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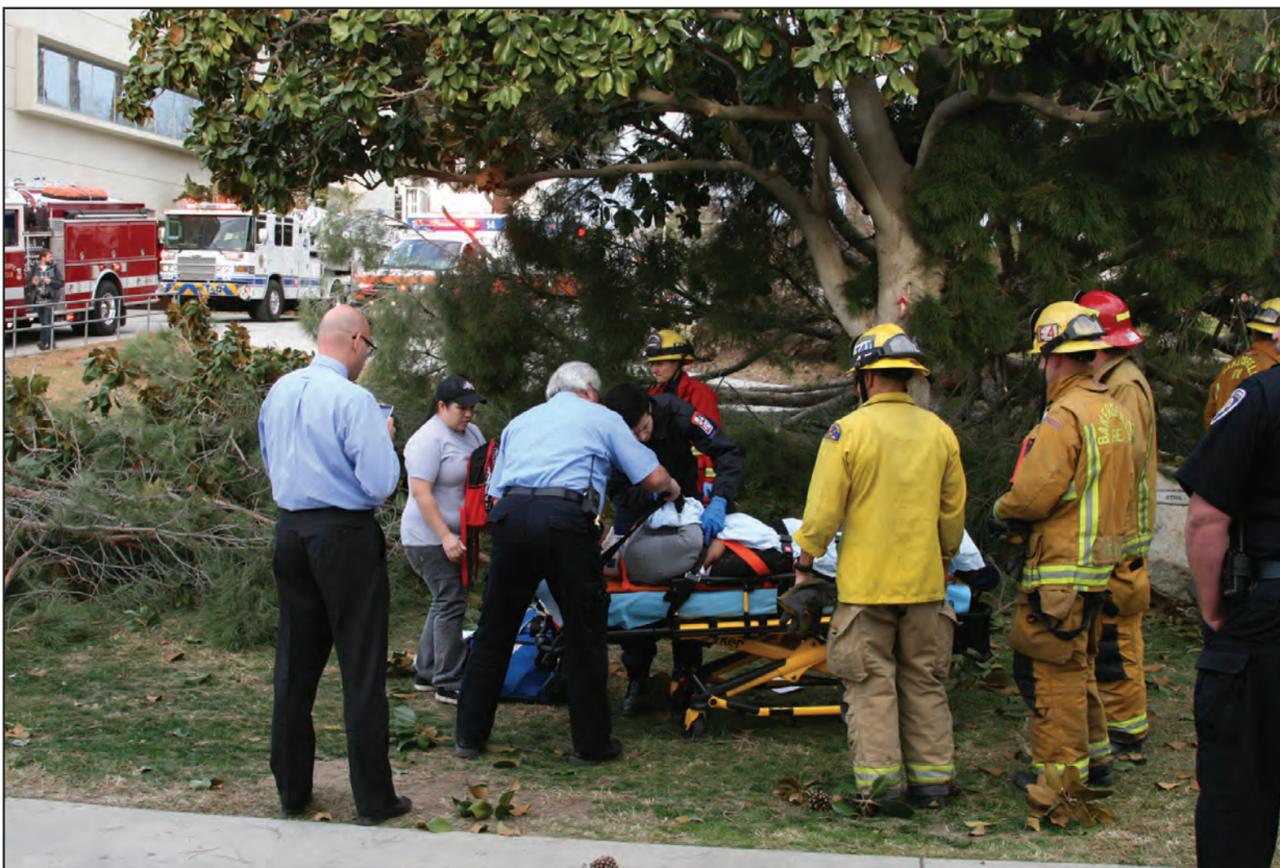
The Renegade Rip

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

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Wednesday, February 5, 2014



RICHARD PETERSON / THE RIP

Emergency responders and campus security attend to BC student Sara Jones, before she was transported to Kern Medical Center.

Sward steps in as new SGA president

By Myrissa Johns
News Editor

After former Student Government Association President Travis Tillis' sudden resignation, Shelby Sward has stepped in as acting president.

Sward said that SGA plans to "muscle through," and she is excited to take on this role.

She explained that the reason she has taken "acting" in front of her title is to show that she was not elected for that position by the student body. "I really feel like if you are going to have the title 'president,' then you really should have been elected, but we're kind of in this transition stage, and we have had a lot of things going on," Sward said.

She explained that although there are reservations that come with taking on a big role, she is really happy to take this opportunity of leadership and is pleased with her team. "I feel like everyone in the team really has a lot to offer.

"There's a lot of intelligence, and talent, and creativity. So I'm excited, but obviously it's a big role to try to take on."

She said that her main concern is to do a good job and ensure that she is not doing the students a disservice. "Either way, I'm going to show up with a smile on my face and just try to do my best, because it's all I can do."

Sward said that some main focuses for her this semester will be pursuing the new constitution and bylaws that she hopes to get passed, the tobacco-free initiative, "Habits of Mind" – an initiative by BC professors to promote good study habits – and any student concerns.

"Obviously students are our main priority, so anything that the students come to us and say that they want us to take care of, that's also our main focus," she said. Sward invited any students with concerns to bring them to SGA, stating, "[Students] can come to us with anything. There isn't always necessarily something that we can do right away, a lot of times all we can do is advocate."

Sward explained that sometimes student concerns aren't always brought to light because SGA does have to go through administration, which can sometimes take a lot of time.

"Sometimes students think that we don't really do much, but there's a lot of behind-the-scenes work that goes into pursuing what [students] come to us with," she said.

"Our mission isn't just to help

Please see SGA, Page 5

Student trapped under tree

By Elizabeth Fernandez
Reporter

On Jan. 23, an unusually windy day, a tree was uprooted and fell onto a student, now identified as Sara Jones.

Jones was trapped under the tree for approximately 30 minutes.

When the tree initially fell, students heard what they described as a loud crack and screaming before running out to the scene.

"I heard loud noises and people screaming so I came and looked," said 19-year-old Bakersfield College student Stephanie Ogden.

Another student who ran to the scene was Roberto Garcia, who saw the tree fall over from his seat in the cafeteria.

"I was just staring outside when all of a sudden I saw the tree fall," he said and added that he had not, however, been paying attention to the student underneath, just the tree.

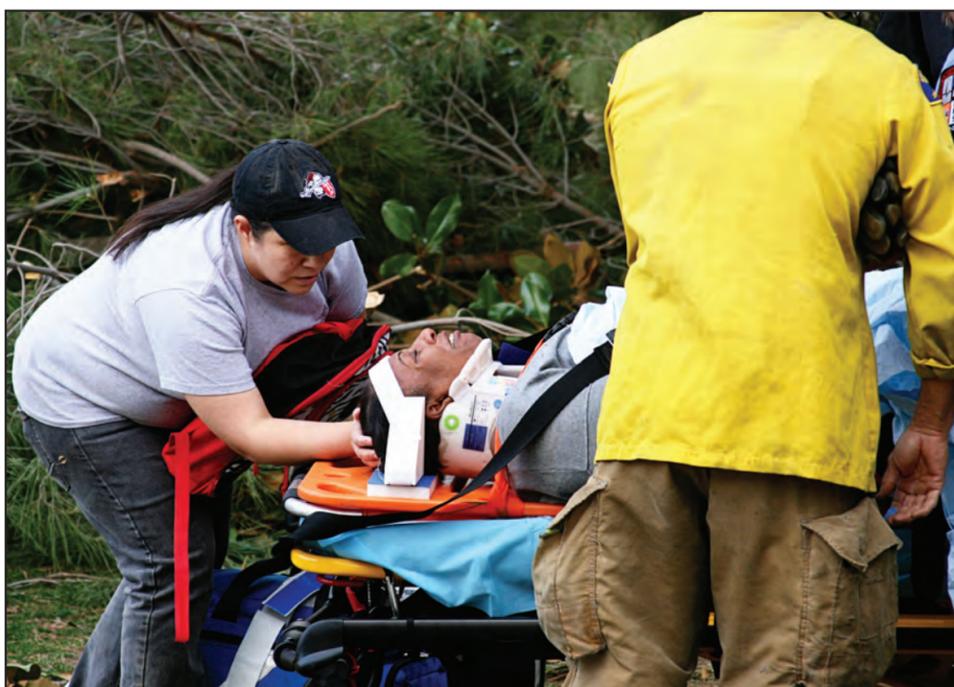
Derek Oglesb, 37, was sitting at the In-Shape Health Club booth just a few feet away from where the tree landed. He said it felt like he had been watching the whole scene unfold in slow motion.

He did not clarify whether Jones was seated or walking in the area, only that he had been looking at her, heard a loud cracking sound and watched the tree's branches consume her as it hit the ground.

Oglesb and his companion were the first to reach Jones and they tried to remove as many branches as possible off of her, but could only do so much until the fire department reached the area with a chainsaw.

"She's lucky to be alive," said Oglesb. "It was surreal."

He added that although she was complaining about her arm, and had her legs to the side, he believed she



RICHARD PETERSON / THE RIP

Gloria Swank comforts Sara Jones, who was trapped under a fallen tree, while paramedics work to rush her to KMC on Jan. 23. Jones was trapped under the tree branches for about 30 minutes.

would be all right.

"Whether you are a nurse or a [medical major], we all just [did] what we could [to help]."

Michael Farber, BC's Student Health and Wellness Center on-site physician, said Jones was still conscious when he had reached her and there appeared to be no sign of serious injuries.

She appeared to be OK, he said but added, "[She] didn't say a whole lot.

"She seems to be a little bit upset is fair to say."

Jones was awake and talking as firefighters and the rest of the re-

"I was just staring outside when all of a sudden I saw the tree fall."

—Roberto Garcia,
BC student

sponse team — a total of two campus security patrols, two fire trucks, three Bakersfield Police Department cars and a Hall's Ambulance Advanced Life Support unit responded to the emergency.

It took six men and one chainsaw to remove tree branches and adjust the tree.

Paramedics then carefully extricated the victim before being taken to Kern Medical Center's emergency room.

Deputy Chief of Firefighters Tyler Hartley stayed on site with the rest of his team to help secure the area.

Students were not allowed to walk within the Campus Center's proximity that had been tagged off with yellow tape for a couple of hours after the tree's diminution that afternoon.

To his knowledge this was the first report on BC's campus as well

Please see TREE, Page 5

Employees march for a raise

By Myrissa Johns
News Editor

Bakersfield College classified employees held a rally on Jan. 21 protesting against Kern Community College District for fair wages.

The changes in the salary were brought on by a state-funded cost of living adjustment, according to Tina Johnson, president of Chapter 336 of the California School Employees Association.

According to Johnson, KCCD human resources department's original offer was insulting, calling the

"When students come on campus, the first people you make contact with is a classified employee, not faculty, not administration."

—Tina Johnson,
President of Chapter 336 of the
CSEA

keyword "insulting." The CSEA has been at the negotiation table four times already, in which they have failed to come to an agreement.

She explained that the offer that they made was lower than they have ever offered anyone before.

Johnson said that KCCD has been resistant to recognize the work of the classified employees.

"When students come on campus, the first people you make contact with is a classified employee, not faculty, not administration," she said. "You have financial aid, it's because of a classified employee. You're in a class, it's because of a classified employee."

Negotiations are set to continue

Please see CLASSIFIED, Page 5



BERTIN RODRIGUEZ / THE RIP

President of Chapter 336 of the California School Employees Association Tina Johnson, urges students to sign the petition.

Local band aims for fame

By Sharida Rejon
Features Editor

After some conflicts with their old band, Sammy Donohue, Dakotah Wolford, and Anthony Valdez decided to take a leap of faith and start their own band.

After finding the perfect complement to their group, bass player Matthew Keeton, Serpents Tongue was born.

According to the guys, the aggressive nature of Serpents Tongue's music came from the desire to make music using built up emotions. "It's mostly a way of deal-

ing with all the emotions in life. It's my way of letting go instead of hurting someone," said Wolford, the band's front man and vocalist.

Donohue, the band's drummer, agrees. "It's all of our outlet. Whether it's good feelings or bad feelings, whatever we are feeling, we all love music and it's a good way of expressing ourselves and have fun doing it," said Donohue.

Although Serpents Tongue describes its music as hardcore and aggressive, the members of the band describe themselves as nice guys and they claim that what makes them different from other bands is their relationship with one another.

"We are really awkward," said Wolford. "We are more like brothers, not just bandmates. We hang out not just for the band's stuff, but just to hang out with each other. We are best friends," he said.

In addition to that aspect of the band, Serpents Tongue's mission is noble and it strives to keep its feet on the ground. "Our



BERNIE REJON / THE RIP

Bakersfield College students Sammy Donohue, drummer, and Dakotah Wolford, vocalist, rehearse for an upcoming show scheduled for Feb. 20.

old band, Far From Forever, got pretty big and we had a decent fan base, but then people's egos started getting big," said Donohue.

"We are more about bringing the music community together. We are about bringing unity between everyone instead of saying 'we want to be the best' and leave everyone behind," he said.

The guys have had their fair share of accomplishments, including performing at Rockin' Roots festival, where the band had one of the biggest crowds in the show and received positive feedback.

"It was the pinnacle of all our achievements and what we had been working

for," said Donohue. "To see that many fans out there, and people we don't even know who know every single word to our songs, it was a good feeling," he said.

"The crowd's reaction is the best," Wolford added. "Obviously, we are not everyone's cup of tea when it comes to music, but when people actually come out and show appreciation to the music and seeing them interact with us, that for me is personally the best thing to see."

The band's ultimate goal is to get signed and start touring.

Serpents Tongue's next performance will be Feb. 20 at Jerry's Pizza & Pub, located at 1817 Chester Ave.



BERNIE REJON / THE RIP

Bakersfield College student Dakotah Wolford, vocalist of local band Serpents Tongue, rehearses the band's new song, "Abyss."

Monster X Tour attracts excited crowd

By Elizabeth Fernandez
Reporter

Crowds seemed excited as they entered the Rabobank Arena Jan. 25 to watch the second night of this year's Monster X Tour.

The event was a two-night show that took place in Bakersfield's Rabobank Arena and was scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. and ended at approximately 9 p.m.

Tickets started at around \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids. Although not recommended for children under the age of two years old, they were allowed to enter for free as per a company policy.

Earmuffs were also sold at the event due to its loud nature. Although a lot of parents did seem to have been forewarned as they brought their own earmuffs and ear protectors, other parents were seen cuffing their children's ears each time the trucks revved their engines.

The night attracted many families with small children, as popcorn stand worker Zachary, 22, observed.

There were also several monster truck show newbies that night like Scott, 29, who took his girlfriend's 14-year-old son, Nathan, to the show for the first time.

"We're just excited to see the show and I thought this would also be a good bonding experience for us," said Scott. "I just want to see stuff crash," was Nathan's response.

Noel, 24, is a monster show veteran, but brought along her fiancé to the event to try to get him more involved with her family's interests.

"We're also here with my parents and my cousins," she said. "You can say it's a family thing."

When asked what brings them back each year, Noel responded, "[For] the adrenaline rush and the thrill of it."

Payton Cross, 13, is another monster truck veteran that attended and said that the most exciting part was just, "Seeing them hit." His grandfather added that he was most excited to see the drivers that would be featured that night.

Amongst the participants were Bigfoot 18, Megamerc, Nasty Boy,

California King, Rockstar, and Unnamed and Untamed.

Crowd favorites for the night appeared to be California Kid, the newer of the drivers and participants, Rockstar which was consisted of a couple that toured together deemed the "Godfather" and "Godmother" of monster truck shows and Bigfoot 18, a monster truck veteran and driver, well known for being aggressive and reckless. All three of these monster trucks were also featured in last year's show.

Two audience members, who chose to remain anonymous, testified to the trucks' appearances in last year's show, but added that they were still glad to have come back.

In a comment to the sport, they also said, "It's just about to get dirty and have fun really."

California Kid was the only truck to flip over that night, which was enough to satisfy Lenea Rivera, 16, who said "I was hoping that somebody flipped!"

Megamerc, a newbie to Bakersfield grounds, was the only monster to suffer a big enough malfunction



ELIZABETH FERNANDEZ / THE RIP

Bigfoot 18, left, and California Kid, right, are two of the many monster trucks that could be seen wreaking havoc at The Monster X Tour, which took place Jan. 25 at Rabobank Arena.

that stalled it from competing until the last half-hour of the night. After his first run a safety brake was released and refused to disengage which brought on heavy booing from the crowd.

An audience member added that he felt last year's show was better because the monsters didn't break down as much and were able to compete more.

Bigfoot 18 on the other hand, received much of the crowd's approval after landing a high jump that

caused the right side of its external body to fall off.

The promoter was quick to add that the body was new.

After the incident, Bigfoot 18 said to the audience that, as dangerous as it is, he loves it. He also encourages others to join.

"I was one of you kids up in the stands watching Bigfoot live in the stands and now I get to drive her. So dreams come true, guys, put your nose to the grindstone, I know that you can do it," he said.

Advertisement

Dear Bakersfield College Community:

The Student Government Association (SGA) is the organization established to represent the interests and activities of 18,000 Bakersfield College students. SGA coordinates student activities and events such as Welcome Week and Spring Fling, and supports the Campus' various clubs and organizations. SGA also represents all students' concerns and interests by providing student to campus and district leadership. In addition, SGA manages and advises the campus on use of student fees and other budgets. As with any governance organization, the intent is that students elect officers and senators to represent them and fulfill these responsibilities on their behalf.

As your current officers, we wish to assure you that we take our duties very seriously. We want to share what we are working on, and what you can expect from SGA during this Spring semester. Your Student Government Association is in a state of transition. Last year, merely 300 students participated in the student elections, and only 3 officers (out of 7 positions) and none of the 16 senators were elected. During the Fall 2013 semester, a significant portion of our student leadership was removed from their SGA duties because of student conduct. There were questions about the use of SGA funds for conferences, travel and out of state trips. There were also calls to recommit to campus-based involvement and activities, such as supporting our student clubs. The governing documents under which we needed to operate were unable to provide guidance and a clear road map to follow. We are working with the college's administration to revise the current Constitution and Bylaws; these flawed documents were both a liability to the administration, and a hindrance to the functioning of the transitional SGA. This necessitated a suspension of the current governing system, and taking the time to refocus, learn, and establish a stronger government for the future.

Working through these cataclysmic conditions, we were guided to operate as a transitional government that could focus almost entirely on preparing a new foundation for our organization, complete with a new Constitution, new Codes, and a new structure for student representation. What this means is that students won't be able to expect business as usual in SGA. You will, however, find SGA still working tirelessly to support and enhance your experience here at BC.

What you CAN expect from us this semester is actually quite a lot; a new Constitution will be submitted to you, the students, for your approval during the general Student Body election in March 2014, and great events like Spring Fling and the Student Success Resource Fair held on campus. Furthermore, we will continue to represent your interests in decisions made by the faculty and administration. They are providing us with their full support during this transitional phase. You will hopefully be seeing a lot of us, as we visit classrooms and club meetings to talk about what we have to offer. Come into our offices to see us in CC-4: ask questions, volunteer, or make your concerns heard by your representative government. We are imagining a new future for student involvement at BC, and we can't do it without you.



Regards, and Go 'Gades !!! Your Student Government Association.

Former student spreads religious view

By Monique Hansen-Garcia
Reporter

There is a former student loudly preaching his religion while standing on top of the concrete benches in Bakersfield College's Free Speech area.

Nathaniel Runels, who many students have observed on the campus, is doing what he says is being an "obedient Christian" of "biblical Christianity." Runels, who was once a student, now practices what he preaches by obeying the Holy Scripture in the New King James version of the Bible. Runels said he has been to Africa, Mexico, and the Philippines on missions to preach his message.

For five years, Runels has devoted his life to living as the scripture instructs him, noting John 3:16-18 numerous times as his guideline.

Runels said he was recently told that he would have to obtain a permit in order to preach on campus.

Runels said, "There are rights that the Supreme Court has ruled that no requirement of permit can prevent free speech."

When asked how Runels would feel if an atheist also was loudly preaching to the faculty and students, and would he be offended, his reply was no. Runels believes, "Everyone has the right (to preach), even if I disagree," stating that if he didn't state his views, those same people could be "led astray."

According to Runels, his obedience is required to be a faithful follower of Christ through his understanding of the scripture. Runels said he has been called to a system that instructs those to be "obedient to scripture, and to live as Christ had." Runels notes that there are vast differences in being a Christian and a follower of Christ. In Runels' exact words, a Christian is "someone who is a great sinner, but has great forgiveness from God." He believes that we are all sinners, and all fall



BERTIN RODRIGUEZ / THE RIP

Nathaniel Runels talks to BC student Janice Hill about his Christian message at his table set up in the campus' Free Speech area.

short the glory of Jesus Christ.

Runels believes that there is definitely a Messiah, Jesus Christ, who has come once, to die for our sins and will return a second time. Runels believes when Jesus returns the second time, for his "second coming," that Jesus will take Runels and Jesus' followers to heaven with

him.

He believes the final punishment will be to be eternally damned and left here on Earth to suffer the wrath of Satan. Because of the impending doom that awaits the sinners and those who have not lived their life for Christ, Runels has a sense of urgency to "save the souls" of those

on campus.

Runels first became a Christian at a young age, although, not a believer until five years ago. He feels that the Holy Bible has pulled at his heart with its message of discipleship.

He credits the Holy Spirit for guiding him toward his journey of

being a disciple for Christ.

Runels eternally stresses the importance of the recognition that we each need a savior. He said any sin that we have done, nothing is too big or too small to forgive. Runels believes Jesus saves people; it's up to each individual to turn away from sin and trust in Jesus Christ.

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Events Calendar

Feb. 5

Author Gerald Haslam will speak about "The Grapes of Wrath" at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. at the Levan Center for Humanities. Open to the public. Free admission and parking. For more information: Jack Hernandez (jhernand@bakersfieldcollege.edu) or Marci Lingo (mlingo@bakersfieldcollege.edu)

"The Panorama Invitational 2014," an exhibit of artwork by Kern County High School juniors and seniors at The Wylie and May Louise Jones Gallery. Feb. 5-26. Gallery hours: Monday through Thursday, 1-4 p.m.

Feb. 6

"The Producers" Stars Dinner Theater, 1931 Chester Ave. 7:30 p.m. Adults dinner/show: \$54-\$59, show only: \$38. Students dinner/show: \$39, show only: \$23. For reservations or more information: (661)325-6100.

"Next To Normal" The Empty Space, 706 Oak St. 8 p.m. Suggested donation: \$15, \$10 students and seniors. For reservations or for more information: (661)327-7529.

Feb. 7

"The Legend of the Wasco Kid" Gaslight Melodrama Theatre & Music Hall, 12748 Jomani Dr. 7 p.m. Admission: \$12-\$23. For more information: (661)587-3377.

"The Producers" Stars Dinner Theater, 1931 Chester Ave. 7:30 p.m. Adults dinner/show: \$54-\$59, show only: \$38. Students dinner/show: \$39, show only: \$23. For reservations or more information: (661)325-6100.

"Next To Normal" The Empty Space, 706 Oak St. 8 p.m. Suggested donation: \$15, \$10 students and seniors. For reservations or for more information: (661)327-7529.

Improv Comedy Show. JC's Place, 1901 Chester Ave. 8 p.m. Admission: \$5. For more information: (661)322-8209.

"The Rocky Horror Picture Show" The Empty Space, 706 Oak St. 11 p.m. Admission: \$10. For reservations or more information: (661)327-7529.

Feb. 8

"The Legend of the Wasco Kid" Gaslight Melodrama Theatre & Music Hall, 12748 Jomani Dr. 7 p.m. Admission: \$12-\$23. For more information: (661)587-3377.

"The Producers" Stars Dinner Theater, 1931 Chester Ave. 7:30 p.m. Adults dinner/show: \$54-\$59, show only: \$38. Students dinner/show: \$39, show only: \$23. For reservations or more information: (661)325-6100.

"Next To Normal" The Empty Space, 706 Oak St. 8 p.m. Suggested donation: \$15, \$10 students and seniors. For reservations or for more information: (661)327-7529.

Feb. 9

"Next To Normal" The Empty Space, 706 Oak St. 2 p.m. Suggested donation: \$15, \$10 students and seniors. For reservations or for more information: (661)327-7529.

Feb. 10

Packets for new SGA election will be available for all Bakersfield College students. Campus Center CC-4. For more information: sga-gen@bakersfieldcollege.edu.

Feb. 11

Student Success Resource Fair (formerly known as "Grow and Go") Bakersfield College Fireside Room, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. For more information: sgvap@bakersfieldcollege.edu.

"Comedy Improv Tuesdays" Elevation Lounge, 818 Real Rd. 7:30 p.m. Admission: \$5. For more information: (661)325-6864.

Feb. 14

"The Legend of the Wasco Kid" Gaslight Melodrama Theatre & Music Hall, 12748 Jomani Dr. 7 p.m. Admission: \$12-\$23. For more information: (661)587-3377.

Improv Comedy Show. JC's Place, 1901 Chester Ave. 8 p.m. Admission: \$5. For more information: (661)322-8209.

Feb. 15

"Major League Improv" The Empty Space, 706 Oak St. 6 p.m. Free admission. For reservations or more information: (661)327-7529.

"The Legend of the Wasco Kid" Gaslight Melodrama Theatre & Music Hall, 12748 Jomani Dr. 7 p.m. Admission: \$12-\$23. For more information: (661)587-3377.

BC tutoring center offers free assistance to students

By Daniel Ojeda
Reporter

Most students are unaware of the benefits that are available to them at the Bakersfield College Tutoring Center. The environment offered at the center is different from a classroom setting and also gives students the chance to work with a tutor, one-on-one.

Despite being a valuable resource, some students are still not fully aware of what the center has to offer.

The Tutoring Center offers trained and certified student tutors for a wide range of classes. Tutors at the center are students that have been recommended by their professors and can work well with others.

These tutors help guide students who are seeking help and also help improve their study skills. Tutoring is also beneficial to those students who might be shy about asking a question in class and prefer one-on-one help. The best part, tutoring is free for current-enrolled BC students.

The tutoring program is designed to assist students with their coursework throughout the semester, and is available for walk-ins or scheduled appointments.

For some subjects, like math and English, walk-in tutoring is also offered on a daily basis.

Peer tutoring is also available to assist students in most classes like: medical terminology, philosophy,

health/nutrition, anthropology/sociology, biology/chemistry, child development, accounting, and anatomy.

Even some of the new student tutors weren't fully aware of what the Tutoring Center offers and workers at the center still don't know why students aren't taking full advantage of benefits the center provides.

Most professors offer help by providing students with office hours where they can also provide one-on-one assistance. Some students might be taking advantage of this type of help rather than using the Tutoring Center. There are also some students who are aware of the Tutoring Center, but haven't needed the help.

"I've been in the Tutoring Center and have used their computers, but I haven't found that I necessarily needed tutoring for myself," Elias Morales said, a student currently enrolled at BC. "I have friends that have used the Tutoring Center and it has helped them in their classes."

The tutors and coordinators at the center are proud of their program and feel like they've made a difference. They remain committed in helping students succeed at BC.

The Tutoring Center is open on Mondays and Thursdays between 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Fridays between 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. It is located in Student Services 203 in the Jerry Ludeke Learning Center.

Tillis speaks about life after SGA scandal

By Bertin Rodriguez
Editor-in-Chief

After fighting impeachment and allegations of participation in illegal alcohol and drug use during a conference, former SGA President Travis Tillis is nowhere to be found on campus at the start of the semester. Tillis had been reinstated as SGA president during the winter break and SGA was back at work.

"Travis has transitioned to a four-year college and this office wishes him the best in pursuit of his dreams," said Elizabeth Peisner, the interim director of student life.

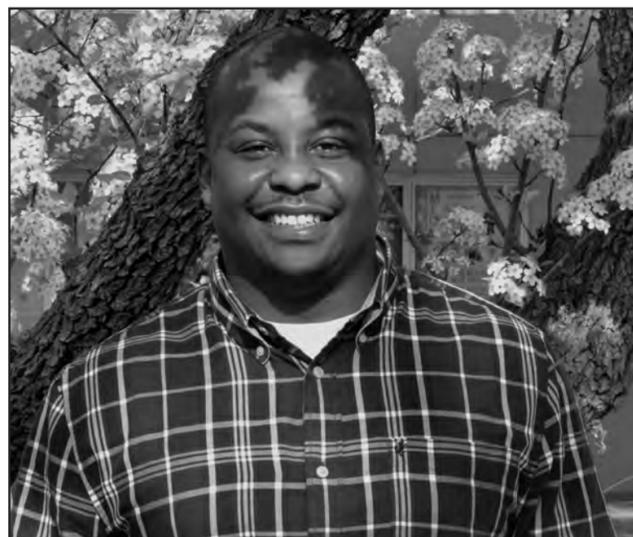
Tillis transferred to Fresno Pacific University where he is majoring in Business Administration with a focus on organizational leadership. He will attend the Fresno Pacific campus in Bakersfield.

"I couldn't pass up an opportunity like this," said Tillis. "I couldn't turn down their offer. I prayed on it and slept on it, and I got my answer."

Tillis also talked about his time in SGA and how its future looks.

"I feel comfortable with whose hands SGA is in," Tillis said, referring to Peisner. "Dr. Peisner is a dynamic person and is willing to do what she has to do to make SGA better."

"Shelby [Sward] and Liz have a really dynamic partnership, and it can only get better from



BERTIN RODRIGUEZ / THE RIP

Former SGA President Travis Tillis still attends BC for one class to finish his Associate of Arts degree in history and his Associate of Science degree in industrial technology.

here."

He thinks that all things take time to transition and that he believes SGA will be even better.

Tillis also said that he wished he could have done more things during his term and wished there wasn't so much fighting within the executive board at the time.

According to Tillis, he started his own ministry called Urban Christian Federation and wanted to major in that at Fresno Pacific, but they discontinued the program. He said, "Organizational leadership and full-

time ministry go hand in hand."

Tillis had nothing but good things to say about BC and its administration, praising it and its new "Habits of Mind." He thinks that with the current administrators, BC can go far in being an even better school.

Tillis is still taking a class on campus in order to finish his double major, aiming for an Associate of Arts in history and an Associate of Science in industrial technology. He also plans to take other classes to "better himself," apart from his major.

Cafeteria receives mixed reactions among students

By Trina Goree
Reporter

Bakersfield College is back in session and that means lots of hungry bellies.

Students will flock to the cafeteria in droves looking for food to feed their appetites.

Luckily, the BC cafeteria is well equipped to handle the high volume of students that will visit the cafeteria this and every semester. The cafeteria being arranged in a unique fashion achieves this. It offers two venues to serve its items. There is the Panorama Grill and the Renegade Food Court.

The BC cafeteria offers breakfast and lunch to students.

There are a variety of items available on campus. There are grab-and-go items, which include but not limited to chips, candy, bottled sodas, and wrapped sweets. The cafeteria also has deli-style food, such as burgers, sandwiches, fried goods, salads, and fountain drinks.

This is just a sampling of what is available on a daily basis. Items compare, for the most part, to items that can be found not far from BC.

A hamburger, for instance, costs \$3.10; a cheeseburger costs \$3.45; a double cheeseburger will run you \$5.25. A combo meal, such as a double cheeseburger, fries, and a 24-ounce fountain drink costs \$8.25. All prices on the menu include taxes.

When students were asked about prices in the cafeteria there was a mixed reaction.

Most students offered ideas on ways they felt would better the cafeteria experience.

"There should be a dollar menu," stated Melissa Johnston.

Nathan Mayer mentioned the BC cafeteria should be catering to low-income students and went on to say the cafeteria is too expensive.

When Edwin Borbon was asked, he stated, "BC knows we're students...they should do a daily special."

There were also a number of students that see nothing wrong with the prices in the cafeteria.

One BC student, Amanda Gutierrez, said prices are "affordable for a college student."

Whether it is affordable or not, that is something each student will decide for themselves. The bottom line is, people must eat, so the divide continues.

SGA: Looking toward the future for SGA

Continued from Page 1

the students of this semester, our mission is to help students who continue to come for the next however many years.”

According to Sward, SGA mainly plans to move forward and be positive in light of the transgressions that took place last semester.

Said transgressions were in regard to alcohol and drug-related infractions, leading to three executives and seven senators being removed from office while another executive underwent censure and was placed on probation.

“We’re really focusing on looking ahead. We’re really trying to let students know, ‘we’re aware of what happened, we’re not trying to hide it or anything like that,’ but we don’t want to focus on it because that’s just going to continue the stigma that SGA already has,” she said. “So we’d really be doing ourselves a disservice to focus on the past.”

She mentioned that SGA has adopted a phrase, “Renegade rises,” which she said symbolizes the idea of a phoenix rising out of ashes, explaining that they understand that they had transgressions, but SGA has to continue to move forward and function, saying: “The show must go on.”

TREE: Student is trapped under tree for nearly 30 minutes

Continued from Page 1

as Bakersfield in general, to have a tree fall over and land on a person. In a short interview with Amber Chiang, director of marketing and public relations, she stated that the campus trees had all recently received attention and had been significantly pruned in December.

The tree that fell over was one of the many that had been planted throughout the campus before becoming fully functional in 1956, approximating the tree’s age to over 50.

“They’re big trees, you can tell they’re old,” said Chiang

She also added that the recent drought being experienced in California had not affected BC’s irrigation schedule and the watering amount had been continued as normal.

“We have a tree company that checks on our trees constantly. These trees were [also] given clean bills of health in December,” she said.

“So we believe it to be the gusting wind that took it down,” she explained, saying any guesses as to what caused the collapse “would be speculation, beyond the wind.”

Jones was unavailable for comment. She has, however, been released from the hospital.

CLASSIFIED: They marched for a three percent raise in pay

Continued from Page 1

Feb. 12. Johnson explained that if the negotiations do not go accordingly, CSEA does have plans for further rallies and protests, which she said will be increasingly more intense. She said that CSEA has picketed board members’ houses in the past for other causes.

Although the protest was on campus, Johnson did emphasize that it does not alter the dedication the employees have to the school or their jobs.

“This rally is to show solidarity at the bargaining table and unity,” she said. “This no way mitigates the commitment and dedication that we have to our students, faculty – our colleagues — and administrators, or the president of our college. It’s not going to affect our commitment to the work that we do.

“We just want to be heard, and we just want a fair raise for the work that we do.” Johnson said the employees appreciate any support for their cause whether it be a signature for their petition or picking up a sign to join them in protest.



BERNIE REJON / THE RIP

Elizabeth Peisner, BC’s new interim director of student life, talks with Jose Meza, Maria Rodriguez, and Fabian Medrano.

Director of student life has high hopes

By Myrissa Johns
News Editor

With the start of the new semester, Bakersfield College has a new face on campus; that of Interim Director of Student Life Elizabeth Peisner.

Peisner can be found in Campus Center 4, where she oversees the Student Government Association.

Although she is there to support the student government in any of its endeavors, she said that she is also here for the entire population of students, explaining that if a student comes to her with a question or concern, she will do her best to assist that student and if she does not have a solution, she will find one.

“This position is bigger than just SGA,” she said, explaining that her job concerns student conduct and the whole “over-arching picture,” of the relationship between academic affairs and student affairs.

As an example, she explained that if a student comes to her asking for an extension cord, she might not have one, but she will make an effort to assist that student in getting one. She explained that the extension cord could be for a laptop to help the student complete an assignment, and if the student couldn’t get a cord then that would be affecting the student’s academics. Therefore, she would not feel as if she were doing her job.

That being just one example, Peisner wanted to reiterate that her main concern is the students. “I love my job, I love students in general,” she said.

“First thought in the morning, and last thought before bed,” Peisner said, explaining how she begins and ends thinking about how she can help the students each day.

Her extensive educational and professional background includes a doctorate in Education from University of Southern California, master’s in Public Administration and Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and International Relations from Cali-



RICHARD PETERSON / THE RIP

Peisner shows her support for the men’s basketball team during their game against L.A. Valley.

fornia State University, Northridge, and experience in leadership roles, among other positions, at a few other schools; The Art Institute of California, Southwestern Law School, University of Southern California, and more.

Having a background in student affairs at a university level, Peisner was pleased to explain that she feels the administration here is more concerned with student affairs. “In a community college, at least here at BC, I am seeing a greater commitment and a far more detailed discussion in student engagement,” she said.

According to Peisner, the vice

president of student affairs brought her on as a professional expert, specifically in student life and student government. She said, “It was because of my passion for student success in and out of the classroom.”

She said her main goals this semester are to create greater student engagement on campus, an overall better student experience, and a great environment within SGA.

“My role is just to support what legislation and initiatives the students put forth, and I do my best to do that,” Peisner said. “I think having walked a mile in these student’s shoes allows me to be a better servant leader to them.”

She said that some goals of SGA this semester include work on a newly amended constitution, a change in the structure of elections, a code of guidelines and expectations for officers, and a code of ethics for student leaders.

In light of SGA’s transgressions last semester, Peisner said that SGA is moving forward and will not continue to apologize. “We have to re-establish our reputation of responsibility to the entire BC community,” she said.

She said that with her support for her team of student leaders comes a high level of accountability to the codes of conduct.

SGA drafts new constitution for the next century

By Myrissa Johns
News Editor

Bakersfield College students will have the opportunity to vote on a new constitution and bylaws, written by BC’s own Student Government Association, during election week, which will be scheduled in early March.

According to Acting President Shelby Sward, SGA hopes the new governing documents will not only help the students of this semester, but also continue to lay groundwork for future students.

“This is the big centennial year so we are really looking forward to the next 100 years and how we can kind of set things up for the SGAs in the future to have a way to handle situations when they come up,” Sward said, explaining that she felt that SGA hasn’t been prepared for certain situations because of the way the document is currently written.

Sward said the new constitution is a main priority for her this semester as she really hopes to get the process taken care of for the benefit of current and future students and SGA.

“In accordance with the Brown Act, we have to have it voted on by the student body, so SGA can’t just do whatever it wants,” Sward said. “We are going to let [the students] know what we think is best and we’re going to write up the constitution how we think it would be best

“In accordance with the Brown Act, we have to have it voted on by the student body, so SGA can’t just do whatever it wants.”

–Shelby Sward, SGA President

for you, but at the end of the day we’re going to present the constitution at the elections and people have to vote on it.”

According to Sward, one main change will be an alteration to the election process. She explained that currently none of the senate has been elected by student body because of lack of student interest in becoming a candidate.

In hopes of achieving student interest and fair representation for the diverse population of BC, SGA has decided to create “Constituent Communities” in which the communities will each have two representatives.

According to Nathan Mayer, general counsel, SGA plans to draw the two representatives from each dean’s purviews, giving each department two senators. Sward explained that having this diversity in the constituent communities will hopefully help students feel like there is someone in student government that can empathize

and understand their needs.

Although the constitution is not completely finished, Sward explained that the work has already been done and SGA is just focusing on fine-tuning it. She said that the interim director of student life, Elizabeth Peisner, has already showed the draft to deans, who are excited about it as well.

According to Sward, Mayer has been a key player in the planning of the election and governing documents.

Mayer mentioned hopes of having a draft of the constitution ready for students to read at least two weeks before elections start.

“The problem is once we have it out, we can’t change anything,” he said. “Otherwise, we’d be lying to the student body basically.”

Students interested in getting involved with senate, or any other position in SGA, can pick up application packets as of Feb. 3.

“Anyone trying to apply for election has to go to a candidate’s meeting and you’re already supposed to have filled out the application packet by then,” Mayer said, explaining that students are urged to get the application process done as soon as possible, as there will be a deadline.

“People aren’t supposed to be campaigning until after they’ve had the candidate’s meeting because that’s when we tell them what they’re supposed to post and not supposed to post and all the rules and regulations.”

Staff Editorial

Classified employees and their importance

Classified employees are sick and tired of being overworked and underpaid at BC. Does that matter to us as students?

First, let's explain that classified employees are basically the workhorse of any school. They are the secretaries, the maintenance workers and the people who process the many financial aid applications every semester. So yes, these employees are very important. Without them, the campus gets dirty, all of the countless items around campus stay broken, there is nobody to answer the phones and nobody to process our FAFSA applications.

On Jan. 21, about 20 classified employees and their supporters walked around the grass in front of the library chanting about equal pay and getting a raise. They weren't a big group, but they made up for that with their volume. Some of them stopped students and gathered signatures for their petition to help get their raises.

They had a table set up in the middle of the grass with information and wore small items to help support them. It was nice to see people stopping and supporting them by signing their petition and even one of our own vice presidents, Zav Dadabhoy, stopped at the table and showed his support.

Students were stopped and told about the petition, most signed and some just walked away.

A classified employee operates most, if not all of the services BC provides. Those services are important to us and a lot of us rely on those services to help us be successful in our classes.

On the BC website, it has a whole page talking about their vision, values and mission. These cannot be achieved without the cooperation of the classified employees. If they aren't happy, morale drops and if the morale drops then their work starts to get compromised. If their work gets compromised, then the people who have the most to lose in this situation are the students.

We already saw a delay in the processing of FAFSA applications last semester. What's next?

If we can find \$50,000 dollars in our budget to pay a high-dollar lawyer to fight the football sanctions, then a raise for these employees must be worked into the budget.

According to their petition, they want a three percent raise and we tried to get specifics on how much of an increase in dollars that was but we were unsuccessful in getting that information. Three percent doesn't sound like a lot of money compared to the work these employees have to do. They are the grease that keeps the gears moving for everything at BC. Heck, they are even the gears, too.

They deserve every penny they are asking for because they do all of the heavy lifting so that the people who pay their salaries can do their jobs. These employees need to keep fighting for their raises and hopefully BC will be smart enough to listen.

The very least the administration can do is have a straightforward meeting with them to try to resolve this matter as soon as possible, if not for the employees, then at least for the students.

Security concern in Sochi

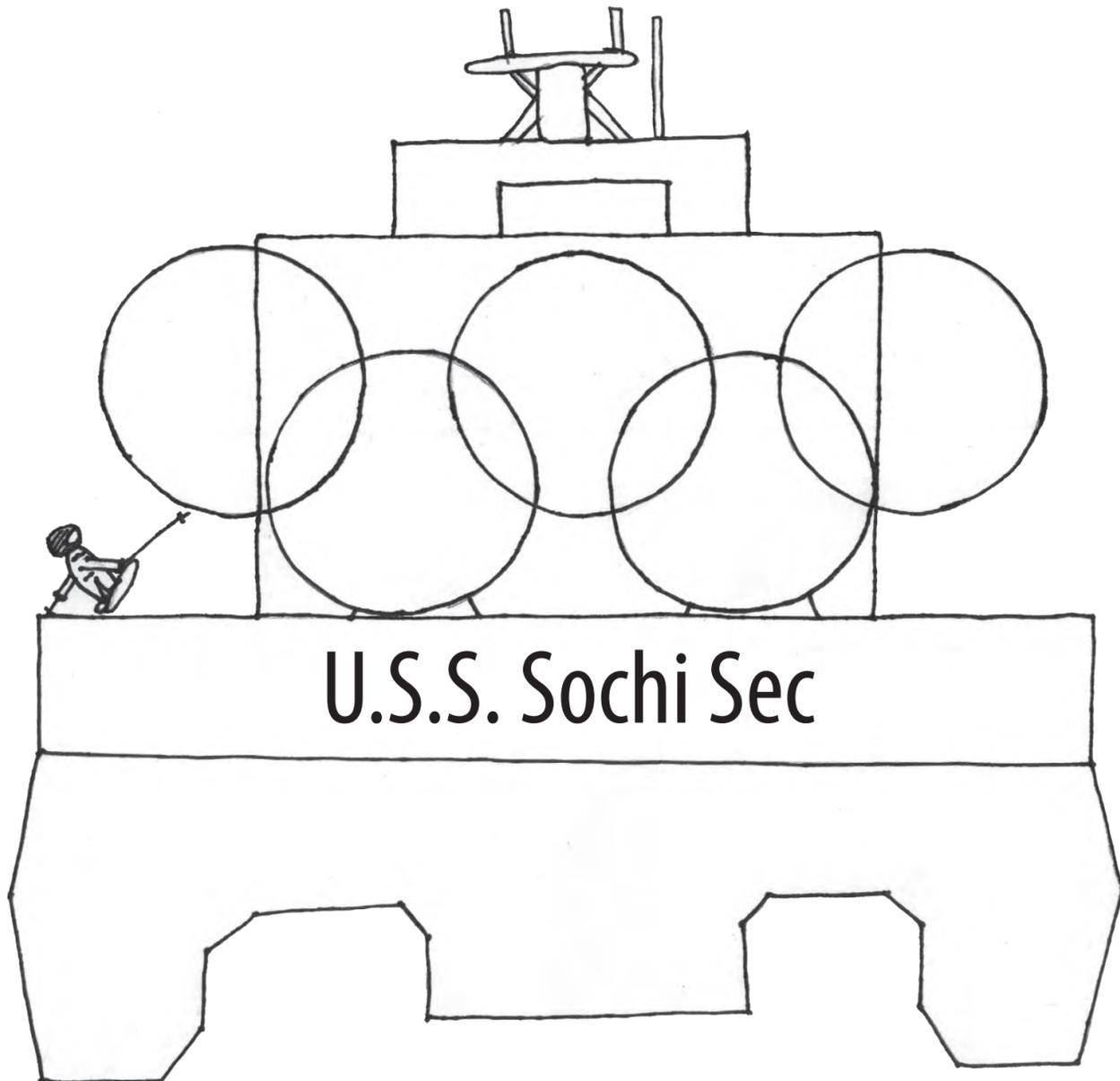


ILLUSTRATION BY BERNIE REJON

By **Elias C Ahumada**
Reporter

With the Winter Olympics around the corner, athletes from all over the world are making final preparations. All the hard work, training, and sacrifice will be put to the test on the big stage, the Sochi 2014 Olympics, but the athletes competing in this year's Olympic Games aren't the only ones making final preparations. Some U.S. military troops are also

PRO

getting ready. The United States has recently offered Russia security assistance during the winter games as fear persists over the latest terrorist threats aimed at the Olympic Games. Russia has some 40,000 police officers ready to deploy to the area surrounding the winter games.

The United States has said it wants to use equipment similar to the ones used during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; equipment aimed at detecting explosive devices that can be triggered by the use of cellular phones.

Some questions that are lingering, however, are whether or not it's safe to deploy troops to the area? Will tensions flare up with U.S. forces in the area? It is safe to assume that the protection of the millions of people attending the games should be priority, as well as the protection of the athletes competing in the games. Since evidence shows that a threat is possible, why not take all the necessary precautions to avoid it from happening, or avoid it from escalating? Also, maybe the attendance of U.S. military troops in the area working alongside Russian security forces can be a good

thing for future relations with the country.

The United States has said that it will send two war ships to the Black Sea as well as some other assets. The troops, however, are not being deployed for war, but merely to help Russia in the event that a terrorist attack does occur and people need to be evacuated, or for any other assistance that may be required. However, before any assistance can be given, the United States would need to be given permission to do so by the Russian government.

Like the athletes preparing for the Olympics, the United States has also been planning and preparing in the event that an attack does occur at the Olympics. The main focus has been the evacuation of Americans in the area. There have been no plans on sending any air assets to the area yet, but anything can change from now until the days leading to the start of the Olympic Games.

Poor planning or no planning at all in the wake of a possible terrorist attack could allow the possibility for a bloody catastrophe to unfold; while careful planning could prevent an attack from ruining the games. The Olympic Games should be about countries from all over the world gathering around in friendly competition, watching as the world's best athletes battle one another for medals. This year, however, most of the world will be watching in fear; with some anticipating a tragic scene.

Russia and the United States should come to an agreement and have a plan in place in the case that a terrorist attack does occur. Both countries working together on the security issues at the games will result in an enjoyable Olympics, with the viewers being more relaxed.

By **Daniel Ojeda**
Reporter

The Olympics aren't meant to scare people. The Olympics give athletes from all over the world a rare opportunity to show off their endurance and superhuman feats. But the Winter Olympics in Sochi is providing much more than that. Listening to any talk of U.S. security plans for the games might make you think visitors were entering a war zone.

Threats have been made by numerous terrorist groups, in which they vowed to strike at the Olympics. Contingency plans are in place to evacuate Americans in case of an attack. The United States is also moving two warships into the Black Sea, leaving a C-17 transport aircraft on standby in Germany, and sharing some of its high-tech bomb detection technology with the Russians. Is that enough; or should the United States also send military assistance to the games as well?

Even though I believe that the United States should do everything in its power to protect our Olympians, any military assistance that we send would be severely restricted and wouldn't provide the help many expect. In fact, it may do the opposite and unintentionally rile up the Russian government.

There is a sense of pride in Russia over these Olympics and while the Russian government has cooperated on other issues, when it comes to military assistance for the games the topic tends to get sensitive. The United States has offered full military support for the Olympics even though there was no official request from the Russian government.

If the Russian government decided to accept the offer of help, I believe American assistance would be handicapped. The Winter Olympics are being held on foreign soil, if any attack was to occur who

would be in charge of the chaos that would follow? Russian forces would move in to take control of the situation but if American citizens are involved there is no guarantee that American forces would stay put while the situation is being handled.

We are on their territory and the Russians get to decide what kind of outside help they need. Two different military forces trying to gain control of the situation might cause tension and that could fray an already rocky relationship between both countries.

CON

There has also been a growing mistrust between both Russia and the United States over security preparations. There are some U.S. officials that feel that Russia has not been forthcoming in sharing information on specific terrorist threats. I believe that without having full details for these situations the United States would be a stepping into the situation blindly and wouldn't be able to offer the best assistance possible.

For our military that might be a dangerous situation and we wouldn't want them to be in that position while they're trying to keep our Olympians safe.

Russian President Vladimir Putin recently stated that about 40,000 police and security forces will be guarding the games in Sochi. Access to Sochi is also heavily restricted; add to that a couple thousand American soldiers and that might be asking the Russian government for too much.

Russia is the host of the Olympics and they have the prime responsibility for protecting all athletes and spectators. The United States has contingency plans in place and is ready to act but only if needed, as it should.

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Movie Review

Nothing awkward about Efron's butt

By Sharida Rejon
Features Editor

Upon watching the trailer for "That Awkward Moment" for the first time, I knew I had to watch the film as soon as it hit theaters. First of all, it stars Zac Efron, who is showing a lot more layers – or in this case, lack thereof – than his early High School Musical days. Second, I hoped to find answers as to why today's generation of young people overuse the expression "that

awkward moment when..." and third, I expected lots of laughs.

However, although the promise of Efron's nudity is intact in the film, the laughs were not as abundant as I had anticipated.

Don't get me wrong, the film is comedic, but I found myself immersing in the storyline and connecting it to real life situations, which is where I ultimately found my answers.

The film revolves around three friends, portrayed by Efron, Miles

Teller, and Michael B Jordan, and how love can be found in today's selfish culture where hookups and casual sex are not out of the ordinary. It deals with common situations that the average young adult may face: unfaithful long-time partners, friends with benefits type of relationships, emotionally vacant intimacy, feeling the need to get out of a relationship after the other person expects something more serious, and all the awkward moments in between. Prominently, these

"awkward" moments were displayed when the characters started to realize that they were unexpectedly falling in love with their respective partners, but their pride got in the way and they were too selfish to admit it, which is a situation that might be easily relatable for some.

Past the point of no return, the story does fall into romantic comedy clichés, making the film a bit flawed. We get the unrealistic public proclamation of love and the stereotypical "boy gets girl" ending.

Ultimately, the film does deliver funny lines to make you laugh, and it is quite entertaining. I mainly enjoyed Efron's mature acting and seeing him all grown up. The film is not the stereotypical sappy romantic comedy, making it the perfect movie to watch with friends. But beware of watching it with a significant other, you might find yourself living an awkward moment of your own.

★★★★☆

Local brews battle for the title of best beer

By Monique Hansen-Garcia
Reporter

The battle of the brews has begun and Isabella Blond Ale was the brew I chose from Kern River Brewing Company in Kernville. I had to go to a local liquor store to find the bottled version of this brew, and it was not an easy task.

I felt that the brew fell short of what I had expected. When deciding to taste a beer from this brewery, I specifically wanted to try the light ale, to have an accurate comparison throughout. This brew was the least exciting to my taste buds and the finish was sweeter than expected.

I did enjoy the overall wholeness of the beer; its aftertaste was one that did sit well. I suppose that the experience of the brew pub would have made this beer taste much sweeter. For review purposes, this beer fell flat for my taste. I would have given it three out of five stars.

Lengthwise Blonde Ale was a nice beer to have on tap at Lengthwise Brewery Company. I felt that the company itself is what makes the beer great. The atmosphere is the specific thing that made the brewery favorable. The after taste was a bit sweeter than I had anticipated, but not in the good way I can now associate with KRBC's version of the blonde ale.

I would suggest that this establishment is visited, but this is the battle of the brews, and Lengthwise fell short of expectations as a brewery.

If you want to taste all the options of beers on tap, order a sampler. The best of the sampler was the blonde ale, one of five choices.

The other samplers didn't stand out in any way other than too original in its form. I found the red ale to be a bit overbearing.

I would have scored the ale at a four out of five stars.

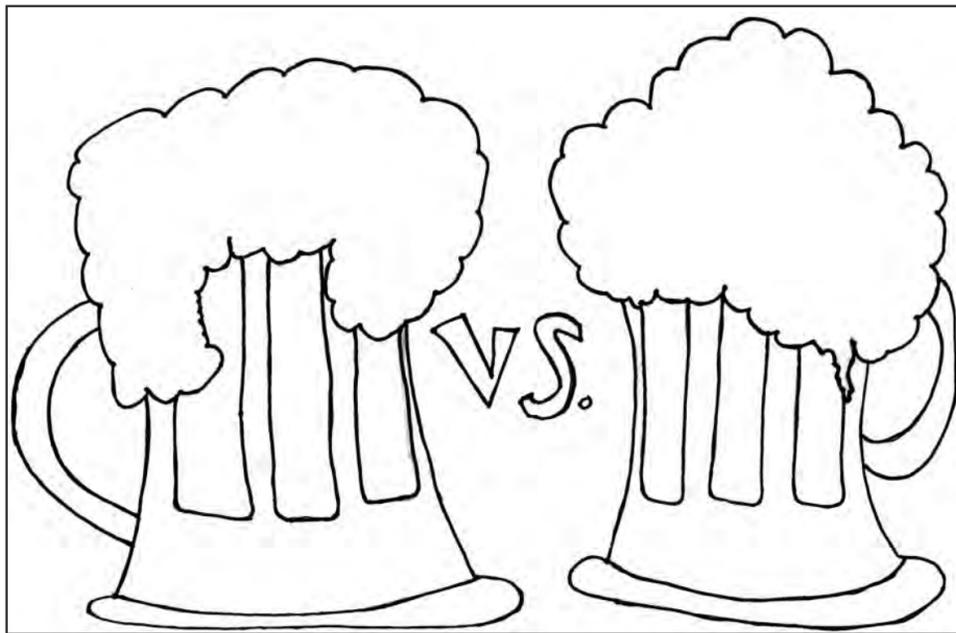


ILLUSTRATION BY BERNIE REJON / THE RIP

An 805, to me, defines Bakersfield, Calif. in one swig. The first hints of this blonde ale, from Firestone Walker Brewing Company, bring in the sunrise, over the valley. The aftertaste is original, and even sweet in its depart.

Unlike other, more processed beers, from larger companies, 805 is bottled right here in the Central Coast of California. The bottle is crisp and uses marketing techniques to catch your attention, with bold lettering, black and white color

and a taste just as unique and bold to match the look. The best part of the beer is the aftertaste; it leaves a sweet orange taste behind it.

Coming with five out of five stars, the winner of the battle of the brews was definitely 805.

Prepared students are the real key to speedy service

By Monique Hansen-Garcia
Reporter

Looking for a job in this economy is almost an impossible mission. So, you could imagine my happiness at getting a call back to work another semester at our college campus bookstore, Barnes and Noble, as a bookseller.

The experience has been great because I love the managers I work for and working with the coworkers that work there, also.

What do I mind? The students! Don't get me wrong, it's the students and their purchasing power that has me employed, but I could do without the hoopla that can come when students enter the bookstore.

Not all the students are the same; some of you come in, look up your books yourself, and have payment ready when it comes time to pay. The students that I am talking about are the ones that come in with a schedule, not a book list, thrust the paper in our faces and say, "Can you help me find my books?"

So, for your next visit to the bookstore, here are a few pointers to help you through the process to make each of our lives that much easier. Remember to smile, say "please" and "thank-you" and remember your manners! Yes, I am aware that I am getting paid to help you. What I don't get paid for is the lack of students' knowledge or respect for their peers.

For starters, the aisles are alphabetically listed. It starts ACDV – Academic Development – and wraps around the wall. ENGL – English – has its own wall, and the COMM – Communication – books are the beginning of the short stack aisles. If you are unable to find your book still, even once in your depart-

ment's section, look at the section number – that will be the CRN of your course.

Oh, wait, I forgot a step. You must know your CRN/section number. The CRN stands for Course Reference Number. Got it? That's a five-digit number that will correspond to the shelf tag. There are other ways to look for your textbook, but this is the easiest.

So, now you have all your textbooks and are ready for checkout. Sweaters are on sale, don't forget to grab one, or that scantron pack you will need! Oh, and try not to unfold every shirt or sweater. All the smalls are the same, all the mediums are the same and so forth. There is no need to unfold every single sweater.

Apart from that, let us move on to the biggest issue I have with students. I, my coworkers, and even you, dread one thing about the bookstore, and that would be the line.

No one wants to wait forever in a long, theme-park-styled line, but here are a few tips on how to prevent hour-plus wait times.

Would you like to know what causes the longest amount of wait time? Unprepared students; they hold the line up, all day, everyday.

Rentals of textbooks can take 10 to 15 minutes each, especially if you are on your cell phone the entire time. Here's when proper etiquette comes into play.

Get off your phone, stop talking to friends, stop texting, facebook-ing, instagraming, or listening to your iPod while we call you over to the register, for the 12th time, you're next!

Have your government I.D. ready for rentals, along with a current credit card to secure the rentals under. Have your form of payment

ready and not in your backpack, in your wallet, at the bottom of 20 other school items, books, binders, or supplies.

We smile, you can smile back; it's OK, we don't bite. We don't set the prices and we pay in the hundreds for our textbooks, too. We want to offer you the lowest prices, as an organization; yet, we are not always the lowest in price. There are numerous options available to you. We hope that you do save the most amount of money possible.

As a student, I feel that the acquisition of the Bakersfield College bookstore was in my benefit, both now and in the future. Since Barnes and Noble has become the company behind our bookstore, there have been noticeable changes.

Not too many of the younger-aged students will remember the wait time or line a decade ago. I remember that the line for the bookstore used to wrap around the entire store and out the door into the cafeteria area, literally, out the door.

My wait in 2003 was over two and a half hours long. I estimate the current wait time, at the busiest peak of service, to be 45 minutes, at most. The majority of students told me around an average of a 30-minute wait.

The optimal time to come and buy a textbook are the weekends, times when students are in class, or really early in the morning.

Thank you to all the students that know what book they need and have their correct CRN and/or ISBN – International Book Number. When students who are prepared ask for my assistance, I gleam with pride.

You are ready for college life! Thank you for making my job easier. Please, pass on the information, and come in soon!

Food Review

Yogurt Zone successful in satisfying sweet tooth



AMBER HAYDEN / THE RIP

Yogurt Zone, which has 14 flavors that you can mix and match, opened its franchise in east Bakersfield on Jan. 17.

By Trina Goree
Reporter

I recently fell in love with a new eatery not far from Bakersfield College. Yogurt Zone has fast become my latest must-have treat.

I will admit this was only my second attempt at visiting a frozen yogurt parlor.

My first visit was due to a friend's request for frozen yogurt during a past trip out of town, and now this recent visit was satisfying an assignment for my first review. Surprisingly, my sweet tooth would end up being satisfied along the way.

So if I am to remain truthful, let me state I was a bit of a skeptic going in. Once inside all skepticism diminished at the threshold.

I entered into an inviting atmosphere and was greeted upon arrival. I was given no special treatment during my visit; a warm welcome is standard at Yogurt Zone.

I was enamored by the array of flavors. Feeling overwhelmed with the 14-flavor selection, I decided to tackle each spectacular flavor, one spiral mound at a time.

When the sampling was done, I was left with my new seven must-have indulgences and being the self-proclaimed foodie that I am, I decided to rank them according to the intense enjoyment I received while consuming each flavor.

My top seven flavors are: 1; Cinnamon Bun 2; Graham Cracker 3; Chocolate Fudge Sorbet 4; Praline 5; Euro Tart 6; Watermelon Sorbet 7; Valencia Orange Sorbet.

You can find all these flavors and much more toppings at the Yogurt Zone located on 2641 Oswell St. It is close enough to go between classes or after class, that's up for you to decide. When there, I urge you to try Cinnamon Bun first, as it is my top pick.

★★★★★

'GADE FEEDBACK "What are you planning on doing with your tax refund?"

Compiled by:
Sharida Rejon
Bernie Rejon
Bertin Rodriguez
/The Rip



Gabriel Montoya,
Digital Arts:
"Saving it and using it for what I need for school supplies and fees."



Jesus Perez,
Music and Business:
"Use it slowly for gas and pay for drum and bugle corps tour"



Blake Clendenen,
Communication:
"Spend it on a vacation to Hawaii."



Gilbert Montoya,
Business:
"Saving for the tour fee for the Sacramento Mandarins."



John Ross,
Journalism:
"All my tax refund is going to child support."

Softball looks ahead after win and two losses



RIGOBERTO LOPEZ / THE RIP

Pitcher Brook Quiddan (1) and catcher Maddie Arambula (17) talk with co-head coach Keith Drewry during the Fresno game.

By Robert Mullen
Sports Editor

While softball's new co-head coach Ryane Peterson is confident in her team's ability, the opening round of the 2014 season seems to echo the start of 2013's 7-31 record season.

The team's first game was at home against Fresno City College on Jan. 28. BC lost 17-0 with one hit by center fielder Bailey Graham and another by first baseman Katie Hoffman. Fresno scored twice in the first inning and 15 runs in the fifth inning to end the game early.

Fresno's Selena Ruiz hit two home runs, and Naomi Gomez also hit one.

Peterson says that the issue with this first game was a combination of nerves and a lack of experience.

Bakersfield College's second game was against Taft College as part of a three-team round-robin event on Jan. 30. BC beat Taft 3-2. Right fielder Alex Avila scored one run, and third baseman Brenna Vasquez scored two while Taft scored two in the fifth inning. Graham ended the game with an injury after catching the ball on a dive between first and second base.

Peterson was pleased with pitcher Brooke Quiddam's performance. "She did a really great job, and I couldn't be more proud of her."

Quiddam pitched a complete game and gave up six hits and two runs, while getting four strikeouts.

Later that same evening against Cuesta College, BC lost 10-3. Eight

runs were scored by Cuesta in the fourth inning, with BC rallying to hold Cuesta at just one run in both the fifth and seventh inning. BC scored runs in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings, one off a home run by catcher Vanessa Morales.

Peterson believes the losses against Cuesta and Fresno can be attributed to the same cause.

"We have got to get to a point where we stop that one inning, and whether you're the best team or not you're still going to have that one inning in every game where you have to stop the bleeding," said Peterson.

The team has some personnel problems shared with the 2013 season, namely a lack of veterans, with only two returning players, Katie Hoffman and pitcher Morgan Peterson. "We have a whole new ball club and it's primarily freshmen," said Peterson.

Peterson said that a lack of depth in the personnel hurt the team last season; however, she says the team has a great deal of depth this season.

"We have more speed this year, we have versatility, we have a depth to our lineup this year that we didn't have last year, and overall our hitting is going to be huge for us."

BC will have a home game against Santa Barbara City College on Feb. 6, and two doubleheaders: the first at Visalia on Feb. 13 against Cosumnes River College and College of the Sequoias and the second on Feb. 14 at home against Rancho Santiago College and Taft College.

BC's new tennis coaches are ready

By Robert Mullen
Sports Editor

The Bakersfield College tennis teams are starting the season with new coaches.

Head coach Robert Garbell came in to replace Terri Lynott in December.

Estefania Limpas has replaced Charles Provencio as assistant coach.

These personnel changes were required after former head coach Lynott chose not to return after the 2013 season, and coach Provencio's decision to become the assistant coach for South Dakota State University's tennis program.

"It was my dream to teach college tennis," said Garbell, who taught at a Los Angeles elementary school for 17 years before coming to BC.

He described his experiences with the game before his teaching career.

"I started playing tennis when I was 7 and played until I was 21. That was my whole life; I played college tennis at [Brigham Young University], had back surgery and played one pro circuit."

These last-minute personnel changes have brought about problems for the tennis teams.

Chief among them is that due to the late filing of the paperwork neither team had a schedule until late this month, and neither the men or the women have been able to play their scheduled matches for January.

The women's team also has an

added issue; currently, their team only has five players, which means they're automatically losing one match per tournament.

"It's the women where we're struggling to get enough," said Garbell. "The problem is that a lot of them have classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays because they didn't know if we were going to have a team."

While these problems persist with the women's team, Garbell notes that the men's team has an abundance of talent to draw on.

"We have some experience and some youth," he said.

"We're deep, [the men] are really deep all the way down to number six. We have one kid named Michael Rice who played the year before last and he's back, and we have Sammy Ramirez, a freshman, who was the high-school player of the year last year in Bakersfield. So along with those two, I think everyone else is returning from last year, so we're two deeper than we were last year."

While the season is starting off shaky, Garbell is pleased with the progress his teams are making, and is looking forward to getting his players out on the court.

"Everybody is working hard, everybody is excited, everyone gets along, and everyone has a great attitude."

Men's tennis will have their first match on Feb. 14 at Modesto Junior College, while the women's team will begin with a match at College of the Sequoias on Feb. 11.



RIGOBERTO LOPEZ / THE RIP

First baseman Katie Hoffman (14) gets ready to swing against Fresno pitcher Selena Ruiz. Hoffman made one hit against Fresno; Ruiz hit two home runs and struck out two BC players.



RIGOBERTO LOPEZ / THE RIP

Shortstop Erin Huckaby (12) hits a foul ball during a Jan. 28 game against Fresno City College.

BC gets two losses in tournament

By Daniel Ojeda
Reporter

The Bakersfield College baseball team is all geared up and ready to start a new season. The team is looking to bounce back after an early playoff exit at the hands of Saddleback College.

BC finished last season 24-14, while going 16-8 in conference play. Bakersfield College baseball coach Tim Painton hasn't changed his expectations about this season despite having a relatively young team.

"We have the same expectations every year," he said. "We go into a season expecting to compete and win a conference championship. Those goals never change, entering a season every year. The goal is exactly the same."

The team is stacked with youth, with only nine returning players from the previous season compared to 18 new players. Painton is looking to the returning sophomore class to help provide leadership for the team.

Rolando Martinez is one of the returning players Painton mentioned.

"He's somebody we lean on, he's a guy that does things right every day and goes about his business right," Painton said.

He also named Cole Hallum and Kyle Nixon. "These are guys that have been through it and they can give feedback to the freshman on what to expect," Painton said.

Painton went on to explain that the young squad will lean on the sophomore class to help provide leadership for this current group of players.

The roles and lineup for the team are still a work in progress but with so many young guys, players will

be given plenty of opportunities. It's simply a matter of taking advantage of opportunities that arise.

"Were tired of looking at each other," Painton said "Everyone is ready to look at another colored uniform across the field."

The Renegades opened their season by hosting a three-day tournament, starting with Porterville College on Jan. 30.

The Renegades beat Porterville 4-1 at Gerry Collis Field in a season-opening game.

Pitcher Hallum started his season off strong by working seven sharp innings and also striking out eight for the BC team.

The Renegades got the scoring started with two runs in the third inning. Jake Verdugo had a safety squeeze RBI bunt single and Zach Tanner an RBI single. In the fifth, Rolando Martinez had an RBI single after Kyle Speaks doubled. The final run came in the sixth with Jared Solf's RBI single following an error.

The team played solid defense with no errors committed and also throwing out a runner at the plate to end the third. "I thought the freshmen played with a calm that I wasn't sure they would have and they all played well," Painton said when asked about BC's starting lineup fielding five freshmen.

Next up was Allan Hancock College on Jan. 31 in the second game of BC's three-day tournament.

After opening the season with a near flawless win the Renegades were roughed up by Hancock 10-2.

Hancock pitcher Ryan Bower struck out 10 batters while pitching seven shutout innings. The Renegades didn't help themselves, committing five errors and struggling defensively. The miscues in-

cluded a throwing error, a dropped pop fly and three booted ground balls.

The BC pitching staff also struggled, giving up 12 hits and 11 walks. BC ended Hancock's bid for a shutout in the ninth with an RBI double from Tanner and an RBI single from Hallum.

The Renegades played their last game of the tournament Feb. 1 against College of the Sequoias. College of the Sequoias (2-1) won 6-4, dropping the Renegades to 1-2 on the season. For the second straight day, walks contributed to BC's loss as the pitching staff walked 10.

"We've got 10 freshman pitchers and at some point you need to get their feet wet. It's the opening weekend, and I think nerves played into it a little bit," Painton said.

After falling behind 4-0 by the second inning, the Renegades scored a run in four consecutive innings to keep it close, but in the seventh COS scored two runs without a hit. Three walks, including one with the bases loaded, and an RBI fielder's choice accounted for both of the runs.

Despite the walks, BC still had a chance to win it in the ninth. The Renegades had two runners on base with none out. After a sacrifice moved both runners up, COS pitchers were able to get the last two outs to earn the save.

Verdugo and Solf each contributed with RBI groundouts, Zach Tanner had an RBI single and Matt Lemon a sacrifice fly.

BC will play five straight road games: Merced College on Feb. 4, Hartnell College on Feb. 6, Marin College on Feb. 7, Reedley College on Feb. 8, and Hancock College on Feb. 11 before playing Cerro Coso on Feb. 18 at home.

Numerous successes for track and field

By Robert Mullen
Sports Editor

Bakersfield College track and field competed in their first meet at Antelope Valley College on Feb. 1, taking first in numerous competitions.

Dion Loudon took first in the men's 200 meter. Orith Rodriguez took first in the women's 1500 meter and Juan Calderon took first in the men's.

Natalie Odwyer took first in the women's 100 and 200 meter. Both men and women took first in the

4x4 relay. Alicia Torres took first in the women's shot put and discus hurl while Dominique Lujan took first in the men's shot put. Al Green took first in the men's triple jump.

Times and other stats were unavailable due to technical issues.



SHARIDA REJON / THE RIP

Forward Nakia Page (24) shoots a layup against an L.A. Valley defense during their Feb. 1 game at Bakersfield College.

BC comeback stalled during conference play

By Esteban Ramirez
Contributor

It has been an up-and-down ride to the 2013-'14 season for the Bakersfield College women's basketball team, due to their youth and inconsistency.

The Renegades (8-13, 3-4 Western State South Conference) got off to a slow start this season, losing six of their first seven games, but during the Winter break, they started to click. They got to an 8-10 overall record and got to 3-1 in the WSC South, but since then they have lost the past three games.

They find themselves fifth in the conference with five games left in the season.

"We were doing great when we came back from winter break, in which we had gone 6-2, but now we've picked up three more losses," BC coach Paula Dahl said.

"We just need to regroup and get back on track. We started slow, but around Christmas we came on strong and we've looked fantastic. The last three games have thrown a wrench in the works, but that's what it's all about. Going back to continue to work and teach, and one of the things we've done every day is continued teaching and helped them grow. We are a really young team and we will get there, so I'm excited with the potential for this team," she said.

On Feb. 1, BC was routed by Los Angeles Valley 70-51 due to an abysmal day shooting the ball. The Renegades shot 22 percent for the game, while the Monarchs shot just under 42 percent for the game.

Although the Renegades shot 25 percent in the first half, they were only down by seven going into half-time because of their significant edge on the offensive glass. BC had 12 more offensive rebounds, but they couldn't take advantage of the extra scoring opportunities and as the game wore on the Renegades' bad shooting caught up with them.

"We competed with them on every level, but we just didn't make any shots," said Dahl. "We shot 22 percent to their 42 percent from the field, and you can't win ball games when you shoot 22 percent."

"L.A. Valley did a fantastic job of managing the clock at the end. They did the isolation play between [Chelsea Rhamdeow] who can



BERTIN RODRIGUEZ / THE RIP

Rosebrooke Hunt (15) attempts a pass over three defenders.

drain the three and [Ajai Ford]. We made some adjustments, but we just couldn't put the ball in the hole. We had some great shots but they just didn't fall for us and that's kind of been our nemesis all year."

Guard Leigha Moland led BC with 14 points and 10 rebounds. Forward Nakia Page added 14 points and eight rebounds.

Monarchs' forward Landon Junious-Reliford led with 14 points, nine rebounds and had six of the team's seven blocks. Forward Myangel Johnson added 11 points and a game-high 18 rebounds.

On Jan. 29, BC fell to Antelope Valley College 77-68 because of a huge rebounding advantage for the Marauders.

The Renegades were outrebounded 56-35, including by 12 more offensive rebounds. Antelope Valley also had an advantage in three-point-shots made. The Marauders went 8 for 25, while the Renegades went 1 for 9.

"I should've put us in a man to man sooner," said Dahl. "We did a horrible job of closing out on

[Mikeisha Moore], and we should've face guarded her because she had six threes and that just killed us and we didn't box out. I don't think we boxed out once, and they just obliterated us on the boards and that was the ball game."

Moland led BC in scoring with 17 points and added eight rebounds. Antelope Valley guard Moore had a game-high 22 points and nine rebounds.

"I just want us to end strong," she said. "I still would like us to get to .500, and I think we have that opportunity. We just need to focus on the little things and continue to get better. We need to focus on boxing out, on running the floor, moving our feet on defense and just keep developing the fundamentals."

BC's next scheduled game is at West L.A. College at 5 p.m. on Feb. 5, followed by an away game at Citrus College on Feb. 8. They will round out the season with home games against Santa Monica College on Feb. 12, Glendale College on Feb. 15, and Antelope Valley College on Feb. 22.



RICHARD PETERSON / THE RIP

BC guard Van Holloway (1) drives past L.A. Valley's Eric Barthel (5) across the half-court line toward the home basket.

Men win, strive for consistent defense

By Elias C. Ahumada
Reporter

With another season nearly in the books, the Bakersfield College men's basketball team find themselves in a tough situation. They need to regain some of their form from the beginning of the season.

The team has struggled to be consistent, and have lost six of their last 10 games, including the last three. Coach Rich Hughes insists that the

team needs to continue playing well on the defensive end and win the battle on the boards to win games. Hughes said. "As long as we hold teams to under 60 points we have a good shot at winning the ball game."

Since the Renegades most impressive win in the Western State South Conference Jan. 15 against Citrus, the team has dropped to 1-5 in the conference.

The Renegades need to go at least



SHARIDA REJON / THE RIP

Guard Corey Mitchell (21) drives into the heavily-defended paint during the L.A. Valley game.

6-5 for the remainder of the season if it wants any shot at the playoffs.

On Feb. 1, the Renegades defeated Los Angeles Valley College 80-64 improving their conference record to 2-5 and 12-10 overall. The Renegades started the game with a strong defensive effort and took a 36-26 lead into the half. Both teams struggled to find any offensive rhythm in the first half as BC shot just 12 for 31 from the field,

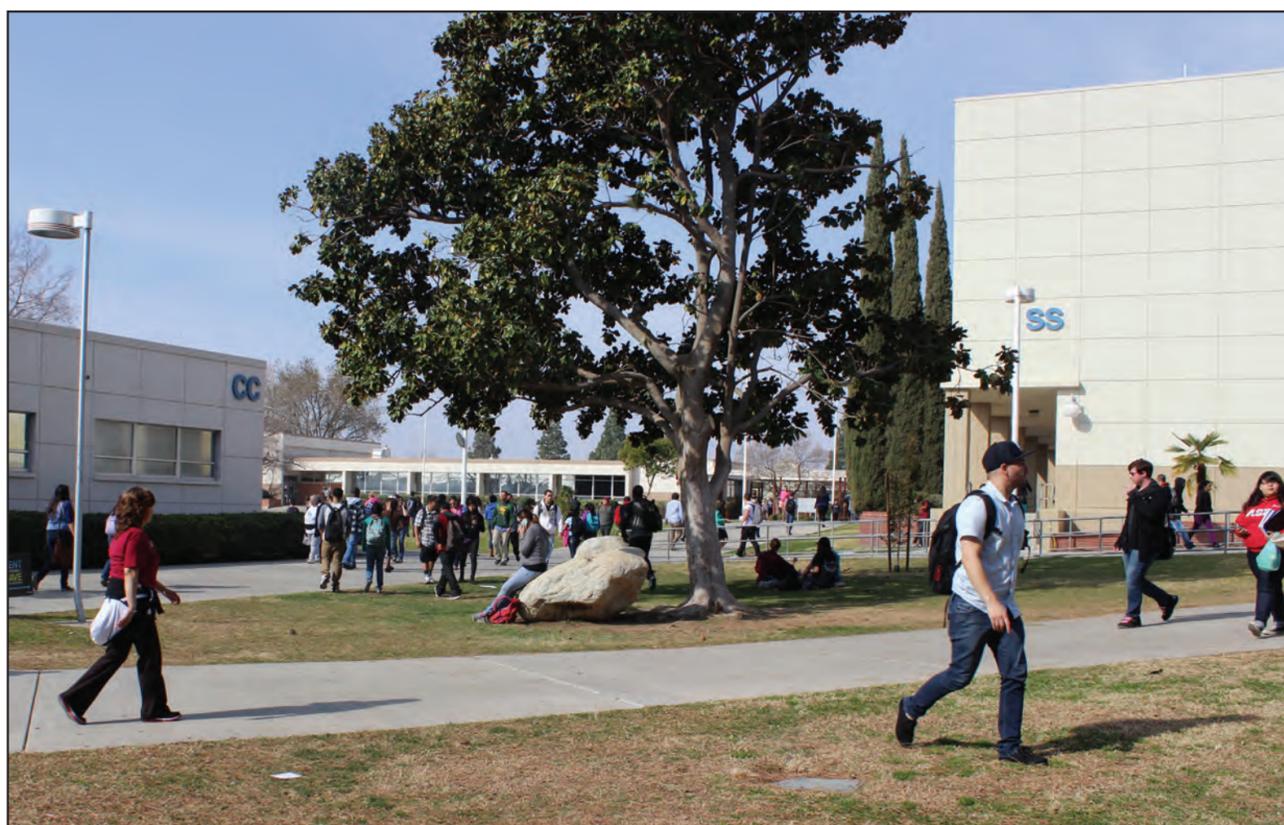
but picked it up in the second half going 14 for 26.

Corey McDonald-Mitchell chipped in with 16 points on 5 for 13 shooting, but it was his attack to the basket that landed him at the free-throw line, where he was 6 for 7, and kept the LA Valley College defense on the ropes the entire game.

Lawrence Moore had an outstanding game contributing 19 points, and

collecting two rebounds, but it was his defensive play that made the difference. Moore ended the game with 4 steals and one block. Van Holloway finished with 14 points and Dequan Green added 12.

The Renegades next game is Feb. 5 at West Los Angeles College, traveling afterwards to Citrus College on Feb. 8, followed by a home game against Santa Monica College on Feb. 12.



RICHARD PETERSON / THE RIP

The trees on the BC campus are already in bloom, making it seem like spring hit early this year.

Left: BC students walk on campus during the first week of school after a long vacation. Some of the students enjoy to be back at school, while others wish their winter break was a bit longer.

RIGOBERTO LOPEZ / THE RIP

Students fill BC campus for spring semester

By Rigoberto Lopez
Photographer

Bakersfield College students returned to school with a variety of opinions on the five-week break.

There have been some mixed reactions from the students claiming that the vacation was too long and boring for them, and others have claimed that the vacation wasn't long enough and wanted to spend more time with friends and family.

Alyssa Morataya, English major, said her vacation was good because she got Pokémon X as a gift for Christmas, but she felt the winter break was just long. Morataya said that she missed BC's library during the break, which she frequents often during the semester to get work done.

Jordon Salinas, nursing major, said that the winter break was just right. "The school atmosphere feels no different than last semester," he said.

During his winter vacation, Salinas worked and mostly tried to keep busy. Salinas said that during his free time he enjoyed playing his guitar.

Brenda Hernandez, also a nursing major, said: "I missed interacting with some of my friends that weren't around and also missed gaining knowledge from my professors, but most of all, I missed California because I was in Texas where



RIGOBERTO LOPEZ / THE RIP

Bakersfield College student Alyssa Morataya sits on the grass in the Free Speech area during the first week of school.



AMBER HAYES / THE RIP

Students in the Bakersfield College Free Speech area on campus try to find a dry spot away from the rain.

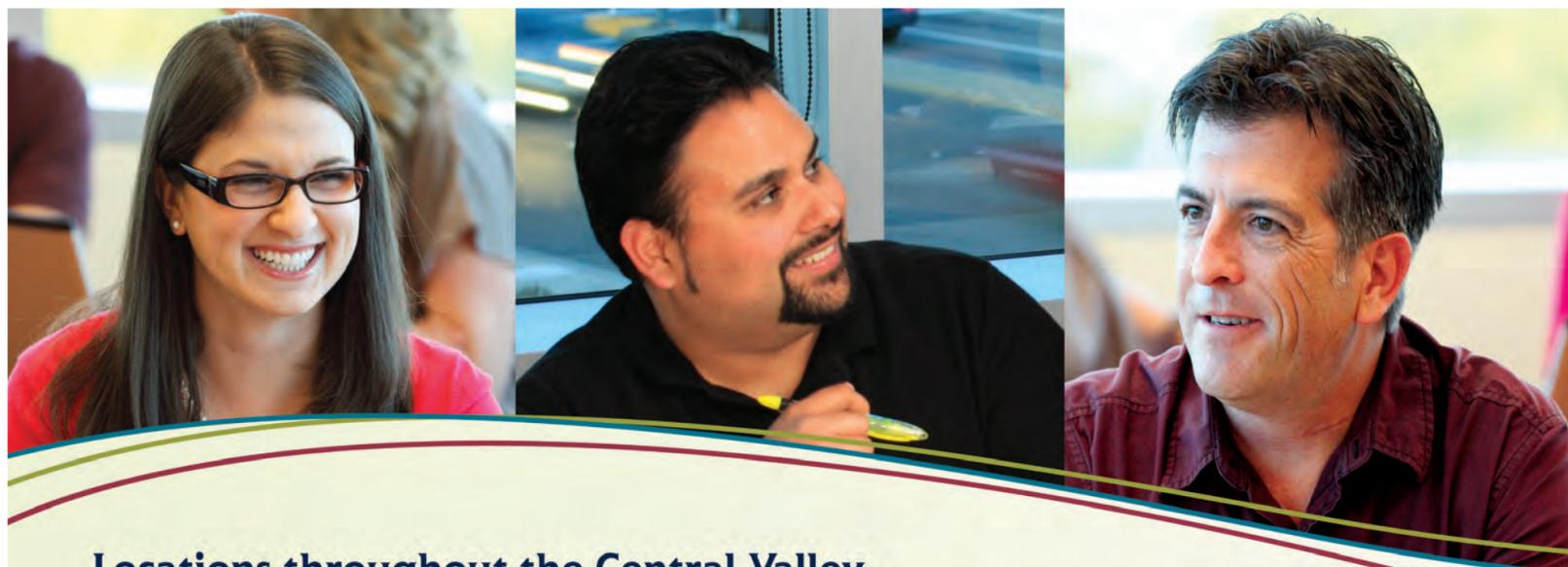
it was humid."

Not only are the students back, but the booths to sell merchandise and offer discounts are back as well.

Sopon and Chumsri Puangraj run one of the booths located in front of the campus center. They sell all sorts of things including hats, bracelets, earrings, rings, necklaces, and other things. Their prices range from \$1 on select earrings to \$25 on select

rings.

The Body Xchange booth is offering students discounted rates including the choice of \$5 to start, or a three-day guest pass. The regular price is \$35 per month, but with the discount, they're offering new members to start paying \$22 per month. They have nine locations around Bakersfield and a 10th one is coming soon, which will be located on Panama and Wible.



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