



# The Renegade Rip

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

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PHOTOS BY ALISIA SANCHEZ / THE RIP

Both theaters in the Performing Arts Center are taking shape as construction continues for the building's latest renovations that are well into the second year. The classrooms inside the PAC building have been completed and class sessions are already taking place.

## PAC classrooms in use, theaters are on the way

By Monique Hansen-Garcia  
Reporter

Although the theaters may not be up and running just yet, the classrooms in the Simonsen Performing Arts Center are open and being utilized as construction continues.

The halls stream with students from the Bakersfield College Theater Club as they wait for an acting class instructed by Department Chair Randall Messick to be taught in black box room. Professor Jennifer Garrett's choral department can be heard throughout the halls, with the most perfect acoustics.

The PAC building, once known as the SAM building, has been under construction for two years, but now classes have returned from other areas on campus since the work inside the classrooms has been completed.

When the outdoor theater is finished, the plan is to open with the classics "Taming of the Shrew," directed by Messick, and "Macbeth," directed by Kevin and Kody Ganger.

"We are extremely excited to get back to production," said Messick.

"We are getting the boxes put away, but we are here now," said professor Kimberly Chin.

When Messick exits the classroom, he says that students are utilizing the space to run lines, which Messick said is really an important part to



the renovation.

"The space that we have now is incredible. The black box connects to the green room and is ready for smaller, more intimate plays," he said.

"The green room is an official one," Chin said. "We will experience a technical upgrade that BC hasn't seen in decades."

When asked if the theater program for BC will be expected to grow, Chin replied, "Oh, yes, with the productions that will be put on, more students will come out to see the new space, and more will have an interest in the subject."

The classrooms that were being used for adjunct courses will still be held in Fine Arts rooms 30 and 65. "There were some wonderful upgrades to the indoor theater in FA 65," she said. "I believe that room will best suit me for the film class that I still will be offering. There was the upgrade to the DVD player, with the added function of a Blu-ray

option, which I plan to utilize the most."

FA 65 offers an ideal theater setting with chairs that are comfortable enough for the prolonged duration of film study classes.

Chin and Messick will also share their offices with John Gerhold and Garrett, with hopes to ensure the seamless stream of productions.

"It's important to get back to the basics, like found in theater production, but the production itself needs the fundamentals," said Messick.

BC Theater student Joy Wheat has starred in and had roles in past performances.

"I think that the new theater means a home for our productions," she said. "In the last two plays I participated in, they were both outside."

Wheat played the lead in the springtime production of Trojan Woman, as character Queen Hecuba.

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## \$500,000 donated to BC STEM

By Phillip Rodriguez  
Reporter

Students and faculty, as well as news crews, gathered on campus Sept. 17 by the Agriculture Building next to a blank building decorated only by a sign labeled "AERA Stem Success Center."

There, it was announced that AERA energy company had donated \$500,000 to Bakersfield College, and earmarked the renovation of the building to house an expanded Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics program.

The structure, described as "the ugly building" behind the speakers, was previously used for storing rakes and other items. Many members of the college administration spoke to the audience, including BC President Sonya Christian.

"We are here to say thank you, AERA," Christian said. "Behind me is a building that was constructed in 1955 ... it is in a prime spot."

Christian explained that the soon-to-be Success Center is surrounded by the Math and Science building, the Science and Engineering building, and the Industrial Technology building.

Christian emphasized the role of the STEM program in students' lives.

"Over 80 percent of our students are first in their families to attend college," she said. "The health of our community depends on the success of our students. Our economic vitality depends on their success, and their families depend on their success."

The director of the mathematics, engineering, science achievement program (MESA), Consuelo Gonzalez, agreed with Christian, specifically about the role STEM played in integrating with MESA. "I'm one of those students that you helped," she said.

She followed this declaration by saying that she was in MESA when she was in middle school and high school, leading her to become an engineer. "That's why my heart and soul is in MESA, and I fight for MESA so much. I'm very, very proud of everything [AERA has] done, and the contributions."

AERA CEO Gaurdie Banister was present at the event and said that he was intrigued by the science and engineering programs at BC. He said that, after witnessing the 3D lab on a tour through the college in the past, the concept behind the donation of the money was "a done deal."

Banister echoed previous statements made by Christian, saying that the donation "provides resources for an underserved demographic in our community." Banister explained other reasons for the contribution, calling it a strategic effort to encourage students to go into science, technology, and other related studies.

MESA member and student Irabel Romero was spoke to onlookers and agreed that the building will make getting to classes easier because of its proximity to the other science buildings. "Now it will all be in one place. Everything will be simpler."

Overall, the speakers used positive terms when referring to the project. "This will be a reminder that this industry giant, AERA, believes in the transformational power of education, and is willing to generously invest in our community and to the education of future generations."

## Food booths at county fair serving more than just fine food for causes

By Elizabeth Castillo  
Reporter

While the fair has many food options available, some food booths serve a greater purpose and provide major fundraising opportunities for local organizations.

When an individual enters the fair, he can see the food booth affixed with a large, Boy Scout hat. This booth, run by the Bakersfield Boy Scout troop 188, serves hot dogs, burgers, and other common fair food, but it also serves as a chance for Boy Scouts to learn various social and business skills.

"The Boy Scouts learn patience, how to interact with the public, and cash handling skills [while working the booth]," said Boy Scout parent

Les Lee.

Individuals working the booth consist of parents and boy scouts. Lee said that members of troop 188 are required to work at least one shift while the fair runs and the booth is an important tool for raising money.

"The booth is our primary fundraiser," Lee said. "Other fundraisers include selling popcorn and candy, but the booth is how we fund camping trips, summer camp and various activities for the troop."

The booth has been funding troop 188 for at least 30 years, and this year proves no different as Boy Scouts continue to learn valuable lessons. One such Scout, Danny Lommen, 11, has learned important food service skills such as keeping his work station sanitary. He primarily

works with customers. Lommen greets guests, helps take orders, and although he has various responsibilities, still enjoys working the booth.

"Working the booth is lots of fun," Lommen said. "It's nice to see friends from Scouts and see people I know walking by."

The Boy Scouts are not the only local organization dependent on fair revenue. The National Order of Trench Rats Dugout 159, the Bakersfield chapter of the national organization, relies heavily on proceeds earned from the fair. The organization is a subsidiary of Disabled American Veterans.

"The fair is how we provide help for vets in Kern County," said the unofficial manager of the food Please see FAIR, Page 6



AMBER HAYDEN / THE RIP

Visitors are faced with a variety of stands and booths at the Kern County Fair. Some of the vendor will donate funds to several causes and local organizations.

## News briefs

Discover the Dinosaurs Exhibit 3-10 p.m. Sept. 24-28. Admission \$6 at the Kern County Fairgrounds.

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“Open Studio” by Mercy Hospital. “Choose your own activity. We provide the space and materials, or you can bring in your own project and immerse yourself in our calming environment.” 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 24 at Art & Spirituality Center in Mercy Hospital on Truxtun Ave.

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Soup Kitchen noon to 2 p.m. Sept. 24. Fruit of the Vine Storehouse of Faith on 19th Street downtown. Come help, donate, or receive a hot meal. For information, please call (661) 374-4920.

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Classic Film Series: “Dr. Strangelove” 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sept. 24 at Edwards Cinema Matinee: \$7.50, \$7 children and seniors. For more information call (661) 663-3042.

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Kern River Blues Society Huge Community Jam 2-8:30 p.m. Sept. 24 at Trouts on North Chester Avenue. No Fee.

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Children’s Art Class for fourth through sixth graders 4-6 p.m. Sept. 24 at Bakersfield Art Association Art Center located on Eye St. \$20 per class. Includes all supplies. For more info, call (661) 869-2320.

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Karaoke 6-9 p.m. Sept. 24 at Ethel’s Old Corral off Alfred Harrell Hwy. For more info, call (661) 873-7613.

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Zumba Dance Fitness Class 5:15-6:15 p.m. Sep. 24 at Greenacres Community Center off Calloway Drive. \$5 and for more info call (661) 747-4646.

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Live Jazz 6:30-10:30 p.m. Sept. 24 at Le Corusse Rouge off White Lane. No fee and for more info, call (661) 834-1611.

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“Word Poetry Wednesdays,” Open Mic Night 7-9 p.m. Sept. 24 at Jazz Lounge off Chester Ave. Free and welcome to participate with your own poetry. For more info, call (661) 703-6911.

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Music Showcase 7-10 p.m. Sept. 24 at Prime Cut off Brimhall Road. Featuring local artists. For more info, call (661) 831-1413.

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Fab 4 (Tribute to the Beatles) 8-10 p.m. Sept. 24 at the Kern County Fairgrounds, Budweiser Pavilion. Free w/ paid fair admission. For more information, call (661) 833-4900.

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Rebecca Aguilar and Lost Vinyl (R&B, Classic Rock) Live 7-10 p.m. Sept. 25 at Senior Pepe’s off Granite Falls Drive.

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The California Prosperity project presents Kern County Legislative Forum. 7:30-9:30 a.m. Sept. 26 at Bakersfield College. Design a “Get out to Vote Poster” and submit for a prize. Speakers include Congressman David Valadao, Senator Jean Fuller, Politician Rudy Salas and Senator Andy Vidak. For more info, email advocacy@calchamber.com.

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FLICS International Cinema Society presents “Belle,” 7:30 p.m. Sept. 26 at the Bakersfield Fox Theater located on H Street downtown. \$6 fee. For more info, call (661) 428-0354.

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Improv Comedy Show 8-9 p.m. Sept. 26 at JC’s Place located on Chester Ave. \$5 fee. For more info, call (661) 322-8209.

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Bakersfield Farmers Market 8 a.m. to noon. Sept. 27 at the Bakersfield Event Center located downtown.

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Fathom Special Event: “Gone with the Wind” showings at 2 and 7 p.m. Oct. 1 at Edwards Cinema off Ming Ave. \$12.50. For more info, call (661) 663-3042.

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“Lace’n It Up For Links for Life” to kick off Breast Cancer Awareness month, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Oct. 1 at two separate locations: Liberty Bell and the Park at River Walk. Donation can be either \$15; \$35, includes walk and earrings; \$100, includes walk and bracelet. For more information, call (661) 322-5601.

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“First Friday Downtown” featuring live music, art openings. Artists will set up their artwork, 5-9 p.m. Oct. 3 in the Downtown Arts District. Email don@themetrogalleries.com or info@themetrogalleries.com.

# Levan donation will up the amount of scholarships given

By Trina Goree  
Reporter

Due to the passing of Norman Levan, a dermatologist, supporter of higher education, and a donor of approximately \$14 million to Bakersfield College, the BC Foundation Department will eventually award more scholarships to more students. About \$10 million of the donation will be used in forming a Norman Levan Scholarship Endowment fund.

“Four million has arrived,” stated Tom Gelder, current exec-

utive director of the foundation department. Levan donated \$14 million to BC in March 2011, but the money wasn’t to be distributed until his death.

The \$4 million parceled payment is a series of payouts that will be distributed from the Levan estate. The second parcel will be disbursed later in this calendar year and the third parcel will conclude in the spring of next year. Gelder mentioned that it is not unusual for these types of donations to be parceled out in that manner.

The endowment will sit in an

account to generate income. “It will take a full year to reach its maximum effect,” said Gelder.

Gelder mentioned that he was happy to update the student body regarding Levan’s scholarship endowment fund.

The philanthropy of Levan will increase the amount of students receiving scholarships dramatically. This will not be an avenue students who are graduating or transferring this academic year will be able to benefit from.

A soon-to-be BC graduate, Melissa Johnston, who plans to transfer to Cal State-Bakersfield,

expressed her thoughts that this predicament is unfair to transferring students.

“A lot of students depend on scholarships for gas, rent and food,” she said.

Reg Autwell, a BC student who also plans to transfer to Cal State-Bakersfield, feels there is no issue with transferring students not being able to qualify for scholarships from Levan’s donation.

“I’m OK with it because if I was here just for the money, that’s not right,” Autwell said. “I’m here for an education.”



AMBER HAYDEN / THE RIP

CHP officer inspects a family’s carseat to make sure that it is fitted correctly for the child’s height and weight Sept. 13.

## Credit union helps downtown area

By Amber Hayden  
Photo Editor

If you happened to be in the area of H Street lately, you may have noticed a few improvements surrounding the one-acre Kern Federal Credit Union lot.

The credit union has been partnering with the city as well as the Bakersfield Parks and Recreation Department in order to fix up the area where their building is located downtown.

According to the marketing manager, Miranda Whitworth, the credit union has been working with the city since last December on making the improvements along H Street starting with the donation from Kern Federal.

“We made a \$6,000 donation,” Whitworth said.

The improvements included ripping out some of the irrigation along the lower slopes of H Street, ripping out all of the dead foliage and replacing them with the close to 200 drought tolerant shrubs, as well as replacing the slating in the chain link fencing along the Bakersfield Police Department building. All of this could be seen Sept. 13 during the event held by Kern Federal called Superhero Saturday.

“This is a celebration of that, we held a symbolic ribbon cutting earlier this morning, and what we are doing now is in celebration of the project and the improvement we did downtown,” said Whitworth.



AMBER HAYDEN / THE RIP

BC football players and cheerleaders are present to promote their game that evening, Saturday Sept. 13, and to help draw attention to the downtown area’s event on H street.

The credit union is hoping that more building owners and renters will take a step toward wanting to also help out and improve the area.

“What we are really hoping is other businesses want to step forward to make improvements around their buildings. We want to lead by example,” commented Whitworth.

The focus was to let businesses know you can partner with the city and parks and recreation in small ways to help clean up the

downtown area.

“It is just seeing a positive spread, and we are hoping to lead the way,” according to Whitworth.

The credit union provided the materials for the improvements and the city provided the time.

Alongside the credit union were several “community superheroes” as Whitworth called them. Assemblymember Rudy Salas, of district 32, had sent out mailers to the community to help spread the word of the event.

He had also been in attendance speaking with those who came out to the event.

CHP was available to members of the community to do a car-seat check. This was in order to make sure that your child’s car-seat was in working order as well as making sure that it wasn’t too small or too big for the child.

Hall Ambulance, E Waste Recycling, as well as some of the BC football team and cheerleaders were also there to help promote the wellness event.

## Run hopes to fund cure for Sickle Cell

By Christopher A. Baptiste  
Reporter

The Hina Patel Foundation held its sixth annual 5K walk Saturday Sept. 13. The event was designed to raise awareness on Sickle Cell Disease and funds to find a cure. Sickle Cell is a genetic blood disorder passed from parent to offspring.

Sanjay Patel, one of the event coordinators, spoke briefly about how important it is to raise awareness about SCD and encouraged people to get a blood test to see if they have the trait and to donate blood and bone marrow.

Approximately \$30,000 was

raised to be sent to UCLA’s research group. Camp Crescent Moon and local churches are also being utilized to spread the word.

The Hina Patel Foundation has a goal to find the cure for SCD and a gene therapy has been getting tested on animals and has been a success. Patel also says it is important for doctors to know how to treat ER patients.

Laura Grant, who had a grandson with Sickle Cell participating in the walk, expressed the difficulty of life for Prince Mack on a day-to-day basis. “You never know when the symptoms will let up and it’s hard to shake

the pain,” she said. Prince Mack, who happened to be African American, inherited the disease at birth.

The disease occurs in one of every 500 black births and one out of every 36,000 Hispanic births. When a red blood cell turns defective it tends to die, turns a different shape, then clogs the blood stream, therefore causing a pain to the veins and body. Symptoms can last anywhere from seven to 10 days.

Prince Mack had just recently celebrated his 10th birthday, doubling his life expectancy. Prince Mack has had pneumonia over 50 times, cannot be in cold

water, and is hospitalized usually once a month. He also has to take 13 medications each day.

Grant was also asked how important it was to raise awareness on SCD, and with no hesitation she said, “It can be anyone with the trait or disease.” People are suffering by not knowing they have either and a lot of pain is suffered. Transplants and transfusions are very helpful for those who need them because there is a shortage in donors.

Pauline Barker, who participated in the event but does not have the trait or disease, said she had a great experience and she would love to do it again.

## Cookies bring in the dough

By Elizabeth Castillo  
Reporter

The cookies sold at the Panorama Grill and the Food Court Deli at Bakersfield College are baked fresh daily and are seeing a substantial increase in sales this semester.

According to Alex Gomez, the Food Services manager at BC, last year saw sales of approximately 90-100 cookies per day. This semester, sales have jumped to approximately 160 cookies per day.

Gomez speculates that the increase in sales may be caused by an increase in student body. He said food sales have increased in general but cookies are seeing an exceptional jump.

With the increase in sales, more dough and cookies must be prepped, but resident baker Patricia Daniel is keeping up with demand.

"Last semester, in one day, I would make 16 pans total of chocolate chip cookies with and without nuts," Daniel said. "This semester, I've been making 20-plus pans a day."

Daniel said the most popular cookies are the chocolate chip cookies. BC sells two types: one with walnuts, and one without. Originally, BC only sold chocolate chip cookies with walnuts, but the policy changed with help from Daniel.

"I asked to add chocolate chip cookies without nuts," she said. "A lot of people are allergic to nuts, and my decision was backed up [by management]."

The made-from-scratch cookies have been sold at BC for over 58 years, according to Gomez. BC also sells oatmeal raisin cookies every Thursday, but the recipe actually comes from the Kern High School District. This



VANESSA A. MUNOZ / THE RIP

**There are over 40 eggs that are added to every batch of cookie dough. And with cookies being made at least three times a day, that means there are 120 eggs being cracked daily.**

phenomenon may have occurred because BC was originally housed on the Bakersfield High School campus.

Although Daniel said she has enjoyed baking all types of cookies sold at BC over the past 10 years, there is one cookie that holds a special place in her heart.

"My favorite cookie to eat is the oatmeal raisin, probably because they're sweeter," she said.

If a student wants to stop by the Panorama Grill or the Food Court Deli for a cookie, both types of chocolate chip cookies are available daily, while Ranger cookies are sold on Mondays, Snickerdoodles on Tuesdays, Peanut Butter cookies on Wednesdays and Oatmeal Raisin cookies on Thursdays.

Originally, chocolate chip

cookies were only sold one day a week, but over time have become so popular that they are now sold every day.

While Daniel said she usually has to make extra chocolate chip cookies without nuts on a daily basis, some still prefer the other type of chocolate chip cookie.

"I really like the chocolate chip cookie with walnuts," said Leslie Bojorquez, a culinary arts major at BC. "Walnuts aren't usually used in chocolate chip cookies. Peanuts, almonds or cashews are more common."

Bojorquez typically purchases cookies twice a week and has many reasons for loving the walnut chocolate chip cookie.

"They're very delicious and surprisingly filling. They don't skimp on chocolate chips or nuts," she said. "They're not too chewy

and not too crispy. They're a happy medium and well worth the \$1.80."

Even though some prefer the chocolate chip cookies with nuts, a quick tip for those looking for an afternoon snack is that a second batch of chocolate chip cookies without nuts are usually available near 1 or 2 p.m. Daniel said other food service employees often inform her that more cookies are needed after the lunch rush on campus so she readily prepares a second, fresh batch in the early afternoon.

Regardless of preference, Bojorquez recommends students give the cookies sold on campus a chance.

"Give everything a try at least once," she said. "Maybe the oatmeal raisin or peanut butter cookie is to your taste."

## Laughter looks for a new home

By Elizabeth Fernandez  
Editor in Chief

The Center for Improv Advancement, or the C.I.A. as its founders and agents promote it, has been a home base group for local actors to learn and perform the art of comedic improvisation since 2008, and currently, the C.I.A. is on the mission to raise enough funds to give Bakersfield its first comedy club or theater.

Residents may have seen the story on the news, but the talented comedians and diverse actors are out for more than just a laugh. According to founder and current C.I.A. Director Robert Long, 43, they are primarily trying to set a location to serve, train, and provide a safe haven for local high school students, as well as trying to have a location that will enable the C.I.A. to perform shows dedicated to charity and community outreach.

"There's a lot of stuff we want to do that's difficult to do without having a home base to operate out of," said Long about the idea. "One of the first and foremost things we want to do is create a community, which means we want to be able to offer improv classes and expand what we do to reach as many people as possible."

The group has aspirations to reach beyond high schools and also offer improvisation classes to students in junior high and elementary schools. They have currently worked with, and provided workshops to Shafter, Independence, East, Frontier, and Bakersfield High School.

Among graduated students who have continued to pursue the group are Tyler Plao, 20, and Eric Daines, 21. The high school experience was so profound on Daines that he has continued as a trainer for the C.I.A. workshops.

"Being around this group of people, it just made me so happy, so I kept doing it and it became something that I want to do for a career. So it just happened to be one of the best things for me to get into at a young age," said Plao about his experience. "I think that's what we want to bring to high school students as well, just something that they can throw their hat into just to see if they like it."

Long listed several benefits that develop within a person after taking an improv class. For students, it is often a boost in confidence and the ability to find something they love. For others, like Pablo Reyes, 34, a social studies high school teacher, it has provided him with the skill-set to become a better teacher.

"Essentially, you're on stage all the time and you have to interact with your students and so on. I find myself a better educator because of it," said Reyes. "It makes them better students. They love coming to my classroom. They look forward to it and it gets them invested to it."

Long, who is also a high school teacher, has been teaching theater at Highland for over 10 years, and explained that much like Reyes, improvisational acting has given him the ability to think on his feet when engaging his classroom. He believes that a "real teachable moment" is not a part of a lesson plan.

"Kids don't stay on track for a lesson plan. They'll hear something they're interested in and they'll want to hear more about that, and so they'll ask questions that aren't related to what you planned on teaching today," he explained. "And you have that moment of inquiry, and they have something they want to know. That's your opportunity to actually teach them something about life that they're actively engaged in, which is part of something that you weren't necessarily going to deliver."

There is however, a difference between the instructors' performances in their classrooms from those onstage; they need a venue that will allow them to have a better interaction with a show audience. "There's a certain amount of intimacy that goes on with improv," said Long.

The C.I.A.'s current venues are not always well lit or able to provide ideal sound quality. "A lot of people don't understand the dynamics of seeing comedy and improv live is very different from watching it on TV," he added. "And where as a standup is one person that can talk into a mic, improvisers are doing sketch comedy, so they're moving they can't hold a mic. They're performing, they're creating characters. It's a different animal."

The ability to build this venue would also enable the service organization to dedicate more shows to charity. The C.I.A. has worked with teams for Relay for Life, Scary for Charity, and Campout Against Cancer. Ideally, Long says they would designate a month, such as April to a worthy cause.

Long also mentioned a friend of his whose foster child suffers from a meningitis related fever, and addressed the case with hopes of being able to help one day, "We'd like to be able to say we're doing a show for you to raise the money for your treatment."

For Long, who moved out of his mother's house at 17 years old, and became involved with improv a year later, having this club is part of a bigger cause. "At 18, improv kind of became my spirituality, because there are core rules to it that involve always saying yes and trusting what's going on around you, and those are kind of good rules to live by," said Long of his 25 years worth of improvisational acting. "So I adopted those and I followed the path that those laid out for me and most of the time it's led me in a decent direction."

The idea to build a full-fledged comedy club (or theater) infiltrated the C.I.A. sometime in June, and they went live with an Indiegogo fund on Aug. 10. The target amount is set at \$50,000 by Oct. 10, and Long is confident that it is obtainable.

He cited that Bakersfield's population consists of 350,000 people, all they need is for one percent of the population to purchase a \$14 perk. This 'perk' is two tickets to their show, which normally run at \$10 per individual.

"Everybody is pretty much in support of the idea of their being a comedy club (or theater) here. It's a question of getting them to open their wallets and realize that we need you to buy tickets now so that we can make it happen for you," Long said. And sarcastically added, "cuz everyone goes, 'yeah, that's a great idea,' but Facebook likes don't equal ticket sales."

The Indiegogo fund can be accessed directly from their website, CIAcomedy.com. They are currently looking for angels, or as Long jokingly said, "Secret shadowy background people to sponsor the C.I.A., a shadow board, a star chamber as it were."

For individuals interested in joining the improv group, the C.I.A.'s comedy page can be accessed through Facebook. Long jokingly added, "There is no life without improv."

## Kimberly Hoang visits Levan Center, introduces new novel

By Brooke Howard  
Reporter

Kimberly Hoang visited Bakersfield College on Sept. 11 to give a presentation on her forthcoming book, "Dealing in Desire: Asian Ascendancy, Western Decline, and the Hidden Currents in Global Sex Work," in which her unique participant observation approach gave her insight on the political economy and sexual market in Vietnam that is rarely seen by outsiders.

Over the course of five years Hoang worked at various exclusive Saigon hostess bars catering to wealthy Vietnamese and Asian businessmen, Viet Kieu (ethnic Vietnamese living abroad), Western businessmen, and Western budget-tourists.

"As a Vietnamese-American woman born in the United States who knew very little about the country my parents fled, I found myself in an awkward position of being an outsider in a country I had strong cultural ties to and not knowing what to make of it," said Hoang about her experience. "After my departure from Vietnam on that first trip I spent the year of the Master's program in sociology at Stanford University in the library, reading everything that I could get my hands on about the global sex industry."

That trip, according to Hoang, led her on a 10-year journey where she spent time conducting research for and writing her forthcoming book, "Dealing in Desire: Asian Ascendancy, Western Decline and the Hidden Currents of Global Sex Work." The journey, Hoang says, was tiresome but fulfilling.

Hoang has spoken at top colleges such as Stanford, Harvard, Boston University and much more.

"Bakersfield is a place that is near and dear to me because it is where my family has lived for the last 15 years," she said. "As the first person in my family to obtain a bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degree, I feel a close connection to many of the students in Bakersfield who are

also the first in their families to attend college or who come from immigrant backgrounds."

Hoang explained that she believes that it is especially important for students to understand that the world is becoming more and more interconnected, and that they should find as many opportunities as they can to reach beyond their immediate communities.

"The fact that Kim is a Bakersfield native and young professor at an R1 university, not to mention a first gen college student, is a story worth telling," said Oliver Rosales, an associate professor of history at the BC Delano Campus.

Hoang captivated the audience, which included her own parents, with her presence and quick wit. It was important to Hoang that she was finally able to present this intriguing research for the first time, not only to BC, but her parents as well.

"That was an amazing talk," exclaimed sociology student Jan Rhoades, echoing voices of numerous students who attended. "I came for extra credit, but I left with much more."

As the American Sociological Association 2012 Best Dissertation Award Winner, Hoang was able to come to Bakersfield as part of the Sorokin Sponsored Lecture series. Every year a distinguished American Sociological Association member is able to deliver a lecture at a regional sociological society meeting. Since 1967, each year the winner of the ASA Distinguished Scholarly Publication Award travels to a regional association to speak about the book that had been honored.

Her book explores Vietnam's diverse sex industry as it ascends the global and regional stage. Hoang explains, "Dealing in Desire," takes an in-depth look at both the sex workers and their clients to show how Vietnamese high finance and benevolent giving are interconnected with the intimate spheres of the informal economy.

"For Viet Kieu and Westerners

who bring remittances into the local economy, personal relationships with local sex workers bolster their ideas of Asia's rise and western decline, while simultaneously recuperating their lost masculinity. Dealing in Desire illuminates Ho Chi Minh City's sex industry as not just a microcosm of the global economy, but as a critical space where dreams and deals are traded," she said.

Within the many interesting topics she touched on, one really had attendees asking questions. Hoang explained with her research she found many western men moving to Vietnam to not just find business opportunities but also co-dependent women and regain "lost" masculinity. In some interviews Hoang conducted, men would state the Vietnamese girls were "nothing like the women in America" citing their "slim bodies and long, black hair." Hoang explains that these sex workers would use this to their advantage by making the men feel needed in the return of money or gifts.

Another topic posed was the abundance of wealthy men training sex workers to help close deals. In a setting such as these bars, it's easy to develop a sense of trust. The sex workers would verify the men with power and help loosen the tension.

In this hour presentation, Hoang put a mental puzzle together for the audience piece by piece. A main theme was that the decline of western dominance was a chance for small Asian countries, such as Vietnam, to show their own ascendancy and growing markets.

The summer prior to starting her PhD program in Sociology at Stanford University in 2005, Hoang decided to visit the country her parents had fled as boat refugees in 1979. Hoang recounted what sparked her curiosity to learn more about the women of Saigon's nightlife and discover the correlation between the improper economy and wealthy businessmen.

"In my search for a place to rent, I met Eric and Ryan, two



TERRY COLLOM / THE RIP

**Kimberly Hoang speaks at BC about sexual markets and political economies.**

western men, who lived in a four-bedroom house with a spare room to rent. After I moved into the house, I discovered that Ryan had a local girlfriend living with him named Hong who spent her evenings as a sex worker. Hong worked in bars late at night and came home in the early hours of the mornings to spend her time off with Ryan." Hoang illustrates, "One morning, the owner of the breakfast stand I frequented, scoffed at me, called me a whore, and told me that proper girls should not live with two white guys. Unbeknownst to me, I had become an item of gossip amongst the neighbors who assumed that I, like Hong, was a sex worker."

Shocked, the author said she retreated into the house and thought about the girl named Hong. "Physically, we shared many of the same features: jet-black hair, a petite frame, and almond shaped eyes. Where we differed was in our history," she concluded. "Our differences began with a decision in 1979 that unfolded into who we would become over 20 years later. My parents fled Vietnam after the fall of Saigon as boat refugees, while hers remained in the country. Had my parents chosen not to flee Vietnam, how different would Hong and I really be?"

After the presentation a student, Christophe Lee, stated, "I think the fact Professor Hoang went and worked in those bars herself to get that research made me really admire her courage."

You can read more about this author at [www.kimberlykay-hoang.com](http://www.kimberlykay-hoang.com). Hoang's book will be out for the public in March 2015.

## Annual alumni dinner held for athletes

By **Isaiah Bryson**  
Reporter

The fall season is coming upon us and that means it's time for Bakersfield College's annual alumni barbecue. This year marks the 60th year hosted by the Alumni Association. Alumni from all around the valley traveled to Bakersfield to honor the 60th barbecue dinner.

This year's event was held at Stramler Park. Along with the alumni, fall athletes and coaches were in attendance of the dinner.

Family and friends of the athletes were also in present at the dinner. Athletes played soccer with the children in attendance in an event that ties the college with community.

There was a very special guest at the dinner, the first ever BC Alumni Association president, John Boydston. Boydston, 91, a World War II veteran, has never missed the annual event that he started when he was at BC.

He started the event with the idea of having fun. At first the dinner began as an event for the football team, but over the years it has grown to become an event for all the fall sports at BC.

"Feels great to see everyone



AMBER HAYDEN / THE RIP

Culinary students from Bakersfield College, under the guidance of Chef Alex Gomez and his staff, along with Chefs McFee and Durst, prepared the meal for guests to the Alumni Barbecue Sept. 17. Guests could choose between steak and chicken, which was served with salad, a dinner roll and chili.

and see old friends," Boydston stated about the success of the event and the long-lasting tradition at BC.

The dinner began with the BC cheer team performing a dance for the attendants. Alumni President Becki Whitson then introduced the fall sports teams and the crowd showed its appreciation for the teams.

Whitson, who has had her fair share of annual dinners, said that it has had its up's and down's. As far as the amount of alumni that continue to return for the barbecue, she said, "It's no surprise ... athletes change, but the alumni won't."

BC Athletic Director Sandi Taylor was at the barbecue dinner and was pleased with the turnout of the event.

"It's great to get a look at the athletes this year and meet up with old friends," Taylor explained.

As far as her expectations go for this year's fall teams, Taylor seemed hopeful.

"We are off to a great start ... compete like there is no tomorrow," she said. "Coaches really prepared players for this

season."

Taylor said she is very pleased with the players' chemistry, saying, "I'm pleased at how the players get along with one another on and off the field/court."

Whitson told athletes helping out at the barbecue that "The event was a success across the board."

Julia Delarosa, a member of the women's basketball team, believed the turnout was pretty successful, and had a big turnout. Along with working at the dinner, the women's basketball team was promoting their fundraiser.

Players on the team are available for adoption at \$60, which includes a portrait of the player purchased, a T-shirt with the player's name on the back, and a season ticket to all regular season home games. For an additional \$30 you can upgrade to a VIP ticket to the skybox, where food and drinks are served during games.

The menu at the barbecue included steak or chicken, salad, beans, and a bread roll. The BC culinary students prepared the food. Beer was provided as well.



AMBER HAYDEN / THE RIP

After the social hour, people in attendance sat down to eat and continue to mingle, during which sounds of music could be heard from Bakersfield College's jazz ensemble Sept. 17.

## SGA sets sights on big goals for BC

By **Phillip Rodriguez**  
Reporter

In addition to having a new, and permanent, director of student life to supervise its meetings, the Student Government Association has had several new members voted into the leadership organization.

New SGA President Alex Dominguez is among some of the new leaders, but he says that he has big plans for the group, as well as the college.

"We are definitely trying to improve student participation," Dominguez said about the direction that SGA is taking. "Things will change this year."

Dominguez stated that the student government will not go into deficit and will be conservative in its maintenance of itself while continuing to push forward with activities.

Already this year, the SGA has completed several activities and events, such as the water rally, which garnered the attention of several elected officials as well as community leaders. Dominguez also said that he is looking to create more events with the student government, including a STEM week and possibly even the migration of a farmer's market onto campus.

Other new members have said that they felt

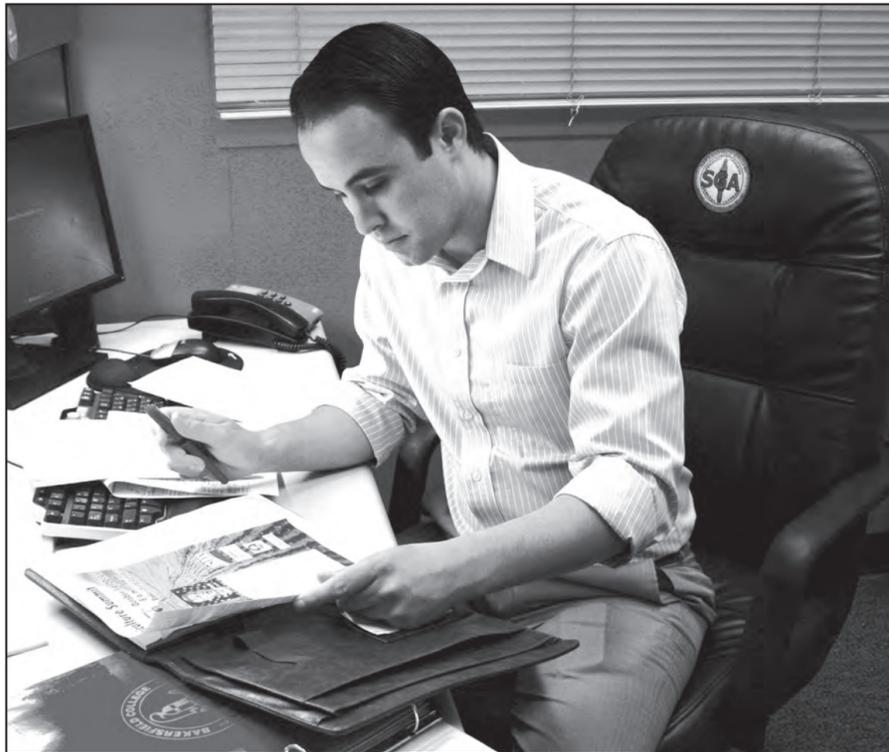
similarly about the events and activities that are taking place and are scheduled for the future.

"[Student government] opened my eyes to events and opportunities on the BC campus," said incoming Parliamentarian Alex Dobrenen. Dobrenen said his position requires him to oversee the parliamentary procedure and documents that make up the SGA constitution and bylaws.

Dobrenen said that he hopes the SGA can change things for the better this semester and improve upon last year's involvement between government and students.

Clayton Fowler, the Allied Health and Fire Technology senator, was also sworn in recently. He said he hopes to help his constituents by answering questions and resolving problems anyone might be having on campus. With an interest in both politics and firefighting, Fowler credited his attraction to such fields for leading him to apply for the position with SGA.

All of the interviewed members of the SGA said they feel positively about the changes to BC and their roles in them, whatever they may be. Dominguez emphasized this and said, "Bakersfield College is Bakersfield's college."



VANESSA MUNOZ / THE RIP

SGA President Alex Dominguez works on projects for Bakersfield College during his term.

## Club Week comes to college campus again



GRAHAM C WHEAT / THE RIP

SGA members Sahar Forouzanfar and Clayton Fowler serve cake to students during Club Week's Constitution Day Sept. 17. Activities were held all week.

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# BC club celebrates Mexican independence



ELIZABETH FERNANDEZ / THE RIP

Zoya Shaeen, a freshman, enjoys a snack to support the club's fundraiser.

By Elizabeth Fernandez  
Editor in Chief

The Chicano student oriented club commonly referred to as M.E.Ch.A hosted a fundraiser Sept. 16 that aimed to bring awareness to Mexico's day of independence on the Bakersfield College campus.

The new club president, Tania Bernal, a human services major, was eager to bring an event that introduces BC students to her culture and helps raise funds to keep the club running.

"We're celebrating to let students know," said Bernal. "[To] show them our history and let them know we're here, and why we're here."

The club president, along with other club members, said they were not only present to service tables offering traditional drinks and snacks such as horchata, churros, and corn, but were also available to answer any questions students had regarding the club fundraiser.

"We want to educate students about their own cultures, so they don't forget where they came from, and get involved politically to raise self-awareness and self-determination," said Bernal.

The Mexican Independence Day fundraiser is one of the three M.E.Ch.A normally holds a semester, according to Bernal. Proceeds will help fuel future events and help members submerge themselves into cultural activities.

"If we want to do something fun as a club this helps [cov-

er] travel expenses and things like that," said Catrina Aguilar, a child development major and returning club member.

Aguilar estimated that last year's fundraising total was approximately \$2,000. And although unsure, she added that the goal for this year is to merely surpass the previous mark by \$50.

Earned funds are normally distributed between M.E.Ch.A club purposes and aiding other partner organizations for the community at large, according to Aguilar.

For all that they do, club members state their purpose is promoting knowledge. "Our main goal is letting other students know about M.E.Ch.A," said Aguilar.

Silvia Zazueta, a child development major, had recently decided to join the club and admitted that joining helps fill a void.

"My family doesn't really celebrate at home," she said. "That's why I joined M.E.Ch.A to learn more about my culture."

A student celebrating the day but not actually in the club, Gisella Cardenas, also a child development major, reprimanded Hispanic students who aren't aware about their backgrounds.

"I know my culture enough to know what [day] it is," she said, and addressed disconnected students. "They should know."

For students with further inquiries, M.E.Ch.A club meetings are held in the Executive Board Room every Tuesday at 2:30 p.m.



Left: Monica Garcia, 18 and a sociology major, happily tops off a bag of churros with lemon juice for her friend Carmen Murillo, 18, and a business administration major.



ELIZABETH FERNANDEZ / THE RIP

# Mentoring project to help improve grades

By Christopher Alexander Baptiste  
Reporter

In an attempt to advance educational opportunities, the African American Male Students Mentoring Project continues to work with students to improve quality of life and GPAs.

When the project began a couple of years ago, the collective GPA of black males at Bakersfield College was 1.61. Low productivity was such a problem that the campus allowed the first all-race group to be established as its own.

Social Science professor Ishmael Kimbrough, a planner/facilitator for the program, has a positive outlook on the situation.

Although there are various reasons why he feels the African American students of Bakersfield College are failing, he is optimistic about change.

Kimbrough says students usually come from challenging homes and communities with little to no support or confidence to succeed. He personally wanted to get involved due to the fact that he had so many black students in his class and felt he could make a difference outside the classroom as well.

Students in the project feel that it is helping them improve in all areas.

Jason Powell is a sophomore from Compton who was maintaining a "C" average before AAMP and has since raised it to a "B" average.

"The direction of AAMP is headed down a positive road and has helped me improve time management skills, studying skills, effective note taking as well as navigating the

campus," he said.

AAMP "made me fearless" off campus, Powell said, and "I'm not afraid to go out there and get it."

Being from a troubled community, Powell used to have a social barrier stopping him from interacting with others not like him and now feels like that gap is being closed.

He feels comfortable outside his element and confident he can represent the project properly. Being proactive in the community and on campus is a key focus for Powell.

"On a scale of one through 10, I am an 11," Powell answered when asked how fit of a leader he was. Although he feels he can be more assertive and set better examples, he is still considered one of the faces to lead the students in the program.

"The fact that I have experienced so much pain from the struggle has helped me to cope in ways I couldn't before," he said.

Powell said that has allowed him to handle situations in a better fashion. Majoring in criminal justice with a career plan to be some type of federal agent, Powell must be level-headed and know how to react in real life situations.

Assistant football coach Reggie Bolton, project adviser, has taken a great deal of responsibility and volunteers a good portion of his time to the African American males on campus.

To Bolton "your degree is the ticket in the dance." He is confident that he can help all students who are a part of the project to the resources they need. "Education is extremely important," he said. "It increases the opportunities you have to succeed."



PHOTOS BY VANESSA A. MUNOZ / THE RIP

Top: Social Science instructor Ishmael Kimbrough discusses how AAMP was founded and the purpose of the program.



# BC Child Development uses cards to help raise funds

By Darlene Mangrum  
Reporter

There is a new card being offered that will help benefit Bakersfield College's Child Development Center.

The card, known as S.H.A.R.E.S., stands for Supporting Humanities, Arts, Recre-

ation, Education and Sports.

By using a S.H.A.R.E.S. card at a Savemart, FoodMaxx, Lucky or Smart Foods, a person can help donate art supplies such as paint, glue, crayons and other items to the BC's Child Development center.

Every time a person slides the card at the register of one of

these stores, 3 percent of whatever is spent goes to the college in quarterly checks throughout the year.

These cards can be used in other cities in California, and the proceeds will still benefit BC's center as long as the card itself was obtained at BC.

Child Development program

manager Danell Ward was asked what gave her the idea to use S.H.A.R.E.S. cards for fundraising.

"I've been here at BC for about a year, and I was trying to find some kind of fundraising that would be easier on families, and S.H.A.R.E.S. came to mind," she said. "We used the cards at

the last college I worked for in Northern California, and they worked out really well."

Ward believes that the cards also gives some families the incentive to buy and eat healthier foods.

"The center teaches the children healthier ways to eat and the children take what they have

learned home to their families," she said.

The cards hope to be a benefit to the program in all aspects of the fundraising.

Cards are available at the BC Child Development Center. There is no registration needed for the card - just slide it at the register as you pay.

## THEATER: Nearly complete and open

Continued from Page 1

"I had so much fun doing the plays that I have, in spite of both being done outdoors. With my major being theater and my passion is to do children's theater, so I am really excited to see what other avenues that will be open."

She continued to note definite pitfalls in not having a permanent theater: "When we did Henry the 5th, as actors, we really dealt with things that a professional level actor may not have to because they have a home theater," she said. "Then again, everything is about being able to be able to just go with it, that's acting."

With the new theater and new classrooms, courses like costume design and technical support will be available in the spring 2015 semester.

"We stand to gain a completely new crowd of students. Whereas before BC theater majors may have had to go to another school to complete their major's graduation requirements, now we will host these courses that we had not previously been able to do so," said Messick. "It's really satisfying to get the opportunity to use new equipment."

Among hopes for new productions, the black box classroom will offer an additional space in which to perform smaller and



PHOTOS BY ALISIA SANCHEZ / THE RIP

Construction appears to be adding finishing touches to the outdoor theaters although audience members are not yet welcome. The front of the outdoor theater is pictured above, and the outdoor audience area is pictured right below. Further down, a sample of the fully equipped music classroom pianos.

intimate productions. The BC Theater Club, to which Chin is the adviser, will host its one-act plays in the black box and are taking submissions for one-act plays, along with auditioning roles soon.

Club president Blake Clendenen is excited about the opportunity to use different spaces in which to perform. There will be official dates set for meetings for the club, at least once a month, in the BC Fireside room until the PAC theater opens entirely.

The new green room is attached to the black box, and host huge mirrors along the walls with ample seats available for the actors and actresses.

The indoor theater in the PAC building will offer opportunities to the community, with the space available for rental use.

"The lighting and seating in the indoor theater is immaculate," said Messick. "There is perfect acoustics, the staging and now the seats are staggered to ensure everyone in the audience a clear view of the stage. The previous stage was too low and the seats were too closely seated together, making it hard for the audience to see the stage in its entirety."

"The overall anticipation is at all levels, from students to instructors. Our hopes now are to bring the excitement to the community."



AMBER HAYDEN / THE RIP

Fair goers are walking around and anxiously looking for the best and worthiest places to eat.

## FAIR: Local booths offer proceeds to causes

Continued from Page 1  
booth, Fred Powers.

Powers has run the booth for 19 years. Its employees are members of dugout 159 and any community volunteers who want to donate their time. Powers said he also sees a large amount of dedicated, repeat-customers who continue to support the booth year after year. He said the fair is one of two annual fundraisers, and the proceeds are used to help vets in Kern County in a variety of ways.

"We have drivers, four times a week, transport disabled vets to the VA Hospital in Los Angeles," he said. "The money generated at the fair stays here in Kern County."

Powers said that the revenue also goes toward providing food year-round to the Bakersfield VA clinic and provides turkeys to the clinic during Thanksgiving.

As a veteran, Powers said he supports the mission of the National Order of Trench Rats. He visits vets in hospitals and assists with VA claims for members of Dugout 159. Along with his other work helping disabled veterans, the food booth is an important part of his life.

"This booth has been here since 1952 and it will continue to run as long as I'm alive," he said.

While dugout 159 specializes in typical fair cuisine and beer, another local organization known for its desserts is also happy to have a booth at the fair. Teen Challenge, a national,

Christian-based organization helping individuals overcome drug and alcohol abuse, sells treats such as apple, cherry and peach dumplings to fund its local programs.

"The proceeds stay in Kern County and go toward our one-year, faith-based program," said Christie Luna, the assistant director for the women's campus based in Bakersfield.

Luna has worked with Teen Challenge for 25 years and is the creator of all the deep-fried specialties sold at the booth. She said the program has about 125 students currently enrolled and is divided into the women's campus and a men's ranch located in Shafter. The program teaches classes on anger management, personal rights, overcoming temptation and love and acceptance of self.

"Drug and alcohol abuse hits every walk of life, so we have a wide spectrum of students," Luna said.

While Luna manages the booth, its employees consist mostly of students in the program. Luna hopes that employment in the booth helps students with vocational skills.

"The booth is a vocational program," she said. "Some of our students have never worked a job before while others have been registered nurses or bankers."

Regardless of the organization, community leaders involved in the food booths are proud to provide for their program and hope to continue generating revenue from the fair.

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AMBER HAYDEN / THE RIP

Rides that go upside down seemed a main focus as many fair goers decided to ride a ride that starts off slowly making its way up and over until the rider was fully upside down.



AMBER HAYDEN / THE RIP

The butterfly adventure exhibit kids were able to feel butterflies land on their clothes and skin as they walked inside.

## Butterfly exhibit attracts and intrigues all ages

By Trina Goree  
Reporter

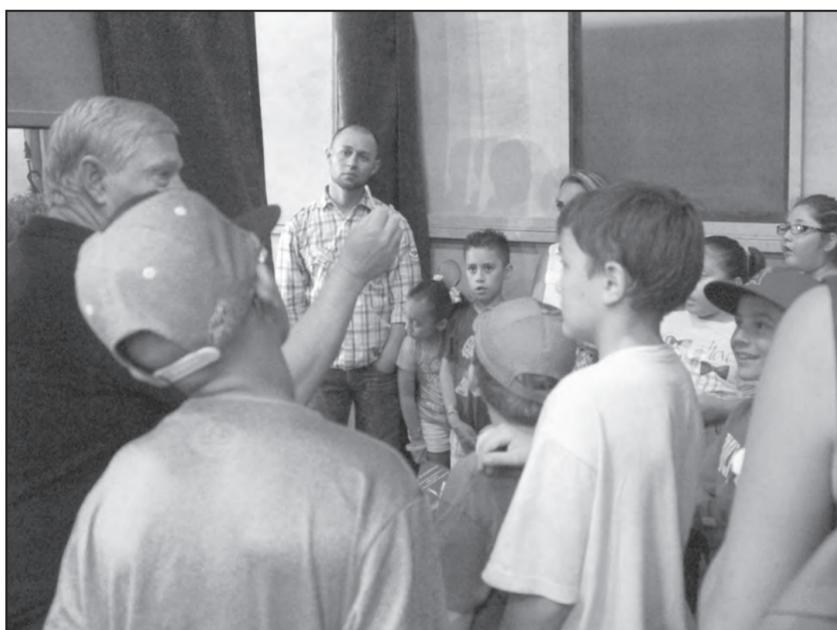
Children wait in anticipation with their nectar-soaked magic sticks, made out of Q-tips, waiting for the moment a Monarch will land and feed, giving the children the opportunity to observe the butterflies at close range.

A main attraction, new this year to the Kern County Fair, is the Butterfly Adventures exhibit presented by PG&E and has everyone lined up for the chance to experience butterflies in a way that is safe for oneself and the Monarchs, as well.

Yolanda Franco, a grandmother visiting the exhibit with her grandchildren, agrees. Franco stated, "I love butterflies." Franco also mentioned that when her aunt passes, she will come back to her as a butterfly. The exhibit reconnected her with her aunt as well as built new memories for Franco and her grandchildren. Franco finished with, "It's nice", referring to the Butterfly adventures exhibit.

Franco was not alone. Many grandmothers wanted to make sure their grandchildren enjoyed the exhibit. Linda Day, also a grandmother, proclaimed, "The grandkids are having a ball," all with a huge smile on her face. Day is clearly a proud grandparent. "It's awesome," she continued.

Day went on to mention this visit was the next step in a but-



AMBER HAYDEN / THE RIP

Peter Noah, owner, explains before going in the rules of the butterfly adventures exhibit.

terfly adventure her family had on their own. Day and her family recently traveled to the Shafter museum to enjoy those exhibits. While there, Day and the grandkids purchased an at-home butterfly nursery. Day's grandkids raised and fed the caterpillar larvae until they metamorphosed into butterflies and then released them.

The exhibit not only attracted grandmothers and grandchildren but also lured people of all ages.

A couple enjoyed the exhibit just as much as the young children. Kylee Stevens and her boyfriend of three years covered with butterflies all over the both of them.

With butterflies on her hair, clothes, and bag Stevens stated, "I'm in love with the butterflies."

When asked, how did so many butterflies land on her hair? Stevens replied with, "I put nectar in my hair." The couple enjoyed

the exhibit and made sure to take plenty of pictures of one another with the butterflies.

The line is worth the wait at the KCF for the Butterfly adventure exhibit.

Before entering, one received a crash course in butterfly etiquette from owner and butterfly enthusiast Peter Noah. Just before exiting the exhibit there is a friendly face, John Turner, making sure no butterflies hitch a ride on the spectators.

## The good, the bad and fried

By James Macias  
Reporter

Taste is what brought me out this weekend to the Kern County Fair – the taste of food. I am quite fond of eating, so this was a perfect assignment for rating food – and some drinks – at the fair.

For each place, I gave an overall score of up to 10, and then rated some individual choices up to 10.

I gave one establishment a 10, and it doesn't even serve food. The Beer Saloon, instead, has beer on top of beer with beer next to beer and beer underneath. All along one wall there are large flat screens perpetually showing "the game" or at least a game.

Throughout the somewhat cavernous room, giant industrial fans have been attached to the cross beams and are kept at full blast. The temperature in the saloon is easily 10 or 15 degrees lower than it is outside. This particular bar serves Chelada and a couple of other brands that are not commonly available throughout the fair.

Peter Castro is the man behind The Beer Saloon bar, and he has worked in the beer industry his entire life. A Bakersfield native, he has been selling beer at the fair for 31 years and selling beer in general for 40 years. He has worked as a beer wholesaler for Advanced Beverages here in Bakersfield. His past credits include six years at Miller and 20 years at Coors.

"I just love the business so much and I'm trying to stay involved any way I can," he said.

Here are scores for separate categories: food 0, seating area 10, beverages 10, atmosphere, 10.

### SLEEK GREEK

The best food, by far, was lamb gyros at the Sleek Greek. They were flavorful with a slightly tangy note and a gritty texture.

The Traditional Greek Fried Combo costs about \$13 (or \$9 for just a gyro) and is a gyro with some feta smothered fries. The fries are not too crispy and are mildly seasoned.

I found the environment to be adequate and the cook, Kara Moe, 29, to be quite pleasant.

She says that following the fair's operating her aunt and uncle's mobile food festival is not like making a traditional living. "It's a different life," she said. She has been coming to the Kern County Fair for four years and says it has become the highlight of her year.

When asked if there was anything about the fair life that she truly hated, she smiled and said, "I hate the 14 hour days. It can be a little grueling."

Overall score: 9. Categories:

lamb gyro 10, feta fries 8, feta 9, seating 0, beverages 0.

### GOLDEN WEST WOODPIT BARBEQUE

This establishment was very clean and well-maintained with a courteous and attentive staff. You will recognize it by the fence, which defines its private dining area.

The dining area consists of round tables with colorful umbrellas and the combination of these umbrellas and the proximity of the two nearest buildings conspire to keep it pretty much immune to direct sunlight.

The atmosphere is relaxed and one can bring food in with him without fear of ejection.

Sandy Kasinak, who was very cool and laid back, is one of those people who radiates self-confidence. She has been on the fair circuit since 1981 and says she loves to travel. Hailing from San Diego, the heat was the only complaint she had about Bakersfield. "Being from San Diego, I really don't appreciate the weather," Kasinak said.

The Golden West Woodpit Barbeque bears this much description because their food was amazing. I had the ribs. They were juicy and just the right kind of greasy. Their sauce was tangy and had exactly the right contrast of sweet notes. The meat I ate seemed perfectly cooked, but then I like my meat a little more rare than most so if you like it well done you should probably speak up when you order.

The coleslaw had your typical mix of flavors except it had a very agreeable note of black pepper, which did not overwhelm the pallet.

The baked beans held a pleasant experience as well. I came back later and tried a few other menu items but the ones that really stood out were the ribs, the cole slaw, and the baked beans.

Overall: 8. Categories: seating area 9, ribs 9, cole slaw 8, beans 8, beverages 0.

### OTHER PLACES

Big Bubba's Bad Bar-B-Que gets points for style. Their operation has a prime location and they have decked it out with all the stops. Here you will find shaded, fenced seating, which is situated away from the main throng of human mass. Their staff is friendly and polite and attentive.

With their giant, flamboyant sign you would need to be blind to overlook them and even then someone would defiantly tell you about it.

In the category of things to avoid we have: The Hot dogs! On A Stick Or On A Bun, trailer, which left something to be desired. While they were by far the most generous vender present, their food was not so pleasant.

## Staff Editorial Increased enrollment, a pain for students

Another fall semester is grinding away. We are already through a month of the 16 weeks and the bewildered faces still linger around the campus. There seems to be record numbers for the 153-acre main campus that the cramped construction walkways alone cannot account for.

Let us examine some of what is happening: the amount of warm bodies packing seats, the addition of late-start classes, a high-decibel rumble of voices emanating from the cafeteria during peak munching hour. Unlike most semesters where the numbers decline around the one-month mark, this seems to be the new normal.

These are all indicative signs that BC is growing. It is growing administratively right alongside the addition of adjunct and new professors, and more importantly it is growing in students.

It is in this growth that students are dealing the most damage, and losing sight of the true purpose this college is supposed to serve. BC is a steppingstone to higher education, and the pursuit of the rest of your life.

What is so disarming and detrimental to the campus is the sheer number of slack-jawed undergrads cramming up the gears that produce tangible academic results.

It is nearly impossible for a dedicated student to wade through vast numbers of people who do not take their education seriously.

This situation creates a host of problems not only for committed students but also for faculty.

There are those that seek only to reap some benefit from a financial aid loophole by enrolling in a class and dropping it hastily to receive compensation, thereby causing students who actually need the class to end up wait-listed or out-of-luck. There are those who merely take an easy class to be unburdened by their familial obligations from a parental or significant figure creating similar problems for students who want to be there. There are those who waste instructors' time with shenanigans aplenty.

These are students without the zeal to pursue academics at its fullest. It has become increasingly difficult to muster the will-power to drudge through these students' lack of effort. Attending this school does require social interaction, however, it should not be your place to socialize.

While BC's website says that it serves 15,000 students on the main campus, cappex.com (a college evaluation and scholarship website) puts BC at approximately 19,000 students with around 6,000 full-time students and 13,326 part-time students. BC is a "part-time" college even for those who do take academia seriously, however, purely numbers do hint at the fact that there are many more non-serious "part-timers."

If you aren't willing to show the same level of commitment as other students, at least show some respect. Do not hinder the growth and completion of a necessary component to someone's goals and dreams.

# Athletes and punishments

By Monique Hansen-Garcia  
Reporter

The National Football League has seriously dropped the ball on the Ray Rice situation.

The league has made a martyr of Rice by exploiting him in his domestic violence case, when other players have had situations worthy of reprimand.

The Rice incident didn't become an issue until we, the public, saw the video. This leads us to a moral question. Do we, as the public, hold our athletes to a higher standard than that of others?

With cases like that of the singers Rihanna and Chris Brown's incident of domestic violence, the public played a larger role in the situation than what would have held true in days before TMZ, Facebook and Twitter. In each situation there is a difference of opinions and no current rule stands for any national league. When athletes are guilty or accused of being involved in domestic violence, are those issues the concern of public opinion?

When men are putting their hands on females and getting away with it because they are stars, athletes or famous, how big is the problem?

The language we use with our children is that women are not to be hit on by boys, often taught at a young age, can any league forcibly impose morals to state punishment for not adhering to moral standards?

Knowing a woman should be respected and treated as such is one thing, but who can police the athletes of our nation to adopt these morals if they choose not to? Would not a man that breaks laws by having domestic violence acts being committed against another be seen as unworthy of our praise and admiration, or do athletes deserve the same respect given to convicts; and once they serve time or fines are imposed as reparations, do we find it a "forgivable sin"?

What would be the appropriate action of society and what is OK by the leagues to impose as rules and what is not? The fact that domestic violence may happen in the home, can we suspend or fire people because they have a life at home that we don't approve of?

In cases of domestic violence, we often see the victim take the perpetrators back as a vicious cycle of the abuse. Is it not to victimize the significant other of perpetrators even furthermore to put their lover on trial a second time, for the approval of general society? Simply put, the real issue with domestic violence is a moral issue. To ask that our national sports leagues get involved is ludicrous. In a perfect world, I'd love to tell you how to raise your kids, what to value and approve in your relationship, and what is the true religion for you to put your faith in, but these are each moral standards of our way of living. Women have rights, and should be valued. Yet, no league or organization should be able to get involved in another's home life.

What will be next? A societal rule set on what morals and values we should all adhere to? If there isn't an official rule set to the way issues of domestic violence is handled in the world of sports, it just may be that the sports world we all love in our own way shouldn't be plagued by moral dilemma.



ILLUSTRATION BY VANESSA MUNOZ/ THE RIP

By Daniel Ojeda  
Sports Editor

In a perfect world, professional athletes would only be subject to legal discipline for any player misconduct.

For years now, professional sports leagues and teams have had to deal with disciplining players, which has sometimes felt like the decisions have been made at random.

But for the commissioners who are running these leagues, it's nearly impossible to find a one-size-fits all discipline that would satisfy everyone without sacrificing fairness.

I agree with every reasonable person that domestic violence and child abuse is wrong.

Within the past year and especially these last couple of months, it seems there has been plenty of discussion about both of these issues and, as usual, with sports fans clamoring for these athletes to face suspensions or even a lifetime ban.

A majority of the time, a fan's reaction is based on an emotional and personal level.

So this brings the question of what an appropriate punishment for allegations made against an athlete actually is.

This is where the lines begin to obscure because when sports leagues discipline their players sometimes it's done in a manner so that their respective leagues aren't perceived as soft or somehow being pro-abuse. Players such as Adrian Peterson, Jonathan

Dwyer and Ray Rice should face fines and suspensions for their acts of violence and abuse, but through the legal system, and when is the punishment enough?

They should also have the opportunity to have a fair trial and be given a chance to give their side but in some cases, such as with Peterson, private information can be illegally released.

Illegally released photos of injuries to Peterson's son could compromise his ability to a fair trial, but worst of all it was also a violation of his child's privacy.

I'm not saying that we should feel sympathy for Peterson or the other accused players but they should all be entitled to the same type of privacy we would want to receive. When it comes to domestic violence, sports leagues such as the NFL are finally taking steps to shape a league policy instead of fining and suspending on case-by-case basis. Best of all, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, recently announced that a panel of four women will help shape a new policy moving forward. With a goal of making a real difference in domestic violence issues as well as others and their effectiveness.

For those shouting from the rooftops about the recent uptick in arrest in sports, these incidents aren't isolated to sports. Allegations of violence and abuse are happening everywhere from government agencies all the way up to big time companies as well.

Owners of sports teams need to take some time and think through the issues of what type of discipline is appropriate. They also need to figure out whether being disciplined by the legal system is enough, which I think is, or whether each team should add fines or suspensions on top of what the player was sentenced to.

As sports in general reel from one star athlete being accused to another, teams are finding out just how hard it can be to come up with policies that are coherent and consistent beyond what the legal justice system can provide. If these answers aren't what teams are searching for, if mob rule is the only way that we can determine what discipline is needed, then perhaps Nancy Grace should be in charge of handing out fines and suspensions.

## Racist allegations: Separate repercussions for front office

By Mohamed Bafakih  
Reporter

In the wake of former Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling's case in April, it seemed clear that first-year NBA commissioner Adam Silver would not allow any kind of tolerance of any racial discrimination or prejudice.

Five months later, we're hit with another lawsuit – this time with an internal connection between management personnel (rather than the belligerent voice recording such as Sterling's case with his girlfriend).

First off, the now former Atlanta Hawks co-owner, Bruce Levenson, stands correct and is not a racist. Levenson sold his share of 21 percent on Sept. 7 after self-reporting a 2012 email between him and his co-owners, which included Hawks general manager Danny Ferry. Levenson owned up about the email in his statement in July calling it "intolerable and offensive."

This personal email questioned the Hawks facility, fan base and employees. Here are a few excerpts from Levenson's email:

"For the first couple of years we owned the team, I didn't much focus on game ops. Then one day a light bulb went off when digging into why our season ticket base is so small, I was told it is because we can't get 35-55 white males and corporations to buy season tickets and they are the primary demo for season tickets around the league."

"Then I started looking around the arena and noticed the following: 1.) It's 70 pct. black. 2.) The cheerleaders are black. 3.) The music is hip hop 4.) At the bar it's 90 pct. black...."

"My theory is that the black crowd scared away the whites and there are simply not enough affluent black fans to build a significant season ticket base... I think southern whites simply were not comfortable being in an arena or at a bar where they were in the minority."

"When I hear some people saying the arena is in the wrong place I think it is code for there are too many blacks at the games.... And many of our black fans don't have the spendable income which explains why our f&b and merchandise sales are so low...."

As antagonistic as he may have seemed, Levenson approached this email within his inner circle of businessmen. In any business, small or corporate level, you want to make sure you're providing consumers with the most exceptional experience and making sure you're bringing money in.

This is not your everyday business however. This was nearly a \$200-million organization that Levenson and his co-owner Michael Gearon invested in back in 2004. When you are not drawing in and meeting expectations for your season ticket base, solutions and valid reasoning have to be brought up – especially with your fellow investors.

Could he have approached it differently? Absolutely. Does it make him a racist? No. This is a strong-minded, opinionated businessman who wants the best for his organization and his partners. Him stepping down as owner and selling his share will impact the next owner and how they will carry on an organization that nearly knocked off the one-seed Pacers in the first round of the NBA playoffs this past season. They deserve tremendous support, as they are a team on the rise in the Eastern Conference.

Lakers legend Kareem Abdul-Jabbar supports Levenson as well. In a recent interview with TIME, Jabbar mentions, "He's a businessman, not a racist ... sure, there are assumptions he makes that are cringeworthy – but the questions about how to attract more white fans were entirely reasonable."

Atlanta has a high demographic of African-Americans; thus, it's expected to attract many of them – especially for basketball games being such a highly popular game for blacks. Whether the white community is opposed to attending games for that matter or not, blacks will still continue to support their city's team, which has to be honored.

Ferry, on the other hand, deserves major criticism and clearly made racist remarks. In his conference call with both owners discussing this summer's free agency, Ferry listed potential players that may fit into the Hawks' system.

On veteran Luol Deng, who is of Sudan descent, Ferry took no time stating his opinion. "He's a good guy overall, but he's not perfect. He's got some African in him. And I don't say that in a bad way, other than ... he's like a guy who would have a nice store out front but sell you counterfeit stuff out of the back."

I had a chance to talk to BC math professor Thomas Mieh who is of Liberian descent about Ferry.

"Frankly, [Ferry] needs to know more about Africa. People there are nicer to strangers than to their own kind."

He is being ignorant and is educated enough to make better decisions (Ferry, a four-year Duke University student-athlete). "

Ferry played in 13 NBA seasons and was a former vice president for the highly diverse San Antonio Spurs franchise before taking the general manager position for the Hawks.

Ferry has taken an indefinite leave, but there is no room for his bigotry in the NBA.

The Hawks remain an open investment and are seeking to move on "the Atlanta way" as Kasim Reed, Atlanta mayor says.



Winner of the 2003 and 2008 JACC Pacesetter Award

First place in 2011, third place in 2013 for CNPA General Excellence

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## App Review

# Sweet 16's for songwriters; the real rap app now catering to artists of other genres

By Elias C. Ahumada  
Opinions Editor

The makers of Sweet 16's, the real rap app, are back with a much more fun and easy to use update to the popular mobile application.

Sweet 16's version 3.0 has been drawing plenty of positive reviews in recent months. Red Lagoon Studios was forced to make the recent updates because version 2.8 was such a huge success.

Sweet 16's is a fresh look-

ing songwriter's app that allows songwriters to easily create, edit and organize song bars for artists on the go.

For songwriters running low on money, they can now skip the studio session and check out Sweet 16's voice recording feature.

The voice-recording feature enables artists to upload instrumentals, from the phone, import a saved song and record the track all at the same time.

Another important feature that songwriters will find useful is

the lockdown mode.

Lockdown mode safeguards the artist's music so that in the event that the artist loses his phone he can always come back and retrieve his work.

Auto scroll is another new update that draws plenty of at-



RED LAGOON STUDIOS

Auto scroll makes it possible for the artist to upload a beat, set the scroll speed, and deliver the lyrics.

The lyrics will move down automatically allowing the artist to be hands free in the

studio. Another bulleted feature is

the ability to upload and send a saved song through text message or email. This feature can be very important for traveling artists or artists trying to share music from long distances.

Sweet 16's has been a popular tool among many hip-hop artists, but from the looks of the new features, the program has the ability to reach out to other genres as well.

One of the features I found to be real hip was the all black and gray logo.

It makes the appearance look

more fun for a user.

The one thing that some users might find to be frustrating is the fact that the mobile app has not yet been made available to Apple users. The program, however, is available for purchase through other Android devices.

Red Lagoon Studios has put together another gem in Sweet 16's version 3.0.

This app should be a handy tool for any songwriter who needs quick access to 16 bars.



# Dawn of new Internet causing conflicts in U.S.

By Graham C Wheat  
Contributing Writer



GOOGLE IMAGES

We are on the edge of a new generation. A new way of thinking, and truly a new way of living is about to unfold upon the world. The edge of the precipice that we as a global society face to scale is now upon us, and the decisions we make today will ultimately determine how hard of a climb we must undertake and the slope where we may all plummet.

This impetus that is upon us, perhaps even driving our global society, is the Internet and world-wide web, and more specifically how we decide to treat it along with all the occurrences in the medium for the future and beyond.

It is already so much a part of modern life, and reaching ever closer to those without it. Tendrils of information seeking out anything that will absorb it. It is inorganic, yet somehow seems to grow as a weed does in a fertile garden.

Without it many of us are left incompetent and ignorant, bordering on assisted thinking. Remember something with a heavy resolution. This lifeless, yet organic tool is only getting bigger, faster, stronger and more important every second.

So many of us are now familiar with the prospect, and actuality, of "Big Brother." What we read is not a foreboding tale of science fiction anymore. Simply, that your own government spying on you is now anecdotal dinner conversation should speak volumes to the path that our future is taking.

We have seen the dramas played out on television, print, and the very medium of the web itself. Bradley Manning, Julian Assange, Edward Snowden. These are now names that are synonymous with Internet espionage, treason, and to some a symbol of freedom on the web. Every one of the global happenings that these three facilitated occurred on, and because of the Internet and the web.

It is no longer in some smoky room with shadowy figures, although I'm sure that this does still occur, where policy-shaping secrets are changing hands. It is online that worlds are changing and shaping, and we are all very important factors to the way it is happening.

Entire regimes have been toppled because of the quickness and effectiveness of political and social decay expressed through the net.

Whatever your views on The Arab Spring, it happened because of, and on the web for the entire world to witness. Yes people, the web changes the world and we had all better start caring about what happens on it and the people who are attempting to control it.

Our government and others in great power know this, and they are attempting to shape it in the image that they wish it to be, consequently not the image of the people who are doing the most creating and most affected by what it is and is to be.

Use your trusty Internet knowledge to search the bills CISPA or SOPA and you will begin to see what actions our government is taking to control and monitor the traffic of ideas and data.

The recent issue of net neutrality, which is the free-flowing traffic of all data regardless of user, combined with the recent "fast lane" proposals from gigantic telecom conglomerates is an effort to further control and separate the internet and the web into have and have-nots.

We cannot allow algorithms to segregate data that is deemed unfavorable, as was the case on Facebook during the recent Ferguson, Missouri incidents as opposed to Twitter's explosion of information on the events.

We must not allow governments to inherit total control and impose archaic regulation on something so organic that people change its very nature on a daily basis.

While companies like Time-Warner Cable and AT&T merging and creating an Internet monopoly in the US is bad idea, more so is the fact that there would be no other better, faster services for people to choose from.

Do a quick web search on fiber Internet and you will find globalized companies actively lobbying to, and creating precedent setting laws to block cheap, efficient Internet service. Something that is a near necessity for all Americans should not be stifled by profits and bottom lines of companies that have only one interest in mind.

Precedence is everything in this country.

The laws that are being created regarding the Internet and World Wide Web today will be reviewed for the next generation's important legal dramas and tribulations. Our attitudes toward the regulation, infrastructure, and usage of the Internet and World Wide Web will create the foundation that it sits upon for generations.

If we do not actively insist on an open, fairly distributed Internet and web that is afforded all the rightful freedoms of speech we will end up with none of those things.

We must recognize that what we see as the Internet and web today will be vastly different from what our grandchildren will recognize it as.

The creation of legislation today must foster its growth for tomorrow, not constrict and monetize it.

Laws are being made, policy is being written. It is no longer a matter of "when the time comes."

The future of our new world is growing and molding whether you are ready for it or not, it is no longer some far off fable of hackers, or authoritarian rule, or electric sheep.

Let us all have some foresight and create our own future.

By Elizabeth Castillo  
Reporter

Known for her wild and manic antics as the Yeah Yeah Yeah's frontwoman, Karen O somewhat misses the mark in her gentle, lo-fi solo debut, "Crush Songs."

The record begins with "Ooo," a lullaby-like song that is soft and sweet, similar to the growing emotions of a crush. However, the track that follows the agreeable opener isn't nearly as impressive. "Rapt" leaves me feeling confused.

While at first the song seems promising with the juxtaposition of profane lyrics aptly describing love set to a gentle tune, it ends with a jarring yelp that feels misplaced and detracts from the sweetness carefully composed throughout the song.

The mixed success of the album continues with unappealing tracks such as "Comes the Night" and the unfinished "NYC Baby." The eighth track, "So Far," has a promising beginning and its folksy sound made me hopeful, but it ultimately left me disappointed and I felt as though important elements were missing.

While many of the songs left me dissatisfied, the biggest let-down of the album is "Visits," which at a minute and a half, seems to drag along. O's performance in the song is much too forced, and it is unsuccessfully

experimental.

Just when I thought my heart was broken by this unfulfilling record, the best track – which is buried halfway through the album – finally begins. "Day Go By" is a hopeful song with playful lyrics that perfectly illustrate the giddiness, joy and affliction a new crush can often cause. O springs to life in this song claiming that her "pain is gone" and she "can't stand still" because of the romantic emotions bubbling inside. "Crush Songs" would be much more notable if all the tracks reflected the sentiment of "Day Go By." While many of the songs on this short record left me wanting more, I was grateful that the second half of the album is slightly more successful. "Body" is a fitting song for O and it is reminiscent of how wonderfully unexpected her songs can become. "King" is a whimsical tribute to the fallen King of Pop, Michael Jackson, and the album thankfully ends on a positive note. The final track, "Singalong," is fittingly titled as O sings together with several others in a lighthearted manner. The song ends with a pleasant giggle and it leaves me hopeful that new, successfully soft songs similar to past hits "Maps" and "The Moon Song" are sure to emerge from this always unique, rock-star vocalist.



GOOGLE IMAGES

# Bundled books a heavy burden for BC students

By Myrissa Johns  
Contributing Editor

As the new semester has taken way, students might have noticed some changes with some class requirements and book sales. These changes have made buying used books nearly impossible, making school even more expensive and harder on struggling students.

In the past couple semesters, more and more classes are requiring new editions of books. While I agree that it is completely necessary to have a recent version of a textbook so the students can learn the most up-to-date information, I feel that the school is making it very difficult for students to find more affordable ways to get the materials needed.

I also think it might be a conflict of interest that some of these new editions are even written by the professors that teach the classes requiring them.

I understand that the professors teach the material and having written the book, they would do so in a way that would cater to the way they teach the class, trying to benefit the students.

But circumstances as they are, this is actually making things harder on the students as the books are only being sold in bundles.

So, even the classes that aren't requiring brand new editions are still forcing students to buy the book in order to get the workbook needed for the class.

Many classes have also made it a part of a student's grade to do online assignments, which

require an online access code to complete.

So, without buying the bundle, a student could be losing out on points by not being able to complete these online assignments.

In one of my classes, the online assignments aren't even using information from the book. Imagine my disappointment when after spending \$144 on something about the size of a notebook.

I get online to find assignments that are based on news articles, not material covered in the textbook.

When the books weren't sold in bundles, students were able to at least purchase used books from students who have already taken the classes, essentially eliminating a lot of the cost.

By bundling the books and

requiring students to get everything, even when they only need an access code or a workbook, it is only hurting the students.

Many of the students that are going to be hurt by this the most are the ones who are financially struggling.

The ones who know how important it is to get a degree and a good job, the ones who would work hard and make their classes a priority.

Those students are the ones that are going to end up having to drop classes because they can't afford it.

The school might have raised enrollment and it might be making a lot of money by making these changes, but if this doesn't change, it just seems to me that they might also be pushing a lot of students out of classes.

# Cat calls not compliments; be nice or no dice

By Brooke Howard  
Reporter

Catcalling will never get you anywhere, especially not laid.

What is Catcalling you ask? Catcalling is when a person – usually male – gives a whistle or yell at another person – usually female – for the purpose of getting attention and in hopes of a future hookup. This is usually done out of the window of a car or surrounded by their equally uninvited friends.

To clarify, a compliment and a catcall are two separate things. A compliment is vocalizing a nice, little thought you had about someone. A catcall is harassing someone publicly with usually not nice intentions.

Some people, who usually lack social skills, feel like it's okay to

give a "compliment" in the form of a whistle or retort to another person walking by. As a female all it does for me is make me feel uncomfortable and annoyed. Turned into a piece of visual meat for someone you don't know. Reduced down to nothing more than a sexual object and told so in public. I mean catcalling is not about flattery; it's not making us feel cool and special. If you want to make another person feel cool and special, try giving them the respect they deserve.

Most catcalls to women do not sound like the following: "Wow girl! The way you hold those books is amazing." "Man would I love to take you out to a nice steak dinner." "Whoa you are the type of girl I'd take home to meet the parents!" No. We don't get the pleasure of that. We get

"Damn girl!" "Hey sexy," and much cruder things I don't think should get the pleasure of addressing.

And I will say this: it's not just males who have the power to make sexual retorts. I have been known to lower my glasses a bit when one of you fine fellows walk by in some athletic gear or a suit and tie. Luckily, I stopped and realized, what if I walked by in a dress and he did that to me?

The other day I saw a group of the opposite sex watching me walking and immediately felt dread. I had to walk past them; there was no other way. I used my books to cover any body parts that might lead to the inevitable glances. As I walked past, the insane happened. A member of the male species gave me a compliment – a real compliment.

He said, "Wow, you are so pretty! And I like your Vans," and gave me a warm smile. After that, they all shook my hand and introduced themselves. It's sad I had this preconceived idea they would demean me. What I did next might shock you... I gave that guy my number.

What we have today is a lack of social skills and respect for each other especially in regard to sex.

The next time your loins stir at the sight of someone in public, why don't you calm down, go up and pay them a nice, little compliment.

It might brighten their day and your chances of getting to know their person increase.

In my opinion, be respectful to people and people will respect you.

# BC wrestlers trying to find winning way

By Mohamed Bafakih  
Reporter

With an extra week to prepare for West Hills College due to the cancellation of the Sept. 12 dual between the Renegades and the Rams of Victor Valley, the Bakersfield College wrestling team had their eyes set on making a statement to open up their season here at home.

Unfortunately because of guys missing their weight class, the Renegades automatically faced a 12-point deficit in this past Saturday's dual vs. West Hills, which led to their 19-26 loss to the Rams.

Undoubtedly, the tough cast didn't mind moving up weight classes.

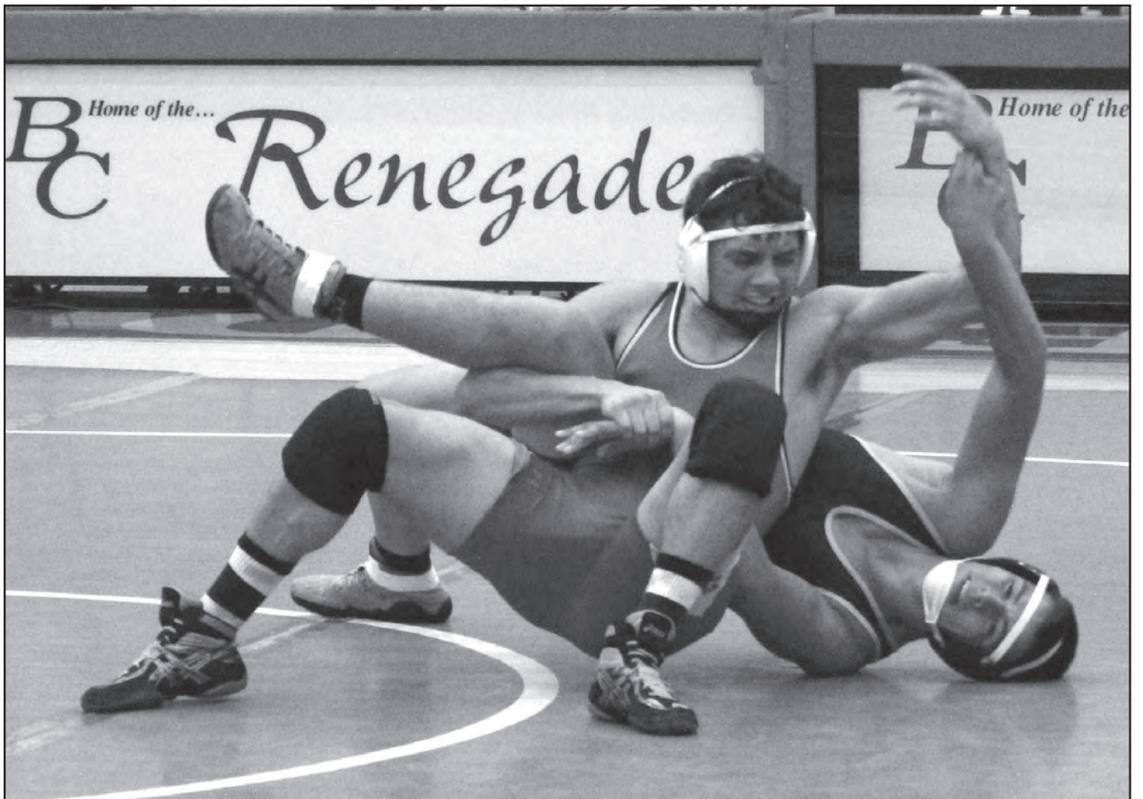
"We had about 4-to-5 guys

who went up one, and even two weight classes. Jack [Murphy] for instance wrestles at 197[lbs.], but was bumped up to 275[lbs.] and did well wrestling 30-40lbs. over his weight," says grappling specialist coach Joe Espejo.

The Renegade wrestlers spent this past Saturday at the Mt. Sac Dual Tournament with a chance to regroup and "get back to the winning style we've had in the past" as Espejo mentioned.

Bakersfield finished their pool in third place out of five with a 2-2 record. Palomar went on to remain undefeated throughout the day with a 4-0 record and rights to Pool A champions.

"We have minor technique readjustments that need to be touched on, but guys are buying into our program under their



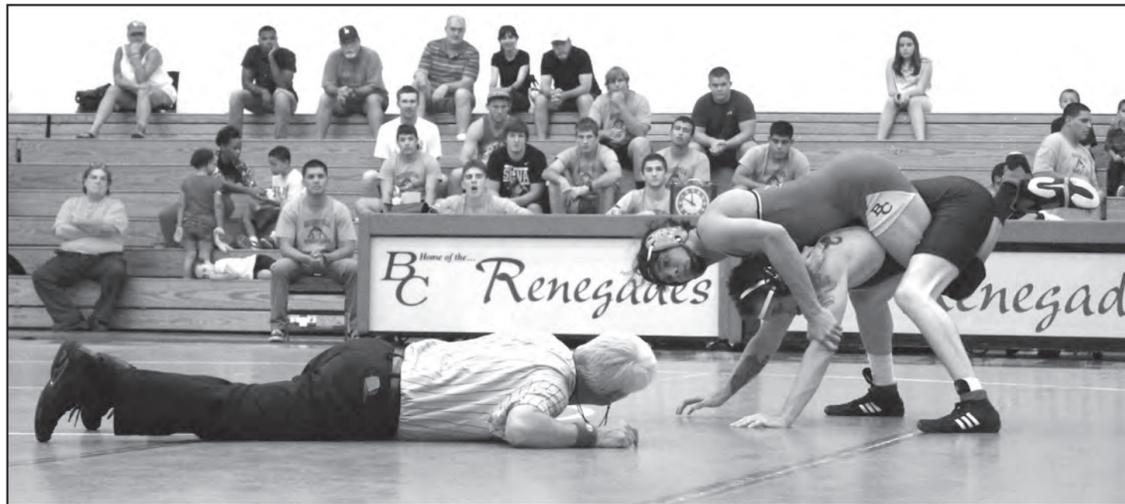
PHOTOS ALISIA SANCHEZ / THE RIP

Vincent Gomez hits a gramby against his West Hills College opponent at the Gil Bishop Gymnasium at BC.

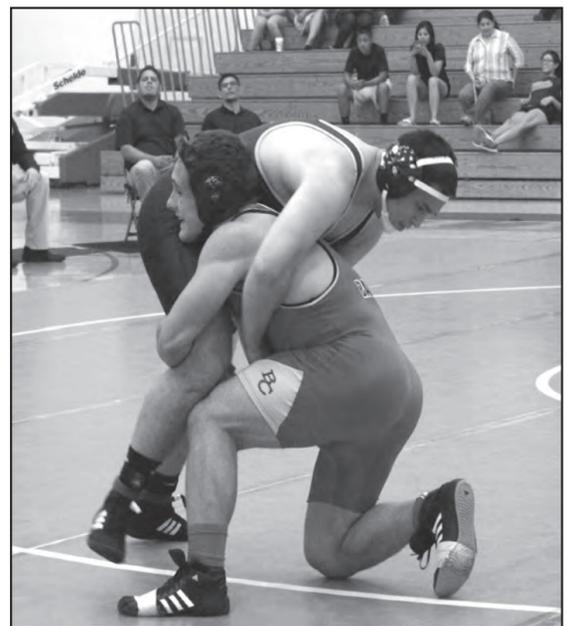
first-year head coach [Brett Clark]," Espejo adds.

Bakersfield College will host their annual Bakersfield Ren-

egades Duals all day Saturday (9/27) at the Gil Bishop Gymnasium with a chance to defend their mats.



Gregory Pagela rides his West Hills College opponent at the Gil Bishop Gymnasium at Bakersfield College.



Jack Murphy hits a blast double against his opponent.

# With tryouts over, soccer club looking for a fast start

By Elias C. Ahumada  
Opinions Editor

Tryouts are over for the Bakersfield College soccer club and a majority of the spots on the team are taken. Also, the team is entering the semester with a new face at head coach.

Pete Fox, a former BC men's soccer coach, has taken the responsibility as a volunteer coach for the club.

On Sept. 17, the club held practice at the Bakersfield College soccer fields, located behind the Grace Van Dyke Library, and practice was held from 5:30-7:30 p.m..

Coach Fox was available for questions after practice.

When asked about how many players made the team, Fox said, "I think we are go-

ing to keep a roster between 26 and 30."

The practice began with a 15-minute conditioning phase. The players also took this opportunity to stretch out.

After the conditioning phase, the players took a quick water break and then proceeded to take on Fox's next set of instructions.

Fox lined the club up at midfield and began giving the club a briefing about what he expects of them during practice.

Fox also took the time to talk to some players individually.

Next, the club ran some drills and some plays that seemed designed by Fox. Players were communicating with one another throughout

the drills.

The final practice drill the BC soccer club went through was the scrimmage game. The club was split up into two teams, a blue and green team, and they played for about 30 minutes.

After practice, some players were available for interviews.

Sam Blackhurst, who plays center midfielder for the club, is a returning player from last semester. Blackhurst said, "With tryouts and stuff it went well, we have a lot of new talent out here, a lot of new participants." Blackhurst also noted that the expectations for the team moving forward are very high, "Honestly, anything less than a .500 season is probably a loss for us, we are definitely try-

ing to go over that and when we go to play big schools like Northridge we just want to be able to compete."

It was been expressed by several of the BC soccer club players that they want to push for an official men's soccer team at Bakersfield College.

Bakersfield College has not had an official men's team in over 10 years.

Joel Carrera, a new BC student, also plays center mid for the club said this his first year at BC but has attended West Hills College in the past.

Carrera said, "Soccer has always been something I love to do, so when I heard BC had a team and it fit my schedule, well it's a no brainer...I just want to play soccer, doesn't matter if it's competitive or not." Carrera also added,

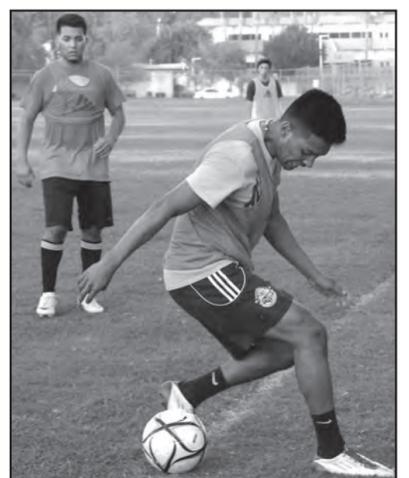
"It's great that they are trying to bring the team back [to BC] and hopefully I'm here for that."

"Let's keep things in perspective, be gentlemen on the field, play hard, but also play fair, and have a fun time," Fox said in reference to what he expects of the club.

Additionally Fox said, "It's nice being here with them [BC soccer club] because of all the energy."

The BC men's soccer club holds practice Monday-Thursday from 5:30 and ends about 7:30. The practice is held at the Bakersfield College soccer fields.

The club is preparing for its Oct. 4 match against Loyola Marymount University. The game starts at 1 p.m. on the road.



ALISIA SANCHEZ / THE RIP

Adrian Mendoza attempts to stop the ball from going out of bounds during a practice game.

## Sports Roundup

# Women's soccer enjoying early success; volleyball looking to improve

By Mohamed Bafakih and  
Isaiah Bryson  
Reporters

One week removed from a frightening 7-1 loss to Ventura on Sept. 5, the Renegades women's soccer team posted a shutout on the road against Contra Costa with a final score of 5-0.

Leading the charge early against the Comets was midfielder/forward Victoria Pyle. Pyle's footprints were on the ball throughout the afternoon chipping in a goal in the second minute setup by teammate Tina LaFore and assisting two minutes later to Rosario Rodriguez.

Shortly after, Pyle scored once again in the eighth minute to extend BC's lead to 3-0. LaFore added another goal before half, and Teresa Martin ended an overall dominant performance from the Renegades in the 70th

minute to cap it off, as the defense allowed zero shots on goal all afternoon to give Contra Costa their fourth straight loss of the season.

Another early season test for the women's soccer team took place the following day on Saturday, Sept. 13 against National Soccer Coaches Association of America's (NSCAA) 17th national ranked team, Feather River College, in Livermore.

A slow start on both ends, BC drew first blood in the 35th minute as Cassandra Boyer scored the first goal of the night.

Coming out of the half, the momentum stayed with the Renegades as Cassandra Lopez increased the Renegades lead to 2-0 over the Golden Eagles 10 minutes into the second period.

However, Feather River would not be denied from keeping the game within reach.

Golden Eagles striker Sherifatu Sumaila capitalized in the 71st minute to inch closer to the Renegades' 2-1 lead.

The inch, however, became a miracle two minutes later as Victoria Pyle continued her impressive week to add a statement goal in the 73rd minute as the upset in Livermore became a heart-warming moment for the Renegades women's team defeating Feather River, 3-2.

After a battle-tested weekend, Captain Pyle was named Western State Conference (WSC) Player of the Week for her performance that included 3 goals and 2 assists in back-to-back nights on the road.

Continuing a sufficient road-trip with a 3-1 record, BC faced West Hills Lemoore (2-2) on Thursday, Sept. 18.

Despite one goal apiece early on (BC, LaFore, 15th min.; West

Hills, K. Jordan, 31st min.), both teams failed to find an offensive rhythm -- settling for a 1-1 draw; the first for both respective teams' season.

The latest stop for the Renegades' nine-game road stand was back in Visalia this past Saturday, where the ladies faced Victor Valley College.

"We were pumped from the time we got on the bus till we stepped on the field; everyone was just on point," recalls defender Cassie Boyer as Bakersfield cruised to a 8-2 victory over the Rams.

Covering approximately 1,490 miles in a 30-day span with still about 438 miles to go the next two weeks, the women's soccer team will play two more games down in Los Angeles before making their highly anticipated home debut on Oct. 7 vs. Antelope Valley College.

## VOLLEYBALL

The Renegades volleyball team would go on to win their first road match this year against Allan Hancock College 25-23, 25-17, 25-22, to improve their record on the year to 2-3.

The win was a team effort, with a couple of key players stepping up for the Renegades. Bakersfield was led offensively by Kourtney Grantz and Tyler Herring. Grantz would finish with a double-double with 17 kills and 17 digs while Herring finished with 15 kills.

The defense was anchored by Libero Lorena Ramirez, who led the team with 22 digs and five service aces. Stephanie Lugo had a big night for Bakersfield, she would go on two late game 5 point serving runs while also posting 4 aces.

Setter Jade Delgadillo finished with 37 set assists and 9 digs.

This win exemplifies the "certain style of play" coach Ferreira wants from his team as they headed into the San Diego Mesa Invitational Tournament in which they lost their first match to the hosting team, 3-1.

However, the Renegades regained their focus and won their following match against Victor Valley, 3-1 as Grantz had a match-high of 20 kills to go along with 12 digs.

With a taste of their last tournament coming up at Pierce College in Los Angeles this coming weekend, the Renegades volleyball team will start off October here at the Gil Bishop Gymnasium versus a familiar foe -- Santa Barbara College -- who earlier in the month defeated Bakersfield on their floor in all three sets.

That tournament is set for Sept. 26-27 before BC returns home on Oct. 1.



Outside linebacker Joseph Hurtado (56) tackles Golden West Quarterback Chris d'Entremont for a loss of yards.

## Football team off to rough start

By Daniel Ojeda  
Sports Editor

After suffering a disheartening loss in the season opener, the Bakersfield College football team split their next two home games, winning a shootout against the Golden West Rustlers on Sept. 13 before crucial mistakes led to a loss against the Long Beach City College Vikings on Sept. 20.

Despite piling up a season high 541 total yards in their previous game, the Renegades offense was held in check against the Vikings as their total offense was down to 259 yards while losing 31-19.

A defense that bent but did not break against the Rustlers in a home opening victory couldn't come up with the same stops against the Vikings.

BC had multiple opportunities on both sides of the ball to get back into the game and even take the lead, but crucial mistakes were made on both sides with the Vikings taking advantage.

The brief momentum the Renegades offense had with the 44-35 victory against the Rustlers was short-lived.

Both teams exchanged early touchdowns, and the Renegades managed to take the lead after the defense was able to pressure the Vikings into an illegal forward pass for a safety.

In the second quarter, with the Renegades driving in Long Beach territory and up 9-7, BC quarterback Tarek Yaeggi received a poor snap from his center with the football deflecting off his hands for a fumble, which the Vikings would recover.

On the ensuing series the Vikings would score and take a 14-9 lead and never look back.

"We're up 9-7 going in for the score, they're on their heels and we lost momentum on that fumble," head coach Jeff Chudy said.

In the third quarter, with BC at midfield and looking to score, a miscommunication led to another fumble as Yaeggi and fullback Triton Douglas had problems with the handoff, and once again the Vikings were there to pounce on the ball.

Same as before, Long Beach would score on the next series, taking a 24-12 lead.

"Same thing again," Chudy said, "We kind of got momentum back in the second half, and then we fumbled again."

Despite the fumbles, BC had a chance to take the lead early in the fourth quarter.

With the Renegades driving and only down 24-19, backup quarterback Cruise Adams, who entered the game after starting quarterback Yaeggi took a ferocious hit, found Derrick Vickers open with room to run at about



PHOTOS BY AMBER HAYDEN / THE RIP

BC's Xavier Williams (6) is tackled down by Golden West linebackers Price Miller (15) and Daniel Tyler (20) on Sept. 13.

the 40.

Vickers dropped the pass and BC went three-and-out. Once again, the Vikings drove down the field scoring a touchdown and putting the game away for good leaving the score at 31-19.

Vickers had a solid game, catching eight passes for 88 yards with two touchdowns.

But the pass is something that the wide receiver knows he can't dwell on.

"I turned my head before I had the ball in my hands, I've just got to let it go," said Vickers.

Marquise Johnson, who had 132 receiving yards on seven catches in the victory against the Rustlers, was held to only 42 receiving yards on one catch by the Vikings.

Before leaving the game, Yaeggi was 10 for 19 with 143 yards passing and one touchdown thrown. Backup Adams finished with 40 yards on 4 for 9 passing and threw for one touchdown.

The Renegade running attack, which had over 240 rushing yards in the win against the Rustlers, was held to only 76 rushing yards in the game.

Xavier Williams led the way with 92 yards on 20 rushing attempts. Those numbers, while

respectable, fall short of the 110 yards and touchdown that he had against Golden West.

The Renegades lost two fumbles and the quarterbacks were sacked a total of six times. Chudy felt that the football team was making mistakes that shouldn't be happening in week three of the season.

"We're a better football team than the score indicated, but we did enough wrong to warrant getting beat by Long Beach. We turned it over more than they did, and that's a thing, we can't be turning it over more than them. We've got to be on the other side of that," Chudy said.

The BC defense did manage to cut down on the penalties after being flagged for more than 110 yards against the Rustlers. The Renegades were able to bring that number down to only 76 penalty yards in the loss to the Vikings.

"We cleaned some of those penalties up," said the head coach.

After settling for both a win and a loss on the two game homestand, the Renegades look to even their record as they next travel to Santa Maria to take on Allan Hancock College on Sept.



Quarterback Tarek Yaeggi (11) runs for a positive gain against the Vikings during Saturday's game on Sept. 20.

27. BC has a week's time to work on the missed tackles that the defense had and to figure out how to get the offense into a rhythm so that they can cut down on the fumbles.

"We're going to look back and

I think we gave this thing away," Chudy said. "Fumbles killed us. Real momentum stoppers."

After facing Hancock, the Renegades return home Oct. 4 for a 6 p.m. game against College of the Canyons.

## Jessica Campbell running toward dream while making family proud

By Monique Hansen-Garcia  
Reporter

The first thing you notice about Jessica Campbell is her smile, especially after she finishes a run.

Campbell, a sophomore on the Bakersfield College cross country team, shows poise and control during her runs that help her finish strong.

Her teammates and her coach Dave Frickel both appreciate her. "She is impressive. Fast. She is a great person," said the coach.

Campbell is a very dedicated runner. "I'm a very competitive runner, so I try really hard to stay in the front," she said of being the top runner on the BC women's team.

"I am surprised that I have been finishing the fastest because there are so many fast girls on the team," Campbell said.

Fueled by the inspirations that she has to accomplish her dreams and goals she set for herself, Campbell adds fuel to the team by leading by example. "To me,

what inspires me is to see how far I can go with my running and to see what goals and dreams I can accomplish [through running]," she said.

She is often reaching for success for the namesake of her family. "To make my family and friends proud helps inspire me to do the best that I can," she said. "Coach Frickel is great at inspiring me, too. He believes in my abilities and is always encouraging me."

Campbell, who is majoring in psychology, said, "My goal for the end of this year is to graduate and get my associates degree."

With hopes for a scholarship, Campbell is interested in attending Fullerton, Long Beach or Northridge.

"I hope that maybe one of them will offer me a scholarship in either cross country or track," she said.

Being a double threat, Campbell will finish her last year of track and field in the spring. "My biggest advice for the incoming cross-country runners is to be-

lieve in yourself and never give up," she said.

When she speaks about running, you can tell her enthusiasm for the general run through her dedication.

"Cross-country is known to be a mental sport," she said. "In order for you to have a good race, you have to keep positive thoughts. Instead of all the reasons why you can't finish a race, think of all the reasons why you should."

"One of the things I always say to myself before practice or a race is 'If I can take it I can make it,' and if you believe in yourself and that you can, that is what I learned and helped me get through cross country and track," Campbell said.

Campbell, 20, has a positive outlook on life. When she isn't running track and field or cross country, she enjoys doing things with her church and spending time with family.

The most surprising thing about Campbell is what she listens to before she runs. Most



VANESSA MUNOZ / THE RIP

Jessica Campbell is the top runner on the BC women's cross country team.

athletes enjoy music to calm or motivate themselves. Campbell uses motivational speeches to keep her guided in a race.

"Before a hard practice or race, I like listening to motivational speeches. For runners, we are always thinking of the worst things possible so having something positive and motivational to listen to before helps me stay focused on my performance."

Her final words of advice are: "You are not proving anything to anyone but yourself. So go out there and do your best because that's all you can do to prove to yourself that you can do it."

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On Sept. 6, the BC women's team finished sixth of out 17 teams at the Fresno Invitational at Woodward Park.

Campbell finished 14th with a time of 19:34.8 for the 5k race, and teammate Leah Theroux took 26th at 20:07.2.

The BC men took 13th out of 19 teams with Juan Calderon finishing 48th out of 200 runners.

The Renegades will host their only home meet of the season, the Bakersfield Invitational, at 3:30 p.m. Sept. 26 at Kern Soccer Park.

## Vapors gaining traction

**Just a fad?** | Some say 'vaping' is here to stay. This new trend is picking up steam among smokers and non-smokers alike.



By Elias C. Ahumada  
Opinions Editor

It was hard to quit smoking cigarettes for Bakersfield resident Trevor Poe, as it can be for many smokers. Poe said, "I haven't smoked a cigarette in about two months." Poe has been vaping for some months now and he explained that the reason why he started vaping was to quit smoking cigarettes.

"About a month ago I took a drag from a cigarette and it was horrible ... it was one of the most terrible feelings in my life," he said.

Poe quit smoking for the same reason that many of Ryan Atchinson's customers quit smoking and have made the transfer to vaping, so they can get a cleaner smoke. Atchinson has had his shop, Vapor Supply Co., open since Jan. 17.

"We've been doing good, lots of customers, and it's cool seeing everybody get off the cigarettes," Atchinson said.

Atchinson explained that vaping has become popular with people of all ages, with some of his customers ranging in age, anywhere from 18-80 years old.

Atchinson, who started smoking and chewing at age 15, said that since he made the switch to vaping and quit smoking a couple of years ago, he has noticed a difference in his breathing.

"I think the feeling of vaping is a lot nicer, especially in the throat and chest, compared to a cigarette," he said.

Many of Atchinson's customers are former cigarette smokers and Atchinson seems proud that he is helping his community quit tobacco consumption one person at a time. "Some people will come in on a Friday, get their pen set up with no expectations of quitting smoking, but they'll get a high dosage of nicotine ... they'll come back in on a Monday just stoked."

Mike Bond, a local e-juice manufacturer, explained that the vape oils could be purchased with, or without nicotine. Bond has been manufacturing his own juice since 2011.

"I named my company Smoke Out Solutions because I wanted to get people off of smoking cigarettes," said Bond.

Although e-juice itself is not yet approved by the Food and Drug Administration, the individual ingredients that make up e-juice are approved by the FDA. The ingredients found in e-juice are vegetable glycerin, propylene glycol, food flavorings/sweeteners, and the choice of nicotine dosage.

Bond noted that most of the times it is not the nicotine that is bad for a person who smokes cigarettes. In fact, it is the carcinogens in cigarettes that are cancer causing.

"Nicotine by itself is very similar to caffeine; it's addictive, it's a stimulant, but that's it," he said.

Bond went on to say that vapor companies have went from an intake of a millions of dollars to a billion dollar industry.

"Big tobacco companies are reporting losses," he said. "These multi-billion dollar companies, they have their hands in the pockets of politicians, so they're trying to have the politicians shut us down."

He questioned whether this could be a reason why the FDA has yet to approve e-juice.

For some, vaping has become a hobby. A user can go inside a shop and customize his mechanical mod to his liking.

Some mods are bigger than others, while some have cool designs.

No matter what the reason for one choosing to vape, it seems to many that it's a much healthier alternative to get a nicotine fix.

ELIAS C. AHUMADA / THE RIP

Ryan Atchinson blows out a thick cloud of vapor after a pull on his vaporizer set up.

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