make a business out of this," he said. "It's fun for me, it's my hobby. If I make money off of it, that's great. I can fund the rest of my hobby and make sure it's for myself."

Core and Rubio encourage others to come out to First Friday to check out their work and enjoy the work of others.

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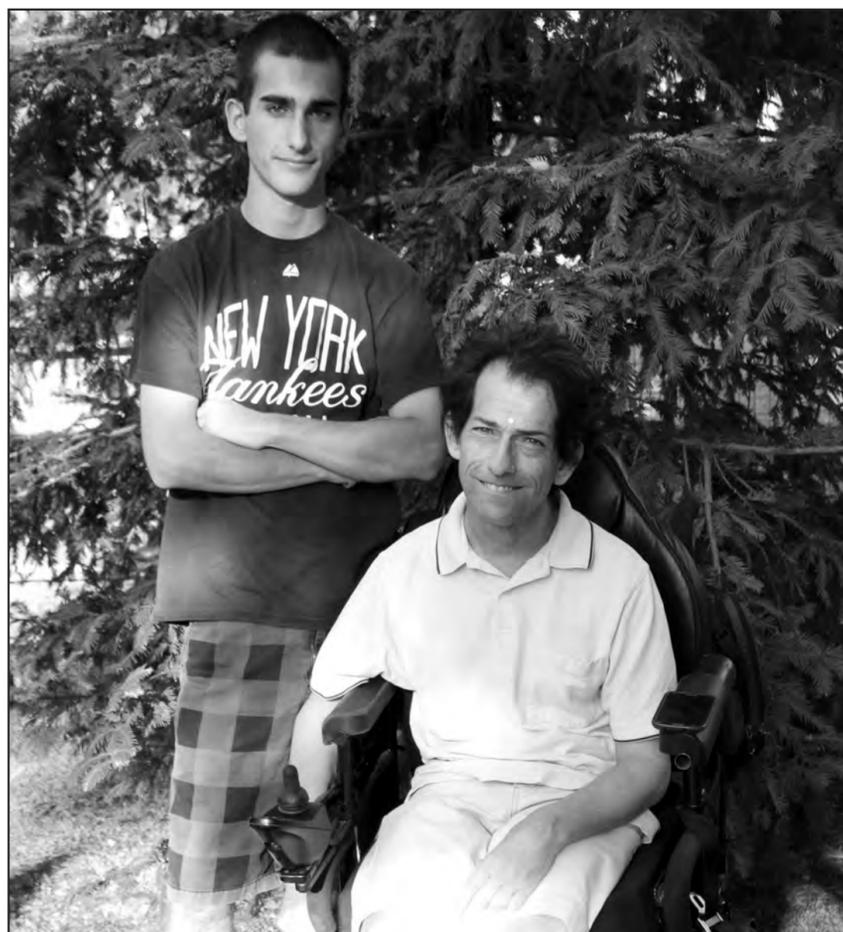
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MARTIN CHANG / THE RIP

David Mensch, right, and son Zach pose for a picture at their home in Bakersfield.

## Father and son make history on their trip

By Martin Chang  
Editor in Chief

David Mensch traveled with his son Zach from Bakersfield to Sacramento in only his wheelchair. His son rode with him on his bike.

He went on this amazing journey to prove that anyone disabled or not, can achieve what they put their mind to.

David Mensch, who has Cerebral Palsy, did the run to send a message. He wanted people to know that disabled people can do anything anyone else can.

"I wanted to raise awareness; that people with disabilities are not stuck in a house. Don't give up, keep moving forward," said David Mensch.

The run was also done because he wanted to raise money for the Kern Assistive Technology Center. He said that he raised over \$50,000 for that organization.

During their run, the father and son team took the "back roads" of California.

They both found the beauty of the northern part of the state particularly striking.

"Pass the farm houses and the river, you can see the pure beauty of the grass and the trees that grow right next to it," said Zach Mensch.

The run was also not without it's challenges. Both David and Zach described the run as "tiring." They also faced challenges like high-speed winds, mud and flat tires.

"At one point, we were hitting a 30 mph headwind," said Zach Mensch. "Adding dust to that

really doesn't work, because it kind of hurts."

For David, the most challenging part was the first day. They travelled 170 miles in 22 hours that day.

Zach Mensch thinks that without each other they would not have made it to Sacramento.

"There were a couple of moments where we were so tired we were like trying to push each other away, but we had to be there for each other. If we didn't, I don't think we would have been able to make it as far as we did, if we didn't push each other."

When David and Zach passed the 170-mile mark in Madera, they broke the world record for the most miles travelled in a motor-powered wheelchair in 24 hours.

This moment was special for David because he had graduated high school in Madera. He was the first disabled person to graduate from Madera High. He described "the whole town" being there. His parents were also there.

Zach Mensch describes breaking the world record in Madera as his most memorable moment in the run.

"[It was amazing] having so many people there, supporting him on his world record, having the support of the Madera people on his run up there."

Even as they were leaving, the town supported them.

"You can kind of tell they were rooting for us," said Zach Mensch.

"We were going over a bridge and all you hear is 'beep beep.'"

Zach felt a very strong sense of accomplishment as he reached the end of the run and when the people of Madera cheered on his father's world record.

"It's a sense of accomplishment inside. Once you get there, it's just amazing. When I got up there, I shed a tear, a tear of accomplishment," said Zach Mensch.

Throughout their run, the people of California showed their support.

"[I learned] how much support we have up and down this state. Even if they barely know you, they'll come out and support you," said Zach Mensch.

Zach tells a story about how people from a honey farm showed them a lot of kindness.

"We passed through this little honey farm and we stopped there. They came out and said 'you're that guy from the news.' I'm like 'yeah that's my dad over there and we're going to Sacramento."

"Then they're like 'wow, let me get you some honey.' It was the nicest thing ever that could ever happen."

Their record-breaking run was chronicled in the film "David and Zach's Quest to Sac."

It will debut at The Fox Theater on June 8th. Zach hopes that people seeing the film will see that anything is possible.

"Don't let anything stop you," he said. "You might not make it. Keep moving forward, even if people are telling you that you can't do it. Show the world you can do something in life. Keep pushing."

## Her time facing war

By Ruben A. Perez  
Reporter

Holocaust survivor Dorothy Greenstein was speaking at California State University of Bakersfield as the school was celebrating The Days of Remembrance.

The Days of Remembrance are to remember the events of the Holocaust. A room filled from wall to wall to hear her story greeted Greenstein. Her story is an incredible one of perseverance and hope in one of the worst tragedies in the world.

Greenstein lived in Warsaw, Poland and clearly recounted the invasion of Nazi soldiers.

"Bombs were falling and our house shook," she said. "We were lucky our house was not hit."

Days after the bombing, Nazi soldiers moved in and quickly removed the people's rights.

"I'm 8 years young, and I see the Nazis walking with the shiny boots and everyone had a gun and they were singing," she said. "The first thing they did, they announced Jewish children were not allowed to go to school."

Unfortunately, the day of the bombings Greenstein was supposed to start the third grade. Soon after Nazis started to place notices around town that people had to turn in radios. After that, only Jews had to turn in their furs and leathers.

"The Nazis knew psychologically how to get us lower and lower and we didn't expect anything else could fall."

Greenstein's father was a rabbi and also inspected meat to make sure it was kosher. In order for him to do his job, she took a knife and went one way and her father would go another. The two would meet up and she would give him the knife so he could do his job.

One day, a soldier caught on and she ran to her house and. Her mother threw all the knives out of the house. The soldiers knowing they had the right house and wanted to arrest her father. As he was not there, they took her two brothers as hostages.

To get her brothers free, her older sister took a suitcase of money to the mayor and had to bribe him to let them go.

Unfortunately, her situation worsened as her family was moved into the ghettos. Greenstein was small enough to where she was able to fit through a hole in the fence



MJ INGUITO / THE RIP

Greenstein recalls her time in the ghettos of Warsaw.

of the ghetto and was constantly sent with money to get some food for her family to eat. The people of Poland were not always complacent to let the Jews sneak out of the ghettos.

"They would catch the Jew and say all Jews have money," she said. "Give me money or I'll take you to the Nazis. If somebody didn't have the money they were taken to the Nazis to be killed."

Luckily, Greenstein's looks helped her in not getting caught.

"I have dark blue eyes, light hair, my Polish is perfect to this day, and I have a Polish face on top of it."

Originally, she only brought back small items like bread and salt, but as she grew older she became more able to sneak food into the ghetto.

When the time came to empty the ghettos to go to the work camps, her father told her to run off and find her older sister and hide with her. On her escape from the ghetto she found a small fence but didn't notice the Nazis at first.

"The Nazis were standing every few feet, but I was oblivious because I listened to my father and he said run to Rachel. The Nazi come looks at my face, blue eyes, light braids and a Polish face and he thought I'm Polish."

"The Nazi himself took me over and saved me."

When she found where her sister was hiding, she waited with them until Nazis came by to search houses with dogs. She was told she had to leave or else the Nazis would find them and punish all of them. This would be a recurring episode in her struggle to not be caught.

While hiding in a woman's cornfield, she was found by a ranger with a German Shepard. She made a quick prayer to her father, something she did often in her time hiding. The woman that owned the cornfield went outside and immediately went to Greenstein's defense and shouted at the man, "You call yourself a good Christian. I see you in a church every Sunday. Leave the child

alone' and he did."

She couldn't stay with the woman anymore and needed some sort of document that said she is actually Polish and not Jewish. Her sister had given her some money and told her to go to a woman in Krakow, Poland to get the papers. She did as instructed, and searched the cemetery for a baby who was born and had died in the same year she was born.

With this information and the little money she had, she was able to get her papers saying she was a Polish citizen, not a Jew. She went to find a job.

When she went to the woman's house she gave the woman an offer she couldn't refuse. "Keep me a month, you don't have to give me any money. If I can't do the work I'll leave."

She was hired and immediately went to work. Unfortunately, they caught on and asked if she was a Jew. Feeling she was in trouble, she left.

She bought another newspaper and found a new job working for a doctor.

She stayed with the doctor and her family a while until the city was bombed again and the city evacuated. During the evacuation she became sick and luckily they found a hospital. When they got there, the doctor claimed that Greenstein was her third child and helped her get seen by a doctor. Because of her sickness, she would have to get a shot every week; meanwhile the doctor had made plans to rent a room in a nearby village.

After the war, she got another job as a mother's helper in her hometown of Warsaw. Her sister found her and took her back home.

For years, Dorothy Greenstein had managed to avoid capture and being sent to a work camp with only a second grade education. Of her family, five of the ten had survived the holocaust.

She currently travels and tells her story to universities and also shares it at the museum of tolerance in Los Angeles where the museum is located.

## Indie game design is happening in Bakersfield's backyard

By Robin Shin  
Online Editor

Over the last decade, video games evolved in such a rapid pace in graphics and game play that the classics have, just as equally in speed, been buried.

Daniel Doan, 23, a psychology major at California State University, Bakersfield, and Trent Wiercyski, 21, a student at Orange Coast College, began to work on their project "SanctuaryRPG" about five to six months ago.

Doan, who mainly manages and works on the game, stated, "I'm currently working on polishing the current version of the game."

Wiercyski manages the art design of the game and currently the game keeps to its retro ASCII style. "(I've) just been wanting to have a chance in some art design," stated Wiercyski, "and Daniel is giving me this chance."

When asked how he got into programming and game designing, Doan stated that he always liked game design and enjoyed all facets of the process, including things like coding.



PROVIDED BY SANCTUARYRPG.COM

Daniel Doan, CSUB student, and Trent Wiercyski have created an ASCII indie game. Doan is responsible for the programming, and Wiercyski for the art of the game.

"I designed silly board games as a kid, and was always theory crafting about how I could improve on existing games," he said.

"Taking yourself to this epic world and selecting heroes that can stand a chance to defend off the monster attacks, taking loot and using what's best to your preference," answered Wiercyski when asked what their current project was about.

The game is played on a keyboard and works

through context menus. "Each button press corresponds with a skill that a player can use," stated Wiercyski.

"Also, the player uses context menu based actions to travel around in the central 'town hub.'" The "Town Hub" is the area where the player is out of combat.

"SanctuaryRPG" is a game that is played on Windows. Doan stated that it will also run on Linux

when using WINE.

As of this moment the game does not support OSX/Macintosh operating systems. Doan added, "although we may port to it in the future." Doan seemed fairly certain that these ports would be made in the near future.

Doan said that their current plan is trying to market the game to a wider audience. However, they have no concrete plans for the future, as of the time this article was written.

"We are also in the early planning stages of developing a graphical version," added Doan, "as the retro style can be a bit niche."

The plan of developing the graphical version is currently to keep it 2D, and Wiercyski stated that he had just finished up the characters.

"If you want the old school gaming feel, but something new and different, 'SanctuaryRPG' is right on target," stated Wiercyski.

Doan added to this by saying, "What 'The Artists' is to the film industry, 'SanctuaryRPG' is to the gaming industry; a look into the past."

You are able to download the current version of the game for free at [www.sanctuaryrpg.com](http://www.sanctuaryrpg.com).

## Career day showcases job options



BERNIE REJON / THE RIP

A DeVry University representative, Demetrius Henderson, informs BC students about the school on Career Day.

By Samantha Briggs  
Reporter

In this economy, unemployment is at an all time high. Things like career days and job fairs are a great way to help lower our unemployment rates. On Wednesday April 24, Bakersfield College had their annual career day. There were representatives from Target, Walgreens, to lesser-known businesses such as non-lethal defense company Damsels in Defense.

Karen, a consultant for Damsels in Defense, has been to many career days but none for BC. She is a consultant for a self-defense merchandising company geared towards women.

"I am looking for an employee that loves our products as much as I do," Karen said. "I have hired people through career day in the past and I am hoping we find someone today. We have gotten a lot of resumes."

Career day doesn't only benefit the people looking for

work, but it also benefits the companies who go, because they find new employees and receive publicity. Mayra Rodriguez, a representative with Office teams and Account Temps, has never been to a career day, but is looking forward to meeting possible candidates for her company.

"I know a few of my colleagues who have been hired through a career day. I have actually seen a few people I am considering for a clerical position," Rodriguez said. "I think this career day is great because it gives companies an opportunity to get out here to help college students who are looking for work but may not have the time to go out there."

Marcus, the store manager of Walgreens, was at the BC career day for the first time, but has been to one at Cal State Bakersfield.

"A good number of our managers have been recruited by me at CSUB," Marcus said. "We've gotten some great applicants and resumes. We think it is very

successful and it's a program we will definitely do in the future."

This was the second career day for BC student Anthony Dankur. "I have not gotten a job from a career day but I am hopeful. I am looking for an employer who is understanding and doesn't think they are above the employees," Dankur said. "I think career day is beneficial because it gets jobs out there and gives companies publicity, especially the smaller more local companies."

BC student Alexander Lung works with the job placement center.

"At job placement, we help them with resumes and interviews. We also have on-campus and off-campus jobs. There's a variety of students here at BC, from young to old, and the people who are here want to have a future for themselves," Lung said. "Career day is a good place to interact with different companies face to face, which is more beneficial than applying online."

## Sleep before finals week

By Robin Shin  
Online Editor

Instructors at Bakersfield College are required to give a final at the end of each semester, and many of them have mixed emotions and thoughts on the outcome and even the final itself.

Rosa Garza, a Chicano history professor, stated that to her any exams are important.

"It allows you to see how the students are doing," said Garza. "Mine are usually multiple choice, true and false, fill-ins."

Garza changes her finals every year due to the fact that in the previous years, a student took a copy of the exam and all the students knew the answers before the exams were given. "So I don't let them keep the exam themselves," she said.

When asked of what he thought of giving finals, Wayne Cooper, a BC chemistry professor, stated that he had mixed emotions.

"How do you really evaluate what someone gets out of your class?" stated Cooper. "Now if you had a good way to look into an individual's mind and looking at the gray cells and see what they have left there when they go out of your class, it would be easy, but in a sense then, finals are kind of a double-edged sword."

Cooper then went on to add that it is necessary to give a final and that it gives him the feel of what his students get out of his class, but his real question is: Do the finals really tell what the students got out of his class?

He also said that he doesn't expect his students to know everything about his class, because if they did then they would be the ones teaching the class, not him.

Cooper's advice to those who struggle with finals is, "start preparing the first day of class."

Jack Pierce, a BC geology and earth science professor, stated that he finds finals necessary because it looks at the student's comprehensive knowledge of the subject matter over the semester.

He gives multiple choices and essays for his finals, which doesn't really have a right answer.

"The essay questions gives how they would logically answer a question," stated Pierce. "There's a correct answer as to the logic behind it."

"We have a lot of smart students in Bakersfield College, but there is a portion of them that don't prepare and so then it looks like they don't know," said Pierce of some students who do a bad job on finals due to lack of preparation. "But I think they are bright."

Devlin Kelly, a BC biology professor and Levan Scholar, stated that she isn't sneaky when it comes to finals. "It's pretty straight forward. They know what they need to know, they know what they need to learn."

Kelly has a Twitter, Facebook and even a podcast for her lectures so that her students could get all the help they need in order to pass her class.

Both Kelly and Pierce's advice to taking a final is to get a good night sleep. Pierce shared his experience as a student.

"I remember when I was doing my bachelor's degree," he said. "I would just labor all night in terms of studying everything and anything in order to try and perform well on the final exam in San Diego State."

Pierce went on to say, "then I became a graduate student at the University of Idaho and I had my finals. I basically studied what I thought was necessary and had a good night sleep, and I did much better than I did in San Diego State. I think it's because I had a good night sleep, I really do."

## Poets share their works

By Ruben A. Perez  
Reporter

"I want to talk about what's happening in Fresno's literary scene and what isn't happening in Bakersfield enough." This was the opening remark by Fresno poet Nick Belardes at the Norman Levan Center for Humanities. Nick Belardes and five other Fresno poets came and shared their works and discussed the literary community in Fresno.

"What's interesting about this group of guest poets isn't that they are accomplished Fresnoans who have been published in many journals and books and who between them have edited more than a few literary journals.

They aren't just writers who happen to live in the same locale, they are friends," said Belardes on the poets in the Fresno literary community. "We have fun, we celebrate each others works, we break bread, we visit, we explore each others cities to-

gether. We build community." Belardes continued by commenting on the Bakersfield literary scene. "The reality, Bakersfield's literary community is small and fragmented. There are pockets here and there. As a collective, it truly has yet to be seen."

He asked, "If you don't write your narrative, somebody will do for you. Do you want to be defined by 'The Grapes of Wrath' forever?"

"The arts in Bakersfield may need to grow in their willingness to believe in words just as much as paint, but instead of looking at what's wrong, lets look at what Fresno is doing right," he added.

"There's a literary scene you can fight for. It's in Fresno. It's in Modesto. It's in Bakersfield. It's the central valley where all the scenes blend into one region. This event this evening, a Bakersfield Fresno reading, and it isn't an easy fight or I wouldn't be talking about it.

"This area need literary cul-

ture banding together. What comes out of your mouth are words and not paintings so we, would be proud of our valley's poets," he added.

Michael Luis Medrano read selections from his book "Born In The Cavity Of Sunsets." His poems kept reflect his life and community in Fresno.

He even used his poetry to call out the Bulldogs, a violent gang based in Fresno. "My cousin, he was murdered in a drive by shooting in West Fresno. "It turns out it was a case of mistaken identity. They mistook my cousin for somebody else. This is my response to the Bulldog, calling out the Bulldog."

Andre Yang, a Hmong poet, not only uses poetry to express his feelings about his culture, he also uses it to express the world around him.

Poet S. Brian Medina expressed the same feelings, "I think it's our job, as writers, to document what's going on in our lives."

"We are the reporters that



MJ INGUITO / THE RIP

Lee Herrick reads a poem from his poetry book "Gardening Secrets Of the Dead" at the Levan Center.

keep tabs on history to give history a different tilt and keep it honest and truthful.

If you're not an honest writer you shouldn't be doing it," he said before he recited a poem about the bombings at the Boston Marathon.

All of the poets continued on with themes of community, and identity as Fresno writers and as writers from the valley.

Belardes encourages the Bakersfield writers to come together and even helps by running the Random Writers Workshops

in town. Veronica Madrigal and Nicole Biggs, who were at the Norman Levan Center for Humanities, are members and went to support the writing community.

"We like to be a part of the poet community," said Madrigal. "We were actually both published in the book '(In)Visible Memoirs,'" said Briggs. "There's a very strong community in Fresno and I think that people in Bakersfield want that community."

The Random Writers Workshop can be found on Facebook.

## Boles gives motivational speech at leadership conference

Right: Derrick Boles, the keynote speaker at the SGA leadership conference, talks to the audience about the concept of leadership.



SHARIDA REJON / THE RIP

By Adam Cree  
Reporter

The Student Government Association held a leadership conference on campus April 19 highlighted by a motivational speech from Derrick Boles and followed by workshops.

Sonya Christian started the event with a speech emphasizing the values of overcoming fear. Then a game of bingo, with squares that held questions, was played as an "icebreaker." Boles, founder of Leadership 1st, took the podium.

Speaking to a crowd of 100 about a lack of the "currency of trust," he challenged the audience to be what is lacking and become leaders. "Leaders," Boles stressed, "have to be authentic. They must have vision, able to see the outcome before it happens. What is your vision?"

Boles said loyalty is invaluable, as is education, to "make your vision become reality." Boles also emphasized the need for accountability, discipline, empowerment, respect, service honesty, perseverance and integrity, adding that they were lacking in our society today. Boles, as part of his "Stand up America" initiative, rode 1,892 miles from San Diego to New Orleans on an ElliptiGo.

An ElliptiGo is a combination elliptical cycle and regular bicycle. Averaging 50-80 miles a day, the trip took him a total of three months. "You have a unique opportunity to change the reality you see happening," said Boles about the trip.

"You are going to influence

somebody. The question is how. To get where you want you have to put your head down and just go," said Boles. "When you have to pedal over, the value of a mountain changes."

After the speech, a break was called before the students present set off to various workshops being held around campus. In the Executive Board Room, Tawntannisha Thompson taught "How to Train Your X-Men," which teaches you how to tap into your "inner superhero," and get things done. In the Fireside Room, Danitza Romo and Erin Robinson presented a workshop on "What's your Personality Color?"

The workshop helps students identify their personality types and enhance their ability to interact with others. In the Collins Center, Nick Acosta gave a workshop on "the 3 Day Challenge and Better Grades in Less Time," a discussion on ways to improve focus, learn how to improve memory, and how sleep and diet effect focus and how to be not afraid of failure. In the Game Room, Derrick Kenner taught "Fear to Fire-walker: Tools to Transform Your Life."

The purpose of that workshop was to empower yourself through your thoughts and experiences to propel you to your goals. The last workshop, in the Veterans' Lounge, was "Diversity," and was taught by Rudy Strong and Marshel Blackmon.

The purpose was to learn how to interact productively and responsibly with people who are different.

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## Speaker reveals details on Area 51's shady past

By Adam Cree  
Reporter

At Minter Field in Shafter, something out of this world was talked about on Saturday at Minter Field in Shafter. About 150 people attended a lecture about the declassified history of Area 51.

Speaking at the Minter Field Air Museum, Peter Merlin gave a lecture about the history of Area 51. His latest book, titled "Dreamland: Secrets of Area 51," covers thousands of recently declassified government documents about the site and its history.

In the early '50s, due to fear of Russian planes and nukes, the

CIA and Air Force teamed up with Lockheed Martin's "Skunkworks" division to produce a high-altitude reconnaissance plane to spy on the Russians. They chose a location away from prying eyes. The first airstrip at Groom Lake, the eventual site of Area 51, cost a mere \$832,000 according to Merlin.

Area 51 is 85 miles outside of Las Vegas and right next door to the Yucca Flat. In fact, Area 51 is downwind from the site and was under construction and early use while Yucca Flat was still being used as a testing ground for nuclear weapons.

Originally dubbed by the workers as "Paradise Ranch" but officially named "Watertown,"

the Area 51 test facility was home to the first U-2 spy planes and was their testing ground.

In 1960, Francis Gary Powers' U-2 was shot down over the United Soviet States of Russia (USSR). Project Oxcart began in order to design the A-12 a precursor to the SR-71.

In 1959, according to Merlin, EG&G built a radar cross section (RCS) to study the radar signature of mock-up designs for the next reconnaissance plane. Full-scale models were tested on a 50-foot pole, built out of welded together destroyer propeller shafts.

From September 1960 to June 1964, a new runway was built at Area 51 for the A-12. This new

runway was 85,000 feet long. Support aircraft for the project, chase planes and refueling aircraft began arriving in 1962. At the time, all the security around the base was contracted to private security firms.

A fire station to deal with air crashes was built and manned at all times as well as a meteorological office to study the weather patterns.

The A-12, according to Merlin, had its first test flight in 1962 at Area 51. In 1967, testing began on the D21 Tagboard. A small, unmanned aircraft would be dropped from a modified A-12. It would then fly to a preprogrammed destination, take photographs then fly to a designated

zone, dropping off the camera and film before self-destructing.

Testing went on through 1971 before being cancelled for two reasons according to Merlin. A D21 crashed into its launching A-12, killing the pilots. The other reason was that the military could never recover the jet-tisoned camera suit. Not only was the plane lost but so was the information it had gathered.

Area 51 also hosts a very important project for the military, says Merlin. Since the 1970s, the U.S. Air Force has been testing the capabilities of Russian and foreign aircraft at Area 51 in mock dogfights. This continues today.

Aside from supposed aliens,

Area 51 has had a major controversy in the past 30 years. In 1989, hundreds of workers at the site filed suit against the federal government over health concerns about toxic waste being burned in pits at the site. In reaction, President Clinton sealed Area 51 from the Freedom of Information act and other means of gaining information about the site.

One of the last publically known things about Area 51 is a land seizure. In 1995, the federal government seized 5,000 acres of land. The reason was so that people couldn't climb a local peak and look down on the base. Actions such as those had caused the cancelation of dozens of test flights in the previous years.

## TILLIS: Incoming president hopeful

Continued from Page 1

the student-teacher relationship stronger and to make an impact while serving his term.

After attending Dallas County Community District in Dallas, Texas, Tillis transferred to BC as an industrial arts major.

He said that he immediately loved BC because it pushed him and that he prefers the education system here in California as opposed to in Texas.

"The education system here is above the system back there," he said.

Tillis has had his share of struggles not only in school but also in other aspects of life. His strife has taught him so much, he said, motivating him to help give back.

"I'm a guy who has experienced a lot of hardships in life. I grew up very poor and experienced some things a young man shouldn't experience," he said. "My main thing is to try to give back to the community and mentor the young men who are coming up so they won't make the same mistakes I've made."

"Not only young men but the young women because the young women dictate how the young men move...whatever they like is what the men are gonna like."

This is Tillis's third semester at BC. He began attending school here in the spring of 2012 after moving from his hometown in New Orleans to Texas then finally here to Bakersfield.

He started going to college at the age of 17 and is now 33 years old. Despite what others may

think, Tillis said that he is proud of what he has accomplished and is not planning on prolonging his success anytime soon.

"I feel good. I feel young. This is the best time of my life actually," he said.

He also lamented on the challenges of being a student.

"You will be tested but you have to stick with it and graduate. It's all about completion," he said. "It's not where you started. It's where you finish."

One thing Tillis is big on is being alert and doing things to help out the community. Although he is studying to become a civil engineer, he aspires to be a public speaker or preacher for his future career, following the ways of one of his role models Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Some of his other role models include Bill Clinton, Tony Robbins, Ellen G. White and T.D Jakes.

In spite of this being Tillis' first time serving as SGA president, the leadership position is not all new to him as this semester he has been serving as president of the African American Student Union. He is also active in the math club.

While in office, he plans on working with his team members and finding out what effective methods can be useful to help students excel and increase the retention rate. He also plans on continuing the new and old programs that SGA has implemented at BC that were effective for students. Tillis says he is looking forward to what the future year has in store.



PRISCILLA DAUVEN / THE RIP

Incoming SGA president Travis Tillis greets current president Danitza Romo. This is Travis Tillis' third semester at BC. He said, "I feel good. I feel young."

## Ladies shine at local event

By Alana Garrett  
Reporter

Business women and many others alike gathered at the 2013 Bakersfield Women's Business Conference.

The Bakersfield Women's Business Conference was April 18, at the Rabobank Arena.

This year's conference had the theme "nurturing brighter futures."

The conference started off with a continental breakfast and a kickoff speech from Lynda Resnick, an entrepreneur and billionaire.

Resnick owns POM Wonderful and Fiji water brands.

After the speech, the attendees were free to roam the conference and visit with the various vendors and businesses that were in attendance. Vendors offered information and even some free services such as the Brazilian Wax Boutique that gave out free eyebrow waxes.

Kelly 95.3 radio hosts Danny Hill and Niki Reyes were in attendance at the event interviewing a few of the speakers and workshop presenters.

The conference also had workshops that were presented by successful businesswomen like Denise Winston, author of the book "Money Starts Here!"

Winston held a workshop on saving finances.

Marian Cadwell, 33, an attendee to the event said, "Denise's tips were very useful." Cadwell also went on to say that "I'm going to buy her book, it seemed like it could be very useful."

During the lunch at the conference, attendees were entertained by E! News reporter Giuliana Rancic.

Rancic is a star of the reality show "Guiliana and Bill."

Rancic told a very inspirational and emotional story about her battle with infertility and breast cancer.

Rancic ended her speech by encouraging the attendees to "Do what you love, but also do what your good at."

Perla Veloz, 19, a business major at Bakersfield College, said, "I feel motivated by Guiliana's speech. I didn't know what to expect, but I'm glad I was able to learn something."

The conference ended with a closing speech from Robin Mangarin-Scott a former KGET Channel 17 news anchor and was sponsored by many companies including State Farm and Chevron.

The event is held annually. For more information go to their website www.bakersfieldwomen.org.

## GARDEN: Festival gets a good turnout for the day

Continued from Page 1

cal cities. "I was looking at a little kid who was here earlier, just a baby, and I thought, you're going to be here at BC [someday] and you'll see that oak grow," said Gomez-Heitzberg.

Retired BC professor Dale Gradek, who attends Garden Fest every year to help attendees with their garden and planting questions, agreed that this live oak is a great tree to represent BC's history and future.

"The live oak grows very well," Gradek said of the tree, which can live up to be 200 years and older. "It's a native California tree...it's an evergreen, and it keeps its leaves all year long."

College president Sonya Christian said it was an amazing feeling to be back at BC for its centennial, particularly at this event.

"I met many of my old friends when I was here as a faculty member, and these individuals retired, but they came back to BC," Christian said. "Some are not even living in the area but they made sure they came here for the Garden Fest."

She said it was her understanding that this was the largest turnout BC has ever had for this event.



SHARIDA REJON / THE RIP

Event attendees of all ages browse the various plants for sale during the Garden Fest held on April 20.

## SMOKING: Potential policy may be left unresolved as summer break approaches

Continued from Page 1

"I did talk to her [Sonya Christian] and she said she has mentioned it to the board of trustees and the chancellor, and said that it is going over well," said Acosta referring to his conversations with the BC president.

"She says that they like the idea and they want to come for-

ward with it, but as a district wide policy," said Acosta about his informal talks with the president.

"The only issue seems to be that, if we do that, we are slowing down the progress that we are making now."

"If that is the case, it might not happen in the fall, because they [Porterville and Cerro Coso Col-

leges] must approve the same policy."

Acosta has plans to urge the board of trustees and the BC chancellor to make some type of decision before he leaves his post with SGA, saying that although he is confident that new members will pick up the policy, he wants to see it through.

"What she [Sonya Christian] wants me to do is talk to the board of trustees," Acosta noted this as being a perspective informal meeting.

"To give them a run through of everything we have done with the policy so far, put pressure on them and say, 'it would be nice if we could get all three, but we want to move

forward with BC now. If it goes well at BC, they can jump on board later."

Incoming SGA President Travis Tillis gave a vote of confidence for confirming the ultimate end of the policy.

"If it gets caught up, I will personally make sure that the policy sees it to the end," said Tillis.

## Cell phone lives up to name

By **Graham C Wheat**  
Features Editor

Boost Mobile's newest Android powered smart phone may be the answer to saving a phone from your drunken college escapades and general clumsiness.

Aptly named, the Kyocera Hydro will survive the trials of any bumbling college student whose phone seems to be inexplicably attracted to anything liquid.

The water-resistant device might just save you from the pain and hassle of a water logged personal assistant.

Immediately upon receiving the phone my only thought was, "This thing is turning into the Kyocera SCUBA, and he will dive a lot."

The rigorous life a college student demanded such a thought and likewise, some trials that reflected that life.

Also, who doesn't want to put a phone in water-related items and see what happens?

The first test reflected what

might happen on a daily basis, simply called the spill test.

The beverage of choice for the spill test was, naturally, every college student's favorite drink, beer.

While the phone lay on its back, it was bathed in a small puddle of beer on my kitchen counter for about three minutes.

Text messages continued to roll in with no apparent problems, the Hydro all the while buzzing away, creating some interesting ripple effects in the puddle of amber nectar.

The only problem was wasting a half glass of beer.

After the phone performed so admirably in an everyday occurrence test, the severity of conditions needed to be increased.

The next test, the deluge, required an audience and a control margin.

This test was proposing holding the phone directly under a running faucet on full blast

while recording video. The control would be an old iPhone that merely turned on.

The Hydro was completely drenched, my sister exclaiming, "You're going to have to pay for that!"

Even after being under running water for approximately one minute, the video continued to record and didn't miss a beat.

The iPhone was turned on, the water started, phone soaked. The iPhone struggled for about 10 seconds the circuits frying and promptly faded to the black screen it started with.

Everyone gathered around to watch the tests was quite pleased and impressed, one remark coming from a friend, "Not so cool now, are you iPhone!"

For the final test, submersion was necessary to really test its water resistant capabilities. This simulated toilet drop was by far the most fun.

A bucket was filled with about nine inches of water and placed on a stool at what I deemed to be toilet height. I started six applications, told all my friends to text

me at once, and played a song called "Breathing Underwater" by Metric.

For six minutes, the little phone that could was the Kyocera SCUBA.

It didn't miss a beat. It continued to buzz at the bottom of the bucket from music and text messages while friends and family took bets on when it would die out.

With a grin, the phone was removed, shaken dry a bit, and made a long distance call like it had been in my pocket the whole time.

Although the manufacturer said the phone is capable of withstanding 30 minutes of submersion, I thought this was enough to display its capabilities.

The only other test I would have like to perform is a Slip N' Slide test, but that would be more for my own benefit.

Looking at the technical and performance specifications of the Hydro, the phone performs as to be expected from a low-end smart phone. It is rather small, with a three-and-a-half-inch



PRISCILLA DAUVEN / THE RIP

The Hydro by Kyocera from Boost Mobile is waterproof.

screen and no slide-out keyboard. Although a full pop-out keyboard would defeat a water-resistant device so I won't count that against the Hydro.

While the processor stuttered when running high demand applications, it moderately performed the required tasks of a college student's phone in other realms.

Applications like Facebook and Youtube ran, but there were small hiccups with loading times and refresh issues.

The 3.2-megapixel camera has video and a flash, but is nowhere

near the quality of high-end phones. It too was run-of-the-mill.

Call quality and messaging is shoddy, but those features do indeed work.

Boost Mobile, who is known for their affordability and accessibility rather than call quality, is the culprits for this.

It is not some design flaw in the phone, so I didn't count that against it either.

Overall, this phone is perfect for college students on a budget who have a hard time keeping their phones dry.



## Muertos Kitchen leaves people wanting to return

By **Ruben A. Perez**  
Reporter

Muertos Kitchen and Lounge downtown is a great place to get a great meal at a great price.

The first thing to note about Muertos is its relaxed and comfortable atmosphere. The lights are dimmed to just the right amount of light, and the brick walls are covered with magazine covers and pictures of rock stars that came to Bakersfield.

Before my companions and I

ordered our food, we were served chips with an amazing halibut salsa that was made at the restaurant. I can't think of another word that describes how great the salsa was, but it was amazing.

When it comes to food, Muertos offers a great variety of food including burgers, salads and tacos. I went with the Hudson. The Hudson is a cheeseburger with bacon and a fried egg on top. I ordered a burger because that's really the best way to size up a new restaurant. If a restaurant can't make a good burger, how can you expect them to make anything else well.

I can't come close to describing how awesome the Hudson is.



MJ INGUIITO / THE RIP

Top left: Muertos halibut salsa with homemade chips. Right: Ruben Perez gives a thumbs up after being served.

If it were possible for my mouth and that burger to high five each other, that's what would have happened.

The awesomeness of the burger made it more than worth the nine dollars it's priced at. Another perk to Muertos is how inexpensive it is. All of the food is around ten dollars and it doesn't

disappoint.

The whole experience, from arriving to leaving, well exceeded any expectations.

It's a place you're going want to go back to because it's got everything you would want from a restaurant.

Muertos is located at 1514 Wall Street.

## Cudi's inner thoughts provide career best

By **Martin Chang**  
Editor in Chief

Kid Cudi is embracing his inner weirdness with his third album "Indicud" like he never has before.

He has created a new sound, a slowed down, pot-soaked groove that through bass lines and sounds that seem to come from outer space, taps into the dark space in Cudi's mind that he's been rapping about his whole career. All the sounds on "Indicud" add up to a view of that dark space, from the discordance of the guitars on "Unfuckwithable" and "Young Lady," to the strange, startling synths on "Just What I Am" and "King Wizard" that fill up your headphones.

The bass sounds though, are what really give the album it's crazy, mind expanding view into Kid Cudi. The bass is played thick and backwards. It's played in fast rapid-fire bleeps. Sometimes it's played slow and smooth.

These bass lines are given even more impact by drum patterns.

The patterns are never too busy and with every well-placed snare hit, the drama in Cudi's mind is that much more in your face.

All those sounds, the guitars, the synths, the bass, give Cudi's mumbling, occasionally yelled, vocal and rapping style clarity. As he raps through his verses about madness and acid filled darkness, his words make sense like they never have before.

His voice wraps around the crazy sounds of the record and it just fits. His esoteric lyrics about the ground and sky combining feel right with the music.

The meanings of his words don't seem out there or strange. Behind the backwards bass and spacey synths his words feel at home, like they are right where they belong.

It all adds up to an album that is surprisingly uncompromising. There are no songs like "I make her Say" that Cudi just threw out there for radio play.

For almost the entire album, Cudi expresses the sounds in his head. He doesn't care that those sounds were filled with weird bass lines and vocal samples. He doesn't care that those sounds don't play perfectly next to Top 40 radio songs.

Yet the best song on the album is a song that doesn't fit the mold of the rest of the album, a song that would make sense on the radio.

"Immortal" is that song, and the backwards sounds and the screeching guitars are held back. He is singing throughout the whole song. It is the most normal sounding song on the record.

Yet the way Cudi sings about finding hope after darkness is a new career high for him. The passion in his voice is powerful. He is not singing like a traditional pop star. He still has kept his style, but with this song he found that special something that emerges in musicians, that special something that makes them sing their heart out anyway they know how.

In this song, you feel him in a way that anyone can understand. The feeling is universal in the way all great music is.

"Immortal" is the only song on "Indicud" that has that feeling. The listener is left wondering if he had other songs where that voice comes out.

Instead the weird sound of the rest of the album dominates. That sound may be great, but if he has more songs like "Immortal" left on the cutting room floor he should have mixed those in.

But that might be missing the point. With "Indicud" Kid Cudi has made the music he wants to make; he is expressing what he wants to express.

By sticking to his guns, he has expressed the themes of his career better than he ever has. He just needs to focus on music like "Immortal" later in his career.

## Poor performance from Cruise; 'Oblivion' not worth it

By **Alana Garrett**  
Reporter

Joseph Kosinski's "Oblivion" is confusing, strange, and left me oblivious.

Kosinski who directed the film "Tron: Legacy" has tried his directing skills at another sci-fi film "Oblivion". The film stars A-list actor Tom Cruise who is known for his exceptional acting skills, and action movies, but "Oblivion" is a disappointment added to

Cruise's resume'.

Usually I don't mind paying \$10 to get into a movie, and usually I don't mind sitting two hours through a movie, but with "Oblivion" I was angry.

The first hour of the film is just Cruise, who plays Jack Harper, narrating the story of how Earth went through a battle with aliens known as the scavengers.

Harper who is now known as the clean up crew has stayed on Earth to protect resources needed for the new planet where all other humans reside.

The first hour is particularly boring since the only person you

see is pretty much only Cruise.

For a while I forgot what the movie was about and I didn't even think of Cruise as Harper but as Tom Cruise.

Cruise tried to display emotions but they didn't seem real and he spent most of the movie looking confused.

The real acting came when Morgan Freeman and Olga Kurylenko showed up. Freeman starred as Malcom Beech and Kurylenko as Julia. Freeman showed his exceptional acting skills.

Although he had fewer scenes than Cruise in the movie, the act-

ing seemed genuine. Kurylenko even surprised me as she made her on screen chemistry with Cruise look more legitimate.

Some pros to the movie were the scenes had great graphics and the destroyed Earth looked believable, but those are the only pros.

The film ends with a confusing ending and twist that had a lot of unanswered questions. I'm guessing that probably went into oblivion as well.

Not a film I would recommend to many people, just wait until it hits DVD and decided if you want to watch it.



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

## Preventing finals disaster

By Robin Shin  
Online Editor

We all know that finals week is coming up, and this being my last semester at Bakersfield College, I can recall many memories as to how some of the people around me would study for their finals.

I had friends who did the traditional idea of studying alone with the occasional help of their professors.

There were those who created study groups in order to somehow get knowledge together and then there was me, the last minute study person.

There were those who panicked, like me, or there were those who tried to cram it all, like me, or even create the devious plan of cheating their way through, not like me.

As I've talked to many professors through the college classes I've taken, I have received a lot of advice.

Some of the best advice was to get a good night sleep after studying.

Well let's just say that I normally can't sleep when I am physically stressing over the fact that I must pass a certain final in order to pass a certain class.

Then there was other advice, such as study the review sheet after you get it, don't push it to the end. Now this, I actually followed and at time, gave me the results I wanted for the class.

Then there was the advice I got from my younger sister. She would say things such as gulp down Red Bulls and cram it all up until four in the morning. That is advice I wouldn't want anyone to take.

I found that if I wanted the best results in a final, it would be best to study the review sheets or even go over your tests and quizzes you got back from the previous weeks and months.

Now I may not be a straight A student, but

the best advice and the only advice I rarely took, is to get a good night sleep.

I guess the best way to really put a person in point of view is that, if you don't get enough sleep, you don't get your work done right. Have you tried to drive down the I-5 freeway half asleep?

You might have, but that is really life threateningly dangerous. Have you tried to finish a round of capture the flag on the video game "Team Fortress 2" at 4 in the morning with little sleep?

I tried, and failed not only myself, but also my entire team miserably.

Now think of both of those and put it into your finals, there's no way you can take your final with little sleep.

So as a student who used to dread finals week, cram for finals week and hated finals week, I give advice I got from professors to you, please, sleep well, study hard and I hope that everyone will do well on their finals.



PRISCILLA DAUVEN / THE RIP



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## Flags for Boston divide opinion

### PRO

By Adam Cree  
Reporter

Deplorable: the only word to describe the Boston Marathon Bombing.

Now, one brother responsible is dead and the other is in a hospital in police custody. Having sustained multiple gunshot wounds, including one to the throat, the last suspect has to write to communicate, a small comfort to those who can no longer walk.

When Whitney Houston died, the White House flew the American flag at half-mast, symbolizing that a tragedy has occurred.

I ask, is it really a national tragedy when an entertainer dies? No. Sad?

For some, but when innocent people are bombed at an international event that is a tragedy.

Innocent lives were lost and people were maimed. Families were devastated and a peaceful event has been forever stained by bloodshed and horror.

People who were there for no political reason, who were simply cheering and having a good time, now have to relearn to walk.

They have to learn how to forget the trauma, to try and move past nightmares. In more ways than one, many lives were shattered on that day.

It is also a massive blow to our national pride. How could we let this happen? Isn't this what the Department of Homeland Security get's it's blank check for?

This isn't a question of if the flags should be flown at half-mast, but in-

stead for how long. For those who say differently, I ask, why?

Why shouldn't we mourn the loss of innocent American lives?

If we can't mourn for members of our own nation, does that mean our aid around the world in times of disaster is hypocrisy?

Why is it okay to lower our flags for a crack user singer but not a terrorist attack on our own soil?

Lowering the flag to half-mast is deeply symbolic for our nation. If this isn't a situation that deserves it to express our collective sadness and grief, then nothing is.

Like 9/11, this should be an event that unifies the USA. Instead, it will divide us further, another blow to our national identity, another wedge in our politics. Perhaps that is reason enough to fly the flag at half-mast.

While the news will forget this event in a few months, the families of those hurt never will.

For them, this event will never end. They will be reminded of it every time they see their loved ones' scars.

Every time they watch a friend tremble at recalling the event, they will be reminded.

Hopefully, through them, we can all remember the tragedy this was. Flying our flags at half mast is the simplest way we, as a nation, have to say, "We're with you, every step of the way."

Anything less would be a disgrace and show our joke of "unity" as that, the farce that it is.

### CON

By Mitchell De Leon  
Reporter

Following the Boston Marathon bombings, we should treat the past events with utmost care and respect for everyone.

I believe that flying a flag half-mast is disrespectful to the victims of other tragedies, as if implying that one tragedy is more tragic than the rest.

Incidents with much higher casualties occurred recently. For example, the explosion of a Texas fertilizer plant received much less attention even though its death toll was higher.

Horrifying and senseless acts of violence occur in our country on a daily basis, but the victims remain faceless and nameless because the scale of the violent acts does not match up to bombings at a famed marathon.

Outside the borders of our nation, we have our armed forces risking their lives. Therefore, we should also honor each life lost in those costly wars, but despite our patriotism, the vast majority of those brave individuals become statistics with many untold stories.

When we return our flags back to their normal state, we're signaling the end of the mourning period, at least for the people who were not directly affected by the bombings.

We're signaling our return to apathy toward victims of any tragedy.

This apathy is only natural. We shrug off the many terror incidents outside our country because we believe that we have successfully insulated our country from them.

Our apathy stems from our culture, but

that doesn't mean it should be acceptable. The Boston incident is unique because the perpetrators, as we have learned, had a political and ideological agenda that previously inflicted our country with immense sorrow; hence, we use the word "terrorists" to describe them.

The tragedy at Boston affects us more than the explosion of the Texas fertilizer plant or any other recent incident, within or outside our country, because it succeeds in sending the terrorists' chilling message: This can happen to you.

For instance, only a week after the Boston bombings, Canadian authorities announced that they thwarted a plot to derail a train headed to New York City.

We will never be truly secure despite all the preventive measures that we have already taken and the measures that we will likely enact in the near future.

Individuals like the Tsarnaev brothers will continue in their attempts to penetrate our morale and to punctuate the history of our country.

By lowering our flags, we're allowing these terrorists to propel their message more than they already have.

Over time, we will forget the names Dzhokhar and Tamerlan Tsarnaev, instead remembering them with one word that one of their uncles famously used to describe them: losers.

Unfortunately, we will also forget the names Krystle Campbell, Lu Lingzi, Martin Richard and Sean Collier along with the 298 individuals injured.

We should honor all of these victims but not with a ceremony that doesn't include victims of lesser-known tragedies.

Staff Editorial

## Vote reveals biased views

This whole semester, everyone has been focusing on the pending smoking policy. Bakersfield College Student Government Association held a vote, and the students have spoken. The board is now taking the necessary steps for a tobacco-free campus.

Now that's great. This is what the student body wants. We just hope people didn't vote that way for the wrong reason. It's understandable if people voted for the policy because they dislike walking into a cloud of smoke after getting out of class.

We fear people may have voted for the policy not for the cigarette but because of the smoker. It's something to think about. It is unclear when people started looking down upon smokers, but it seems that as a society we have deemed them inconsiderate and an unhealthy group.

The general thought process of non-smokers is why does anyone want to do something that is obviously unhealthy. It's incomprehensible. People feel they have a right to voice their concerns when more often than not it's unwanted.

We're not saying we are pro-smoking or anti-smoking, we just feel the need to point out the difference. That difference is from disapproving of the product to disapproving of the user of that product. This seems elementary to say, but people shouldn't be judging other people on their vices, so to speak.

There is an unfair bias here. When someone finds out someone else is a smoker, the first emotion is disappointment.

That tune changes when someone finds out someone's a drinker or pot smoker, the emotion is passive. What makes other vices so much better than using tobacco?

So as the school board mulls over the pending smoking policy, we ask students to think about why they voted and if it was for reasons not contaminated by society's view of what's deemed acceptable.

### 'GADE FEEDBACK "What are your plans for the summer?"

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

Compiled by:  
Graham C Wheat/The Rip



Annie Theison, Child Development: "I have no entertaining plans, sorry."



Dennis Castro, Psychology: "Review my mathematics for the coming semester."



Josh Trampe, Psychology: "Just work, I need money for books next semester."



Michele Lujon, Human Services: "I am going to Colorado."



MoeMo Gentry, Undecided: "To get a summer job and have fun with my friends and family."

## Acceptance comes with loss

By Ruben A. Perez  
Reporter

I feel that I'm a very fortunate person. As a gay person in a conservative town, for the most part, I've never really felt that uncomfortable being who I am.

There are only two times that I've really felt weird being gay, and that all began with me coming out.

The first person I came out to ended up doing me wrong. For all intents and purposes we'll call this person John, because I don't actually know anyone named John and I don't really want people to judge him, even though what he did was a dick move.

We had been friends throughout high school and became closer friends during senior year. That was the summer I came out. I was nervous and I thought, "Well if I'm going to tell anyone he seems like a great person to start with."

We had hung out all night and then, right before I went into my house, I told him. John acted like

he was very supportive which was great.

He encouraged me to come out to my family as soon as possible, and I figured he was on my side so I wasn't that worried. They were cool with it and I was so excited I texted John and told him what happened.

I heard nothing in response, which I thought was weird because he usually responded right away. I told more people, and as my confidence rose I kept wondering why he hadn't texted me back.

He didn't answer my calls and unfriended me from both Facebook and MySpace. At the time, most of my friends were in that transition phase where we used both.

When I came out to one of our mutual friends, he told me something I couldn't believe.

John had told him that he had to choose which one of us he wanted to hang out with because

we were no longer friends.

This struck me straight out of left field. When I talked to him he seemed absolutely fine. I thought about what happened in the last few days that made him not want to be friends with me. The last time we talked ended

tend to be pretty chill with most things you tell them. I've been fortunate enough that my family supports me and my friends don't really care who I sleep with.

I've actually never gotten any flack about being gay until a few months ago at my job.

I typically work the back drive through window at a food restaurant and take people's orders.

Sometimes I'll say dumb things like "you're the boss applesauce" and other fun things in high pitched

or other ridiculous voices to customers as they order their food. It keeps me, and whoever is within listening distance, entertained.

One night when this woman pulled up to the window the man in the passenger seat shouted, "You need to stop sounding so gay. We can't be having that faggot shit."

**"He encouraged me to come out to my family as soon as possible, and I figured he was on my side so I wasn't that worried. They were cool with it and I was so excited that I texted John and told him what happened."**

**—Ruben A. Perez,  
Reporter**

with me coming out.

He was the black cloud on my day. After that, I was afraid to tell more people. I decided I wouldn't tell people unless they asked. Luckily the people I ended up telling were all pretty cool with the whole gay thing.

My high school friends were actually very indifferent. Stoners

## Finding relief through music

By Martin Chang  
Editor in Chief

When I decided to write about my songwriting process for this page, I originally was going to tell you, the audience, that writing songs is not that big of a deal.

That it's really just putting a few chords together and singing a melody on top.

That still is true, and it's how I write songs, but sometimes the stars align and those simple chords and melody can mean so much more.

What changed was I wrote a song that I feel is special and means the whole world to me.

It's a song that defines what I was going through emotionally at the time. It defined the thoughts I was thinking. It put into words and music something I've been struggling to define for years.

"Some Nights" by fun., and Tegan and Sara's "Heartthrob" were inspiring me at a time when I really needed it.

The music on those albums recognizes the pain and hardships of life but also have a message of overcoming those obstacles.

They tell the story of how much more brilliant life can feel when you overcome it.

I had a lot of nervous energy going into the semester about being editor in chief and it manifested as a sort of frozen feeling, but those two albums melted those feelings away.

So those two albums were in my head, and it manifested in the song. I had also seen Susan Cain's TED talk about the power of introverts and it got me

thinking about the very common theme in my music, the theme of the world in my head. It's something I've been writing about for years.

What I'm trying to capture in those songs is something about me. I find myself absorbed and inspired by things that may not be a big deal to other people.

Things like the

way the clouds look in the sky or the way a woman's voice soars in a pop song. I must have written at least 25 songs with that theme and it's some of my favorite music that I write.

But this song defined that feeling better my previous ever did. I wrote the song on a Sunday afternoon. I had not played guitar in months so I wasn't expecting much. After some time I started strumming a chord progression I liked, many of my songs start out that way. Often though, I struggle with those songs,

because my best songs usually happen all at once, music and words.

Once I got the music down, I wasn't expecting much. I thought to myself "it might not turn out that good, but it's good practice."

Then those words and the forcefulness that I was singing the words with started to surprise me. I was singing about the trials of my life, my heart and soul in a way that made more sense to me than it ever had. I was singing with a confidence that Tegan and Sara and fun. had taught me.

I was embracing my inner world like Susan Cain said that I should. When the word freedom popped into my mind as the focus of the chorus, it made sense. I knew I was taking that frozen feeling and making something special with it, something of value.

Then I went back to develop the verses some more, and a magical moment happened. I needed a line to match the

opening line "As I walk the trials of my life/ I feel it in my soul" I had gone as far "I'll use my notes and my words." It's a very common sentiment in my songs. So I need something to complete the thought. Usually, I fill that last part with some kind of metaphor or example.

myself felt in tune with creativity.

I was feeling the shocking power of music in my bones.

This shocking feeling opened up my mind. It made my room wildly clear like I could see the energy in the air. It may be cliché to say the feeling was indescribable, but it was.

As I was writing the song, I was summarizing my life, all my feelings, so it felt like a long time.

Yet the whole song writing process took only about 30 minutes. I then sang a rough version of the song into my iPhone.

When I played it back I knew I had written something that meant a lot to me.

I had finally defined something I've been chasing for years. I had a document of my life over the last few weeks.

The feeling of accomplishment as I played the song back is the most accomplished I ever felt.

I had started maybe an hour ago, just fooling around on guitar and now I had something I could always have.

Something I could share with people and maybe make a difference in their life. I had turned the feelings of the past, both good and bad, into something concrete, something anyone can hear.

I know I sound like a jerk calling my own song perfect, bragging about how creative I am, but I just wanted to share with you, the audience, how significant and life affirming song writing can be.



The trees and sky are some of my favorites.

As I was searching for an example or metaphor that fit, the line "to make my world whole" flashed in my mind and escaped my lips.

The moment I sang those words an excited chill ran over my body. It was an out-of-body experience where I thought, "Oh my god that's perfect," like I was criticizing the song for the paper.

It felt good. It felt right. My entire body was filled with an emotional feeling so strong that it was almost overwhelming.

I could feel it in my heart, on my skin, all over. The entirety of

## Sharing the dark past to help others

By Hannah Breeland  
Opinions Editor

I slowly started to shake, my hand being the main culprit. My mouth was open, but I had forgotten how to speak. So I continued to open and close my mouth.

The lump in my throat was making it impossible to talk. With every second that passed in silence, my heart beat faster. "He's been arrested," I repeated.

"Yes Hannah I know, but why, what happened," my aunt asked yet again.

My hesitation scared her even more for she repeated the question to the point where she was almost shouting.

At this point, I gave up trying to control my hand. I looked at my mother, then my brother, I knew this was my moment I had to tell her.

For a second I almost changed

my mind.

Realizing what I said next would tear my family apart to the point of no return.

With as much courage I could sum up, I mumbled the truth.

"He sexually assaulted me." I repeated that sentence until my hand stopped shaking and I listened and waited for a response. Silence.

I'm writing about a moment in my life that stands out. I feel that this is the moment that shapes all others.

I'm not saying this is a happy moment or a sad moment but it's an important moment in my life.

I'm sure some people are wondering why on earth I'm sharing

**"At this point, I gave up trying to control my hand. I looked at my mother then my brother, I knew this was my moment I had to tell her. For a second, I almost changed my mind. Realizing what I said next would tear my family apart to the point of no return."**

**—Hannah Breeland,  
Opinions Editor**

such a dark secret.

The simplest answer is I spent too much time keeping it a secret that it was starting to eat away.

Just recently I realized that this isn't something I should be ashamed of.

I realized the self-hatred that I was holding on to would do nothing beneficial to me.

What happened wasn't my

fault there's nothing I could have done to stop it.

I can't change the past so there's no point thinking about what I could have done.

I no longer want to be the victim.

I want to be the inspiration for someone else to come out and tell his or her story.

After eight years of sexual abuse from my father I finally told someone.

It started at such a young age that it didn't seem wrong until I got older.

Now I'm not going into detail because that's not why I'm writing this.

## I fell a lot as a kid

By Samantha Briggs  
Reporter

Scars tell a story, they are like battle wounds. I have so many scars and bruises from my childhood, not from abuse or neglect, but from pure clumsiness.

As a child my nickname was the klutz queen. It's not a very creative name but it was fitting. I was the girl who fell on stage during a recital or graduation.

In the fifth grade I was in my first school play called the "Just So Stories."

I played a dingo and I was supposed to chase my cast mate who was playing a kangaroo around the stage. Everything went great in rehearsal. Surprisingly I didn't trip or anything.

Then came opening night, I walked on stage to do my big scene, I saw my family in the audience proudly looking up at the stage.

I began to chase the kangaroo around the stage when I was supposed to catch her, I fell face first on the stage floor. I was mortified. All I could hear were the gasps of the audience members and the faint sound of my older brother's laughter.

My brother used to joke that I could trip over air. I would trip in the grocery store while holding my mother's hand. Due to my constant clumsiness, my family and friends got used to seeing me fall or drop things randomly but no one was prepared for what happened at my 11th birthday party.

My cousin and I were having a joint birthday party because our birthdays are 2 days apart.

Our parents worked hard to surprise us with a beautifully set up party.

The theme was Hercules, my favorite Disney movie. The tablecloths had Hercules and Megara on it; the cake had Hercules on it as well as the balloons and streamers.

I was so excited to see my entire family there to celebrate my birthday with me.

I remember doing a happy dance and then feeling my self lose my balance so I grabbed onto something to stop me from falling, unfortunately I grabbed the tablecloth that was covering the table that had the chips, dip, and my cake on it.

As I yanked the tablecloth the chips flew in the air and the cake hit the floor. I cried for what felt like hours. My mom told me it was OK but I couldn't help but think I ruined everything.

I still have a scar on my leg from playing football with my brothers and cousins on summer break.

I didn't hurt myself from the actual game but, because I am deathly afraid of bees and while I was waiting for my brother to pass me the ball, a bee spotted me so I turned and ran into a fence.

I have no idea how I forgot there was a fence behind me. My mother came running outside to see if I was ok and once again I heard my brother laughing at my despair.

I wish I could say I am no longer this clumsy girl, but I still fall when I attempt to dance, drop food and trip over air.

I used to be ashamed of being clumsy but now I've come to appreciate it as one of my many quirks.

# Bernardin to play volleyball at Alabama

By Jason Reed  
Sports Editor

Caitlin Bernardin already knows what it is like to be at a four-year school, this fall she will once again get that opportunity.

After a successful year at Bakersfield College, Bernardin will be headed to the Southeastern Conference and will be attending the University of Alabama. Back on April 17, she signed a letter of intent and made it official. "I'm getting more nervous as the time comes on," Bernardin said when asked how she feels on joining the Crimson Tide. The road to Alabama wasn't easy for Bernardin.

After graduating from Garces High School in 2011, Bernardin started attending Point Loma University and played volleyball there for one semester before transferring to Grossmont College in the spring of 2012.

"Point Loma is awesome, San Diego is awesome, and I really liked it. The people that I met there, the experiences I went through were definitely awesome." When asked why she left San Diego, she [Bernardin] said it had a lot to do with her family.

"It was a choice I had to make for them. Overall I wasn't happy, and that was a major impact. If you're not going to do something that's going to make you happy, then why are you there?" she said. Bernardin said because of family struggles, and also not wanting to hurt those she cared about, her decision to come back home was not based on the volleyball aspect of things.

"I didn't want to hurt those I cared for in San Diego and in Bakersfield. I didn't want them to be affected by my decision, and my decision was solely based on my family and happiness," she said. "If I had the choice to stay there [Point Loma] all four years, I would have, but it just didn't work out that way. I just had to make the choice for my family to leave."



LUIS GARCIA / THE RIP

While BC coach Carl Ferreira watches, Caitlin Bernardin signs her letter of intent to play volleyball at the University of Alabama.

Bernardin then talked about her past experience in high school. "We were raised doing all different types of sports growing up," she said.

In four years of playing volleyball at Garces High School, Bernardin helped her team post a 110-42 record. Bernardin averaged 264.5 kills and 347.5 digs per season with the Rams. Bernardin also led Garces to two straight Valley Championships in her freshman and sophomore year. She then won SEYL Rookie of the Year, SEYL First Team, All Area First and Second Team and was a four year Jockey Club recipient.

In 2010, she placed third in the Junior Olympics American Division in club volleyball. In 2011, she was voted second by the American Volleyball Coaches Association for BC and was ranked second in state with 4.89 kills per game. She also played basketball for Garces. In her senior year she averaged 17.2 points, 3.9 assists, 8.2 rebounds, and 4.4 steals per game, and was part of a 26-2 record. Those statistics were good enough to earn her a spot on the first team All-

Area Girls Basketball selections in the 2010-2011 season.

Among the other sports Bernardin played growing up were softball and soccer. She chose to only play volleyball and basketball in high school.

"My sister played volleyball; I was raised going to volleyball tournaments and stuff. I didn't actually start playing club volleyball until I was 12."

Bernardin explained about her introduction to the sport of volleyball. When asked why she chose volleyball over basketball going into college, Bernardin said she like it [volleyball] a lot better.

Bernardin went on to talk about how much of an impact and influence her coaches have made on her as she prepares for the next step.

"I think I owe a lot of credit to them. They always inspired me and pushed me to my limits. They taught me stuff, on and off the court, which will translate later in life. I would say, more directing towards Carl [Ferreira], he probably had the most impact on me because he's such a good person, coach and role model."

In Bernardin's first game as a Renegade last fall, she led BC with 18 points on 14 kills, four service aces and added 22 digs to cap it all off. She also helped the Renegades post 15-6 record, clinching a playoff berth, but fell in the third round of the So Cal Regional's to Golden West College. Before that, BC was able to complete a three game sweep over Mt. San Antonio College.

Bernardin ran into her former school, Grossmont, in the team's second game of the season last fall in the San Diego Mesa Tournament, with BC sweeping the set 3-0.

"From the beginning, I knew it would be a competitive match," she said when asked what it was like playing Grossmont. Bernardin was then asked if there was a time she felt as if she should have been on the other side of the net, playing with Grossmont instead of BC.

"I felt like I was where I needed to be, and that was with my team here at BC. My team wanted to beat them just as bad as I did, to show that we are at such a high level of volleyball." She said she did speak with Grossmont Col-



LUIS GARCIA / THE RIP

Jacque Bernardin photographs Caitlin as she signs her letter of intent.

lege head coach Jamie Ivers after the game.

Bernardin said she is really excited to be going to Alabama and wants to see what the experience is like being in a college town. She said while on her visit to Alabama, she went into a mini culture shock because it was her first time being in the south of the United States.

"I'm pretty much a country girl myself and the people there were so welcoming and comforting and they were really nice," she said.

Bernardin said she hopes to help raise the level of volleyball at Alabama and be a model for the other girls there because they have a young team.

Bernardin then talked about how much her mom and dad meant to her, leading up to where she is now. "They've sacrificed a lot for me and they've never been too pushy. They have always wanted what was best for me. My mom, dad and sister have been like my rock for lying back on and being there through the hard times," she said.

When asked about her thoughts on head volleyball coach of Ala-

bama, Ed Allen, Bernardin said, "He's very energetic. He's really looking to build their program up and is really pumped for what's to come. He's just very down to earth." Bernardin said she was glad she made the decision to come to BC. She said that she developed close friendships with the other girls on the team and is really glad she stuck with her choice to come back to Bakersfield and start over.

Bernardin said she enjoys fishing and hunting with her friends when away from volleyball. When asked what BC has done education wise, she believes the school has done a great job of challenging her and making her earn her grades. She also said she appreciated the works of Athletic Director Ryan Beckwith and the rest of the athletic department.

"The whole community here is very supportive and inspiring. I think that really helps athletes look forward to coming to school and going to practice," she said.

Bernardin said when she arrives to Alabama, she will be looking forward to training and building relationships with her new teammates.

## Golf team ends season ranked fifth

By Robert Mullen  
Reporter

Bakersfield College men's golf has wrapped up its 2013 season without putting any players into the final round of the state playoffs. The team has been ranked fifth in their conference, moving up from the seventh spot from last season.

Neil Bautista and Travis Millwee both nearly made it to the final round, with Millwee losing due to one stroke. "Overall, we made some improvement over last year," said head coach Bill Kalivas. "Last year's team was extremely young, almost all freshmen, and I think they had a difficult time adjusting to college golf, with the type of competitions and venues that were more difficult than they were used to playing. Of the majority of last year's freshmen only three returned, and they seemed to be our stabilizing factor this year."

Kalivas credits some of the improvement to his returning players.

"They maintained a very steady pace in terms of their play, their leadership qualities, and their ability to understand what it took to be successful," said Kalivas referring to sophomores Bautista, Millwee, and Kevin Antongiovanni. Bautista had an average of 76, Millwee had a 77, and Antongiovanni had an 86.

Freshman players Paul Cooper shot an 82, Jake Jacobus an 80, and P.J. Carmichael an 89. While Kalivas says the season was underwhelming he notes that a big part of it is helping the athletes out for the future.

"I think our most important focus is allowing our athletes to extend their athletic career, and guide them so that academically they can transfer," Kalivas said.

All three sophomore players will be transferring to four-year universities to continue their golf careers. Part of the reason the team has struggled both this season and the last is due to the nature of the environment the golf team plays in, says Kalivas.

"If you look at the demograph-

ics of our community, there aren't a lot of country club kids," he said. "Our courses are still extremely nice courses and still challenging enough, but the difference here is that land is not as much as a premium as it is in Los Angeles, or in Ventura, or Santa Barbara.

"Consequently the golf courses in those areas are much narrower, much more challenging and much more unforgiving, so if you're offline on any of those courses you pay a heavy price in terms of penalty strokes. Here, even though there is some difficulty, you can scramble and escape and still score well enough to be respectable."

Other junior colleges in the south have much more difficult courses, says Kalivas, and this puts BC at a distinct disadvantage within the conference because BC players don't readily have access to these types of courses. "We can't just run down there and practice," says Kalivas. "Everything is two or three hours away."

### Opinion

## Lakers in need of new head coach

By Jason Reed  
Sports Editor

Now that the Los Angeles Lakers have been swept out of the playoffs and are done playing the most disappointing season in franchise history; I've come up with the best offseason move for this summer.

The Lakers should fire head coach Mike D'antoni. It clearly didn't work. With all the hype that was built up last summer when the team acquired Dwight Howard (being the center piece) and Steve Nash, things went wrong from the start.

Now I understand, D'antoni wasn't the head coach in the beginning of the season, Mike Brown was. I don't want to get into Brown, but from the moment

they hired him after Phil Jackson left, I knew that he (Brown) wasn't the man for the job.

Just like D'antoni, Brown just doesn't fit the Lakers system. Now I'm not saying D'antoni is not a good coach, but that's the problem, he's good, not great.

Check D'antoni's track record, when he was in Phoenix coaching the Suns, they won 50 plus games in four of the five years he was there. They did that because D'antoni's system seems as if it is just trading baskets with opponents.

Every time he took the Suns into the postseason, they came up short. The reason they weren't successful in the playoffs, (in terms of winning a championship) is because teams like the San Antonio Spurs and their head

coach Greg Popovich teaches their teams to play defense.

The Spurs and the Dallas Mavericks showed D'antoni that up-tempo basketball doesn't work in the playoffs. At some point in time, you're going to have to play defense.

The Lakers averaged 102 points per game this season under D'antoni. The down side to that great offensive statistic is that they allowed opponents to score 101 points per game.

If I had it my way and it was up to me to hire a new coach for the Lakers, I would listen to what Jackson has to say and would give him the position back.

The only guy I would consider if Jackson wasn't interested, is former Utah Jazz head coach and Hall of Famer, Jerry Sloan.

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# Softball team ends rough season



PRISCILLA DAUVEN / THE RIP

Kassidi Ward hits a foul ball over the back fence. Bakersfield College lost the game to Citrus College 8-2. BC finished the season 6-15 at home and 1-15 on the road.

By Robert Mullen  
Reporter

Bakersfield College softball has wrapped up this season with a season record of 7-31, and a Western State Conference record of 5-13.

Coach Sandi Taylor has also celebrated her 500 career win this season, achieving this on April 20, against Fullerton.

On April 18, BC hosted Santa Monica in a doubleheader, beating them both times.

The first game was 14-1 and the second 5-3.

BC took a quick lead in the first game, scoring six runs in the first inning thanks to a grand slam by Kassidi Ward.

BC collected 12 hits and gave up one run in the third inning.

In the second game, BC made eight hits, but struggled along for the first five innings before scoring all five in the sixth inning, including a home run by Katie Hoffman, and another home run by Ward.

BC scored another win against Fullerton College on April 20, as part of a doubleheader, which was a makeup game after being rained out in the beginning of the season.

BC won the first game 9-8 with 10 hits and a home run by

Brooke Charles.

Fullerton scored all eight of its runs in the second inning and led until the fifth when BC put up four more.

BC lost the second game of the day 14-6, but held Fullerton two within one run up until the eighth inning wherein Fullerton scored seven runs.

BC put up nine hits, and another home run by Ward.

"I'm real pleased, we did a lot of good things, made a couple of double plays in that game. There was a lot of positive things to end the year," said Taylor.

BC hosted Citrus College for the final game of the season on April 23. Citrus won 8-2, but Taylor was pleased with the team's performance, remarking on the improvement from when they played Citrus at the beginning of the year.

"Compared to where we were the first round . . . we didn't even really compete in those first two [Citrus] games, and yesterday I thought we matched them.

We had 10 hits, they had 10 hits. We had a couple more errors, and then they got some timely hits so it was a little bit different there, but for the most part we matched them."

## Renegade swimmers set school records

By Jason Reed  
Sports Editor

With 22 other schools against them, the Bakersfield College women's swim team was able to finish in 15th place, scoring 61 points, and the men took 27th place, competing against 33 other teams, at the California Community College State Meet on April 25-27.

"It went pretty well," BC coach Matt Moon said on his thoughts of how things went at the state meet. "[We didn't swim] as well as we had hoped, but we swam really fast the weekend before. It was just a tough turnaround. They went out there and competed and did their best, that's all you can really ask for."

Catherine Lugo, Shelby Bayne, Clarissa Gardella and Elizabeth Hargis took seventh in the women's 200 freestyle relay with a time of 1 minute, 40.40 seconds.

BC would then improve in the women 400-yard medley relay. Gardella, Bayne, Hargis and Lugo took 11th and finished at 4:10.56.

In the 200-yard men's freestyle relay, Matthew Prasser, Josh DelaRosa, Zach Foster and Tracey Warren finished in 17th place with time of 1:28.57. DelaRosa then finished with the time of 1:58.46 in the 200 yard IM, earning him the 15th place.

Before going off to the State Championships. BC first competed in the Western State Conference Championships at L.A.

Valley College on April 18-20. The BC women finished third overall and had five top finishes for the Renegades. Gardella took second in the 50 freestyle and al-second in the 50 backstroke.

Hargis finished second place in the 200 IM and fourth in the 1,650. Lugo set a school record in the 50 butterfly, finishing in third place. She then went on to take third in the 100 butterfly.

The men's team took fourth overall in the WSC meets and also had five top five finishes. The men set a school record in the 200 medley relay and finished in third place. They also set a school record in the 200 freestyle relays and finished in fourth place.

John Cunningham took first in the 400 IM. Delarosa set a school record in the 200 freestyle and finished in fourth place. Prasser set a WSC and school record in the 100 breaststroke.

# Taylor earns her 500th victory

By Robert Mullen  
Reporter

With the end of the 2013 softball season, Coach Sandi Taylor is reflecting on the season and her 500th career win. Taylor has been the softball coach at BC for 23 years, with eight years before that coaching high school.

"It is a big milestone, and I was really happy for this team to be able to get there, so that they could celebrate in it. Sometimes I think we only put our successes on wins and losses, when the reality is that that's not what it's all about," said Taylor.

Taylor notes that this achievement is not really hers, and in fact is only possible because of the help she has had over the years.

"This milestone is a reflection of all of the kids that have come through here and their time commitment, and my coaching staff.

None of this is possible without them here, and it sounds like a cliché, but I'm just one tiny little part of this whole thing.

It was just fun because we could celebrate the success of

BC softball, not of me but of our program."

Even with the season, and this milestone, under her belt, Taylor says she has still learned a lot from this year.

"I think that this team has taught me a lot and reminded me a lot about, what we stand for. Our integrity, our work ethic; winning takes care of a lot of things but when you don't feel that for a while you kind of forget, but [the team] reminded me of all the reasons why we do the things the way we do things, and they've shown me that they have a lot of character because it would have been real easy to just throw in the hat and go 'you know I wish we could just get through this, I'm not going to try that hard, I'm not going to work that hard' and they never did that. They played harder in the last three weeks of the season than we played all year long. To play like that, with a win-loss record like we had, it says a lot for them as people."

While Taylor is waiting for some of the players to have a little time to look back and reflect



ROBIN SHIN / THE RIP

Sandi Taylor reflects on 500th career win. Taylor has been the head coach at BC for 23 years. Taylor's softball team finished the season 7-31 and 5-13 in the WSC for the year.

on the season, she says she's already gearing up for the next one.

"There are a couple of [freshman] key players who are returning, and I'm recruiting like

crazy."

Softball will begin training again in August.

# Former Renegade athletes will be honored at BHS hall of fame dinner

By Leanne Cave  
Special to the Rip

The Eighth Annual Driller Football Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony will take place May 10 at the Marriott Ballroom at 801 Truxtun Ave.

Several of the inductees also played sports at Bakersfield College.

Social hour begins at 6 p.m., dinner is at 7 p.m. with the Induction Ceremony capping off the evening at 8 p.m.

Seven more Driller greats and three more Valley Championship teams, 1937-39, will light up the Driller Hall on this evening.

The Inductees are: Jim Kennedy, Jerry Tarr, Bill Rankin, John Van Osdel, Jim Kunau, Doug Loman and Gary Williams.

What is unique about this year's class of inductees are the

special ties and memories of playing for the Bakersfield College Renegades after their high school years as Drillers.

At one time in history, Bakersfield High and BC shared the BHS Campus on California Avenue.

Jim Kennedy attended Bakersfield High from 1948-52. He played both offense and defense, but primarily right tackle for BHS his junior and senior years. In '51, Kennedy helped lead the Drillers to a 27th Valley Championship.

He recalls there was not much of a transformation from high school to college. Not only did BHS and BC have classes on the same campus, they shared the same playing field (Griffith Field) and locker room.

Jerry Tarr attended BHS from '53-'57. He played offensive and

defense for the Drillers for two years and in '56 (his junior year), he helped lead BHS to another Valley title.

He also participated in track for three years while at BHS.

After high school, Tarr attended BC where he participated in football and track. Tarr won numerous awards while participating in track and football for the Renegades and has been inducted into the BC Sports Hall of Fame.

He transferred to the University of Oregon where he competed in football and track and in '61 won the NCAA High Hurdles Championship.

He is in the University of Oregon's Hall of Fame and was inducted in the Bob Elias Hall of Fame in '76.

Tarr played a short time in the National Football League for the

Denver Broncos before returning to Bakersfield.

Bill Rankin attended Bakersfield High from '61-'64.

He played varsity football as a right tackle on offense and a left tackle on defense.

He also participated in track for three years while at BHS.

Rankin received several prestigious awards, including the Harry Coffee Most Inspirational Player Award and the Gold Championship Football that his dad received in the 1920's.

Rankin also wrestled his sophomore year and participated in track and field.

John Van Osdel attended BHS from '61-65. While at BHS, Van Osdel competed in football, basketball and baseball.

For the football Drillers he played at the tight end and defensive end positions. Van Osdel

was one of the most complete and spirited players while attending BHS and received several awards including All-City.

Van Osdel received a scholarship to play for the University of Colorado Buffaloes where he played for a year.

He then returned home to play for BC where he earned All-Metro Tight End. He graduated from Fresno State in 1972.

Jim Kunau attended BHS from '72-'76. Kunau played football all four years, starting as a defensive back and quarterback for the Drillers.

He was chosen as Most Dedicated Player in the '74-'75 season. He also played basketball and baseball while at BHS.

Doug Loman attended BHS from '72-'76. Loman played football all four years as quarterback and/or linebacker for the

Drillers and earned All-City honors his junior and senior years.

In '76, he was selected as "Player of the Year."

Loman attended BC in '76-'77 and played baseball for the Renegades. In '78, he was drafted by the Milwaukee Brewers in the second round. He played for the Brewers' organization for eight years.

Gary "Sugar Bear" Williams attended BHS from '74-'78. He played varsity football all four years. Williams played linebacker for the Drillers and accumulated several prestigious awards.

In '76, he was named the Frank Gifford Most Inspirational Player, in '77, the Harry Coffee Most Valuable Player; All-City and All-League in '76 and '77.

Bakersfield Californian Line-man-of-the Year in '77 and he was also team captain in '77.

## 'GADE FEEDBACK "Who do you think will win the NBA championship?"

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



Johnisha Washington, Washington, Human Services: "I think Miami, probably?"



Jose Padilla, Computer Science: "I want the Spurs to win."



Richard Howard, Registered Nursing: "I want the Celtics to win."



Valdimir Bonilla, Biology: "I have no idea. I am getting ready for finals."



Zack Pittman, Criminal Justice: "Honestly, I think the Heat because of their roster."

Compiled by:  
Graham C Wheat / The Rip

# BC stumbles but still makes the playoffs

By Jason Reed  
Sports Editor

After a 17-4 start to the season, the Bakersfield College Renegades baseball team finished the regular season 7-8 in its final 15 games of the season and will be headed to the postseason on a four-game losing streak.

BC will enter the playoffs as the 14th seed out of 18 teams that will be in the Southern California playoffs. BC (24-12, 16-8) finished in third place in the Western State Conference, despite controlling first place throughout most of the season.

Glendale College (25-11, 19-5) clinched its third straight WSC championship after completing a two-game sweep over the Renegades April 16 and April 18.

With the losses, BC was still in control of second place, before losing two straight games to last place West L.A. College (8-25, 6-18). In the latest game between BC and West L.A., the Wildcats defeated the Renegades 6-3 on April 26 at Bakersfield College. BC jumped out to a 2-0 lead, but the Wildcats wouldn't go down easy as they played spoiler for the second straight game against BC.

West L.A. tied the score at 2-2 and never trailed in the game again. Infielder Cole Hallum hit a one-run homer in his first appearance at the plate. He finished the game 3-for-4 batting.

Hallum grounded out in the ninth inning with one out and two runners on base, with West L.A. leading 6-3.

Pitcher Justin Kelly took the mound in his final game at BC. He pitched seven innings allowing seven hits, three strikeouts and two earned runs.

Kelly finished 5-5 on the season and will be playing baseball at Virginia Tech University in the fall of this year.

BC will take on No. 3 seed Saddleback College in a three game playoff series. "I feel like we deserve to be where we're at," coach Tim Painton said on his team making the playoffs.

"Every time you have the opportunity to get in the postseason, it's a brand new season and what you have to do is get hot for about two weeks to get to the final four." Saddleback defeated BC 1-0 back on March 28, in a game that Painton described as "playoff atmosphere."

BC pitcher Darion Nunn and Saddleback pitcher Evan

Manarino took the mound for their schools in the meeting and didn't disappoint. Nunn pitched seven innings, and gave up only one earned run and struck out four batters.

Manarino pitched a complete game for the Gauchos; he struck out five batters and surrendered only one hit. Painton expressed on the difference a three-game series will make this time around against Saddleback. "It certainly will be different over a three-game series," Painton said.

"The pitcher they threw that day [Manarino] is probably the best guy in the state from the win lost record, the ERA and those types of things. In a three game series he can throw one game." Painton said he is looking forward to taking on Saddleback.

He said he believes his team matches up well with them. He also added that in the game against them earlier in the season, both teams had their number one starting pitcher.

He believes it will be interesting to see what the number two and three guys can do in the series. The teams will start the series May 3, at Saddleback, game two will be held May 4. Painton said he is not sure on the pitching rotation.



MJ INGUITO / THE RIP

BC's Justin Martinez takes his second swing in a loss to West LA College on April 26. Martinez finished the game with one hit and struck out twice.



MJ INGUITO / THE RIP

BC's Rolando Martinez tags out a West L.A. player on second base in the sixth inning. The Wildcats beat the Renegades 6-3. BC will travel to Saddleback College May 3, to start a three game series.



MJ INGUITO / THE RIP

BC pitcher Justin Kelly beats a West L.A. player to first base resulting in an out April 26.

## Baseball scores

By Jason Reed  
Sports Editor

April 16  
Glendale 5, BC 1

The Bakersfield College baseball team's six game winning streak came to an end and so did their hopes of winning the Western State Conference championship. Glendale's pitcher Angel Rodriguez pitched six solid innings and struck out six batters in the process. BC pitcher Justin Kelly had seven strikeouts over five innings.

April 18  
Glendale 6, BC 3

First baseman Blayne Ontiveros had two RBI's and catcher Justin Martinez added one. Second baseman Sergio Plasencia for Glendale led his team with four RBI's and right fielder Edgar Montes added three runs. Glendale's pitcher Gary Acuna struck out four batters in nine innings and gave up only two earned runs. With the win, Glendale won its third consecutive WSC championship.

April 25  
West L.A. 11, BC 6

Darion Nunn pitched only three innings giving up four earned runs. Second basemen Erik Williams had three RBI's. Shortstop Quinn Barbini and third baseman Rey Sanchez each had three RBI's for West L.A. College Infielder Johnny Davis scored three runs for West L.A. College. The loss dropped BC into third place in the WSC. of the Canyons finished in second place. West L.A. was swept in an earlier season meeting by BC.



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PHOTOS BY MAYAN LARA / THE RIP

When the sun sets, Central Park at Mill Creek lights up in ways many Bakersfield locals haven't seen before. The park will host these Third Thursday events monthly until July 18.

## Third Thursday livens up downtown

By Mayan Lara  
Photographer

For anyone looking for something to do around Bakersfield on a Thursday afternoon, look no further. Starting April 18, the Downtown Business Association hosted the first of many Third Thursdays to come.

Third Thursday is a public event that takes place in the downtown area in Central Park along Mill Creek. The event starts at 5:30 p.m. and ends at 8 p.m. It will be held monthly until July 18. Each Third Thursday will have a theme to it, the first being Arts Alive.

The DBA is hosting this in hopes of livening up the downtown area and bringing awareness to the city of Bakersfield about local businesses and artists. Families from around Kern County are welcome to come and enjoy live music, art, food, and fun activities.

Upon arrival at the very first Third Thursday of this year, one would find resident artists displaying their paintings and other art along Mill Creek between 19th and 18th streets while local band Stella and the Steel Cats performed a mixture of vintage blues, jazz, and swing style music. This event was called The YOUNGER Art Walk.

Jaqueline Holtz, mother of three, enjoyed looking at the local artwork throughout the park.

"It's nice that they put their art on display for all of Bakersfield to see, it's a great way for them to get known," said Holtz.

The art displayed along 19th and 18th streets was done by artists of all ages. The styles and types varied from paintings to RockCrylic, which was art done on blocks of stone. The art was not only on display, but it was also up for people to purchase.

Once finished admiring the art, a short walk down the Mill Creek bridges led to the heart of the event; a lively scene of booths, more music, and children running around having a good time.

Booths held by local busi-

nesses such as Bike Bakersfield, Bakersfield Magazine and the California Water Service Company were set up along the edges of the park giving out information and business cards to anyone interested. Not only were their informational booths, but there were also booths from local boutiques and stores selling jewelry and handbags for ladies of all ages.

For people not interested in talking to local businesses, there were also a variety of activities set up all around Central Park. Inflatable slides, bounce houses, arts and crafts, games, dancing and a horse drawn wagon were all available for people of all ages to enjoy.

With the help of Bright House Networks providing music at Central Park, Budweiser providing beverages, and local restaurants providing booths of food, the park was filled with hundreds of people enjoying themselves and the activities provided.

According to Bright House Networks Sales Manager Keven Clifton, this was Bright House's first time actually attending an event they sponsor. He felt it was good seeing the community come together at an event like this one.

"I personally haven't seen the park at night... it's very nice and very beautiful," Clifton said. He enjoyed seeing downtown Bakersfield vibrant and alive.

Bright House Networks provided the park with a live concert done by local band Thee Deval. As Thee Deval played a variety of covers as well as original songs, people gathered around to dance and sing along, enjoying their live performance.

Local Candice Romo said she loved the idea of there being a carnival type event every third Thursday because it gave her and her family something to do and look forward to.

"I will most likely be attending the next Third Thursday and so should other families because it's a great way to support local business and get together with the community," Romo said.



There were many children's activities, and kids of all ages enjoyed riding on the mechanical bull during the event.



Above: Families gathered around to dance to Thee Deval playing covers of popular songs and dedications like "The Way You Look Tonight" by Frank Sinatra.

Left: Local cartoon artist Chris Borbon sketches a couple during the event as many others lined up to get their cartoons done as well. Borbon draws cartoons at many events in town, including First Friday and Garden Fest.