



JAZZ BAND
FEATURES, PAGE 2



SWIMMING
SPORTS, PAGE 11



GEOFF NOTKIN
SPOTLIGHT, PAGE 12

The Renegade Rip

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

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BC's usage of water 'needs to change'

By Brooke Howard
Features Editor

Now that the California Assembly passed over \$1 billion in spending bills for water and drought relief projects, Bakersfield College's Agriculture Department chair Lindsay Ono has some advice for our own campus water conservation.

"Even here our campus needs to change the way they are doing things," he said. "They have gone to a concept of no water. That's actually worse for the campus in terms of money and costs. When you have a brown ground, you will have higher energy costs. So energy costs go up because your grass is gone, which cools the area, so you get more reflective heat. You should always keep your lawns and trees in good shape."

Ono is also the president of California Landscape Contractors Association Kern County Board of Directors and host of talk show Country Garden 96.1 FM.

"The number one thing I would recommend for our campus is to raise their mows up one and a half to two inches above the mowing height they are at now," Ono said. "Having your grass taller cools the air, lowers energy costs, and saves water by absorbing it instead of evaporating when it's too short."

By keeping the grass at this length, BC will not only have a green campus but will also cut 20 percent off the time it takes to mow. This saves valuable gas for the lawn mower and time according to Ono.

On March 26, the California Assembly passed over \$1 billion in spending bills for these drought relief projects and rights to fine citizens not abiding the new restrictions.

These bills, just waiting for Gov. Jerry Brown's signature, are just the beginning of the change to the way California handles our water.

"Over 50 percent of water in California is actually wasted," Ono said.

"Most of this [wasted water] is applied to the yards and in the homes," Ono said. "That's a lot of water that could be saved based off of changing some of our habits."

The new water regulations that Please see WATER, Page 5



PHOTOS BY MASON J. ROCKFELLOW / THE RIP

Cirque du Soleil's Skywatcher performs gestures and movements at the beginning of Varekai, which took place at Rabobank Arena in Bakersfield.



Performers from the Icarian Games perform choreographed balancing acts in Varekai.

Acrobats perform in Bakersfield

By Amber Hayden
Online Editor

The Greek myth of Icarus and his fall has been told in different ways throughout time, but none as colorful as the production of Varekai.

In the world of the Romney, the language of the Gypsies, the word Varekai translates to mean "wherever." And throughout the production, each act beckons the viewer to take a quest that leads them to the far-off place of Varekai.

According to Vanessa Napoli, Attaché de Presse for Varekai, the production had run for 13 years with

"under the big top," until two years ago in September when they made the move to Cirque du Soleil.

The show starts with Icarus falling from the sky and his wings being taken from him, in which he must then learn how to walk and get around without the use of them.

With the use of vibrant colors, wires, and music, the story unfolds with dancing, and a swing used to launch one group of performers across the others.

Napoli commented, "If you ask the performers if they are scared they will tell you no, they are always adapting and tweaking their performances and trying to make it

better."

Next to Icarus, two of the other performers, the Skywatcher and the Guide, are the two who take the wings from Icarus.

They taunt him off and on as Icarus reaches for his wings and they pull them away, which seems to be a way of making Icarus learn to not depend on them anymore.

The 50 performers for the production have been training for most of their lives in order to be ready for the show. They usually come into the show between the ages of 24 or 25.

Each performer, though, depend- Please see VAREKAI, Page 5

Speaker discusses inequality in society

By Marcus Castro
Reporter

Taylor Herren came to Bakersfield College to discuss the need for women to have equality in our society at the Women's History and More "Pushing Boundaries" event on March 19.

Herren is a student at California State University, Chico, but most importantly, she is a feminist. She came to BC to pose questions that would push people to really think and discuss the issues at hand.

Herren started off the discussion with the question of why we celebrate Women's History Month.

The audience answered with awareness.

Herren agreed and then said, "The

history that we've been taught has been built in the hands of the white man." She went on to explain that recognition for women was not given through history.

It is now time that we recognize women for what they have done.

Herren had the audience get in small groups and tell a quick story of a woman in their life.

After the short discussion, Herren said, "Sometimes it's hard to grasp the big issues, but it is easier when we ground ourselves with an example from people that are close to us."

She explained that telling these stories is a way to show recognition to women during Women's History Month.

Herren asked how feminism de-

finied. She said, "Someone who believes in equal rights for all."

Herren said that women in the work force earn 77 percent of what their male counterparts earn.

She also said that women hold less than 20 percent of congressional seats. She asked why women aren't being elected and how people should get them elected.

"It's if they have the knowledge to utilize the forces around them," said BC student Alexandria Thomas.

"That's how you get your women elected. You start voting and doing your research."

Herren explains that when people see women in professional settings and in leadership roles that people need to support them.

She not only wants people to support them but to hold them to the same standards that they would hold their male counterparts to.

Herren concluded with challenging all people to keep the conversation going.

By this she means that she wants people to question others on what they say and do.

Her example was next time you're with a group of men and women and someone says "Hey guys" you should ask them why they said that.

It would bring up the conversation of women being inferior to men and how society keeps it that way through language and actions.

"Language is unbelievably powerful," said Herren.



MARCUS CASTRO / THE RIP

Taylor Herren speaks on inequality.

Column

'Worth it' is not worth it

Brooke Howard | It's OK to learn the hard way.

As a firm believer of the good in humanity, I regret to say I think the moral decline of our peers can be seen in a new song the radio is playing called, "Worth It," by Fifth Harmony.

Now, I think in order to understand the song, you must understand the group.

Fifth Harmony is an all-girl group that formed out of the contestants from The X factor, USA.

Despite being eliminated in the third round, they still were signed to the record label, Syco Music. I am not saying these aren't a talented bunch of girls, but the formula to sell music is shown fully in their song "Worth It." It would be a great title and a great song if the lyrics weren't referring to a girl saying to a guy "Give it to me, I'm worth it."

Yes, it's catchy. It's catchy mostly due to the beat and repetition of lyrics that naturally catches a listener's attention.

The lyrics to follow include, "Just give me you, Just give me you, That's all I wanna do, and if what they say is true I might give me to you. I may take a lot of stuff, guaranteed I can back it up, I think I'm a call you bluff, hurry up, I'm waiting out front." and the beautifully written lines, "What you actin shy fo', come and show me that you wid it, wid it, wid it, wid it, wid it. Stop playin', how you know that I wid it, wid it, wid it, wid it, wid it, wid it."

I believe what these young ladies are trying to say, is that they are interested in a guy and they just want to tell him, "hey man, give it to her, she's worth it."

The magnitude of damage we are doing to young girls who hear this song is ridiculous.

Have we gone from classy women to young girls in the club begging for sex and implying we need to tell the dudes we are "worth it"?

The second verse, after the chorus, states, "It's all on you, so what you wanna do? And if you don't have a clue, ill tell you what to do, come harder just because I don't like it too soft, I like it a little rough." Well, that's nice.

What bothers me most is that this song is played frequently on radio stations that families are encouraged to listen to. Man, do I love the idea of my 11-year-old cousin dancing to this song on the radio.

The moral decline is not something new; it's shown in almost every aspect of how humans interact with each other.

There was a level of respect genders had for each other not too long ago and with the rise of feminism, there is also a rise of sexual exploration and freedom on the women's part.

I believe like with anything, moderation and classiness should be used while you handle this power with care.

This is not Sparta; you cannot walk around naked and do whatever you want. This is 21st century America, and we have Twitter and Instagram and fabulous music that tells us we need to prove to a guy we are worth having sex with. Anything that's catchy and can make money, I guess.

BC jazz ensemble plays a local gig



PHOTOS BY AMBER HAYDEN / THE RIP

(Front to back) Sean Fontes, Larry Fernandez, Marcus Aguilar and Jorge Santos, on trumpets, perform for guests of Le Corruse Rouge on March 18.

By Mason J. Rockfellow
Reporter

Bakersfield College's jazz ensemble performed a set of songs by Duke Ellington at local restaurant and bar Le Corruse Rouge on March 18.

Kris Tiner is an instructor at BC who teaches jazz ensemble, jazz appreciation, and music appreciation, and also teaches the trumpet at CSUB. Tiner and the Bakersfield Jazz Workshop got together to make this performance possible for the BC Jazz ensemble. Tiner tries to get the jazz ensemble out to play for the Bakersfield Jazz Workshop at least once a semester so that the students can get out in the real world and perform away from the school vibe.

"It's nice to get the students away from playing at BC and get the feeling of playing a real gig," said Tiner.

Tiner has been playing with the Bakersfield Jazz Workshop for years. Tiner even performed with the beginning jazz improvisation class before the BC's jazz ensemble's performance that night, while the BC's jazz ensemble talked among themselves, went over their music and watched Tiner perform. It helps that the workshop is all for the educational aspect of jazz, so the workshop is all for giving the BC jazz band a spot to play, explained Tiner.

The jazz ensemble performed a series of songs composed by Duke Ellington, including "Sunset and the Mocking Bird," which

had only been handed to the jazz ensemble two weeks before the performance. The jazz ensemble was good enough to play so they decided to play it for the show, explained Tiner. The song featured pianist Joey Hernandez.

Guitarist Amanda McCaslin strayed from the guitar and pulled out the banjo for the song, "Portrait of Louis Armstrong," in which the jazz ensemble was also accompanied by Tiner on the trumpet.

Oscar Aguilar was filling in for Adam Zanoloff on bass, and even had a bass solo during the song "Happy-Go-Lucky Local."

Brett Clausen, who plays for the Bakersfield Symphony, accompanied the jazz ensemble, and for the song "Jeep's Blues," Clausen had an alto-saxophone solo. Tiner was very happy with the jazz ensemble's performance. He said the songs they played in the set were hard to play, due to the fact that Ellington's music is filled with all types of different coloring from Latin based music to swing music and more.

Tiner explained that because the songs are filled with a lot of different coloring, which makes the songs difficult to play, this music needs musicians to be very versatile. He also mentioned that these songs can't just simply be played, they need to be performed, and the musicians really have to put themselves into the music.

"I'm very proud of these guys and I've been wanting to do an Ellington concert for a really long time," said Tiner.

After the show, a few audience members shared their thoughts on the performance.

Randi Speiler, a criminal justice major at BC, said, "It made me very relaxed and very comfortable."

Mucio Martinez, English major at BC, said, "They have greatly improved since their last performance." The BC jazz ensemble will perform again on April 27, in BC's new SPArC indoor theater, playing the songs they performed at the Bakersfield Jazz Workshop and four or five more of Ellington's songs.

They will also be part of a performance being put on by the entire music department at BC, which will consist of short sets by the jazz ensemble, choir, drumline, band, and chamber singers on May 2, also to be held in the SPArC indoor theater.

The Bakersfield Jazz Workshop is a non-profit organization that raises money through donations from the audiences of their performances and uses that money to sponsor students so that they can get private lessons.

The Bakersfield Jazz Workshop is held every Wednesday evening at Le Corruse Rouge. At 6:30-7:30 p.m. a beginning jazz improvisation class is held followed by a featured jazz performance at 7:30-8:30 and from 8:30-10 p.m. is an open jazz jam for intermediate, advanced and professional instrumentalists and vocalists.

To learn more and keep updated with the BC jazz ensemble, go to bcjazz.org.



Amanda McCaslin plays the banjo during the song "Portrait of Louis Armstrong" at Le Corruse Rouge.



RHIANNON STROBERG / THE RIP

Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee Joan Jett and the Blackhearts performed at the Kern County Fair last year.

Rock and Roll Hall of Famers will be inducted

By Rhiannon Stroberg
Reporter

The votes are in and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Class of 2015 will officially be inducted in a ceremony on April 18 held at Cleveland's Public Hall in Cleveland, Ohio.

The artists who are being inducted are Joan Jett and the Blackhearts, Green Day, Lou Reed, Stevie Ray Vaughan (and his band Double Trouble), Bill Withers, and the Paul Butterfield Blues Band. Former Beatles member Ringo Starr will be receiving the Award For Musical Excellence, while 1950s R&B group The "5" Royales will receive the Early Influence Award.

According to the Hall of Fame website, artists are considered eligible to be inducted after 25 years since the release of their first album or their first single.

Many fans of the older artists were appreciative of the artists induction, however, other fans

were outraged that Green Day won the vote rather than Nine Inch Nails, which was one of the nominees for the Hall of Fame induction.

"I was somewhat excited when I heard Nine Inch Nails had a chance at making it into the Hall of Fame," said Daniel Flores, 21.

"The fact that Green Day was selected over Nine Inch Nails makes me question peoples terrible taste in music," Flores also commented.

BC student Ben Frias, 29, believed Green Day deserved recognition in the Hall of Fame.

"Green Day is way more commercially successful than Nine Inch Nails, so it's easy to draw the line and decide who is more influential toward the music community."

BC student Rose Marie, 21, was excited when she learned Joan Jett and the Blackhearts were being inducted.

"I believe Joan Jett and the

Blackhearts deserved their spot in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame because Joan Jett herself influenced a lot of girls to express themselves," Marie said. "She influenced girls to pick up instruments and show men that women can be just as good as they are in the music industry. Joan Jett absolutely deserves her spot in the Hall of Fame. Her legacy will live on."

Samantha Calistro, 25, also expressed her admiration for Joan Jett and the Blackhearts.

"I feel that they are pretty legendary. I definitely enjoy their music, and I no doubt feel that they deserve it," Calistro said. "From 'Cherry Bomb' to 'Crimson and Clover,' Joan is just a badass making badass music."

The annual Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be celebrating its 30 year of providing artists with the honor of being recognized and forever immortalized in the Rock Hall.

Get up & Go

April 8

"Self made man: The Frederick Douglas story" @ 7 p.m. Located at the Indoor theater. Free food and a fair @ 5:30 p.m. and live performances.

April 9

National Poetry month @ 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Located at the Levan Center. Readings from local poets.

"Red and White Knight" 5-7:30 p.m. Located at 4140 Truxtun ave. Proceeds go toward BC foundation and future BC Hall of Fame. Tickets \$30 at Vallitix.com

April 10

"Beyond Diversity: moving toward inclusion" @ 7:30 a.m.-noon Located at the Levan Center. Author J. Goosby and other student leaders will be speaking.

April 13

CAS (critical Academic Skills) Workshop "Resisting Run-on's" @ 11:30-12:30 p.m. Instructor A. Townsend. Located at the SS building in room 151.

BCSGA's "Rock the vote" @ 11:30 a.m. Located at the Renegade Crossings. Performing will be Epic Proportions.

CAS (critical Academic Skills) Workshop "Preventing Plagiarism" @ 3:30-4:30 p.m. Instructor T. Meier. Located at the SS building in room 151.

April 14

CAS (critical Academic Skills) Workshop "Writing a Strong Thesis Statement" @ 9-10 a.m. Instructor S. Abbassi. Located at the SS building in room 151.

CAS (critical Academic Skills) Workshop "Maximizing Memory" @ 1-2 p.m. Instructor C. Schaefer. Located at the SS building in room 151.

April 15

Housing Education workshop @ 10-11 a.m. Located at the Executive room.

CAS (critical Academic Skills) Workshop "Organize" @ 11 a.m.-noon. Instructor E. Miller. Located at the SS building in room 151.

April 16

Pat Benetar and Neil Giraldo @ 8 p.m. Located at the Fox Theater. Tickets \$45, \$65, \$75, and \$85.

"Matter of Pride" WCK Muay Thai presentation. 11 competitions in men's welterweight to middleweight and women's bahtamweight to flyweight. Located at Tachi Palace @ 7 p.m.

April 17

Student Involvement and Leadership Awards brunch @ 10 a.m.-noon. Located in the Cafeteria.

April 18

Garden Festival @ 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Located at BC Panorama Campus. Open house to the public. 150 booths with food, arts, music, and crafts.

Silent Saturday @ 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Located in the Cafeteria. Meet member of the local deaf community while attending workshops and activities on language skills.

2nd annual Macaroni and cheese Festival @ 2-6 p.m. Located at the Cal State University Amphitheater. 21+ only. Tickets \$45.

April 20

CAS (critical Academic Skills) Workshop "Preventing plagiarism" @ 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Instructor T. Meier. Located at the SS Building in room 151.

April 22

Housing Education workshop @ 3-4 p.m. Located at the Executive room.

An evening with J. Goosby Smith 6-7:30 p.m. Located at the Fireside room. Author of "Beyond Inclusion: Worklife interconnectedness, energy, and Resilience in Organizations".

CAS (critical Academic Skills) Workshop "Innovate" @ 11:30-12:30 p.m. Instructor J. Davies. Located at the SS Building in room 151.

Poetry, music mark the first peace concert in Bakersfield

By Elias C. Ahumada
Photo editor

Bakersfield residents from various cultures, ages and gender gathered together in a peaceful matter on March 27 to celebrate peace and the lives of some figures that have fought for it in the past.

Portia Choi, board of director's member for the NXCC, said that this is the first time the event has been held in Bakersfield. She goes on to say that "the use of non-violence is the most dynamic power to make change."

The event was held at 3819 River Blvd, only four blocks from campus, at 7 p.m., but the doors opened at 6:30 p.m.

When entering the building there was a woman sitting at the front displaying poetry. Toward the back of the building there was a larger room where the concert was being held.

At around 6:40 p.m. some of the performers began arriving. Some people carried instruments, some showed up to recite poems, and some spoke about peace.

Mary Holder was seen practicing on her fiddle while performing old Irish music.

Almost all of the performers did not hesitate to show off their talents for the night in front of a captive audience.

Choi invited Tanya Dixon, from Bakersfield, to the event who knows Choi from the open-mic events that are also held in the same building.

Dixon was invited to the peace concert to recite the speech "I have a dream" from Dr. Martin Luther King.

"I want to encourage all those who are creative to come out and participate in these types of



PHOTOS BY ELIAS C. AHUMADA / THE RIP

Portia Choi introduces the performers to the audience and welcomes the community to the first ever peace concert.



Mary Holder practices the fiddle before her performance at the NXCC first peace concert event in Bakersfield. The concert was held four blocks away from campus.

events but I also want to encourage people to come out and try something new," Dixon said.

She also went on to say that it was important for people to be knowledgeable about the thoughts of some historical peace figures such as Martin Luther King and Mahatma Gandhi.

Before the concert began, Choi went up to the stage and welcomed everyone.

A majority of the seats were filled with performers of the event.

Choi introduced herself, spoke about the event, and also mentioned some other events that would be happening during that weekend.

Lisa-Ann LoBasso, board of director's member said, "The turn out was good, I was really surprised." LoBasso also said that she was pleased that the performers were able to keep the "audience engaged."

Of all the performers that were scheduled to perform on March 27, only one was not available.

David Nigel Lloyed was not in attendance because his wife was in the hospital, but another performer was available to fill in for him. His name was J. BanCren.

"The concert is called peace concert, we want to emphasize how important peace is...you know we still live in a world of violence, and I think everybody is aware of that everywhere," Choi said.

LoBasso encourages people to attend future events that will be put together. Hopefully more of the public will take an interest in these future concerts.

For more information on NXCC and for future events put on by NXCC, visit their website at nxcc.org.

Country music's hip-hop cowboy is a different type of entertainer

By K. E. Petersen
Reporter

With a hint of hip-hop style, an African-American country singer, songwriter, guitarist, and nursing major pushes to make a name for himself in the country music empire.

Bakersfield College's Emijah Calvin (Cowboy Calvin), 33, has already set a name for himself at the Bull Shed Bar & Grill, but he but plans to soar much farther in hopes of becoming the next Bakersfield legend. "Country music is who I am and what I do," Calvin said. "It tells about my personality, about my heart, and how I feel about love."

Breaking into the underground country music scene in 2011 as

former Silent Giant Entertainment Artist, Calvin has now chosen to become a self-managed and self-promoted artist, until he can get picked up by a major label that will properly promote him.

With new demos coming out soon and his YouTube video's available, Calvin is trying to put himself in the local and potentially national spotlight.

Georgia born, Calvin grew up on country music. Living on a farm with his uncle, he experienced the country life first hand. From the day-to-day struggles, to the good old country fun, Calvin says that he is as country as they come.

"In the (country music) stories, the stories were stories that

I can relate to," said Calvin, who said he has been on a farm and worked in construction.

"Ninety-nine percent of my lyrics were about something that I lived," Calvin said. "If I write a song, it's about something that I experienced in one way, shape, or form. Either directly, or indirectly. Something that I did to somebody or that somebody did to me."

Making a promotional video on YouTube, Calvin talks about who he is and why he thinks his music is unique. He wants to show his fans and potential fans where he fits into the country music scene and what he has to offer. He explains why someone with money should invest in him, and why country music

fans should listen to his music. "I want people to see why I am different from Eric Church, Luke Bryant, or Blake Shelton," Calvin said.

When on stage, Calvin interacts with his audience. He dances on stage, helping them get into the groove. Occasionally, he will invite someone onstage to sing and dance with him.

Crystal Montgomery, 23, who has been to many of his performances, said that he has always been an amazing artist. "He is very talented," Montgomery said. "He has always impressed me with each and every performance."

To learn more about Cowboy Calvin's music, visit his website: <http://www.cowboycalvin.com/>

Another way to stimulate your taste buds while meeting new people on a \$5 date

By Darla Mangrum
Reporter

With the weekend right around the corner, The Rip has come up with a couple of more dates that will fit a struggling student's budget.

If you are a coffee drinker who likes to support young people who have been kicked out of the system because they aged out, then this is the date for you.

Covenant Coffee is a fast-growing company that helps young people who have been released from the foster care system because they turned 18 years old. Covenant not only gives these young adults jobs to help them get on their feet, but they also offer counseling and help these young people get into

their own apartments. They even help supply furniture and miscellaneous household items.

The Covenant Coffee House on North Chester has reasonable prices; in fact every coffee is less than \$5. They also have a great selection of board games to play while you are there. They close a little earlier than most coffee shops, but the people are friendly and the atmosphere is really mellow.

A couple could really get to know each other in such a quiet atmosphere or they can just relax and play a game.

Covenant Coffee is located at 1700 North Chester. Hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturday 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The phone number is (661) 829-6737.

If coffee is not your thing you could always go bowling. AMF Lanes has many special offers all week long.

On Monday nights, there is Dollar Mania, where there is a cover charge of \$5. Every game is only \$1, and shoe rentals are \$1. After 8 p.m. they have some great drink specials.

On Tuesdays they have \$2 Tuesdays. \$2 Tuesdays consists of games, shoes, and Pabst Blue Ribbon beers are all \$2 after 8 pm.

On Thursdays is College Night. With your college ID, you can bowl from 9 p.m. until closing time. The cost is \$7 for unlimited bowling with shoe rental included, and for \$2 you can get Pabst Blue Ribbon beers and four \$10 pizzas.

On Sunday they have Sunday Funday. After 6 p.m., you can get two hours of unlimited bowling for only \$6.

There are two locations located in Bakersfield.

Westchester Lanes at 1819 30th St. The phone number is (661) 324-4966, and the hours are Monday-Thursday 4 p.m.-10 p.m., Friday 4 p.m.-1 a.m., Saturday 11 a.m.-1 a.m., and Sunday 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

Or Southwest Lanes located at 3610 Wible Road, Bakersfield. The phone number is (661) 834-2695. Hours are Monday Noon-10 p.m., Tuesday 3 p.m.-10 p.m., Wednesday Noon-11 p.m., Thursday 3 p.m.-10 p.m., Friday 9:30 a.m.-1 a.m., Saturday 11 a.m.-1 a.m., Sunday 11 a.m.-10 p.m.



PHOTOS BY KEVIN PHILLIPS / THE RIP

Above: A medicinal marijuana shop worker holds a sign that directs people to a new marijuana shop in Bakersfield. Below: A medicinal marijuana shop displays edible and concealable marijuana products. Public Safety warns that no one, not even medicinal card-holders, can smoke at BC.

Annual Garden Fest set April 18

By Brooke Howard
Features Editor

This year's 10th annual Garden Fest at Bakersfield College will take place 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 18.

The Agriculture and Horticulture programs of Bakersfield College host this seven-hour event and usually includes over 150 vendors with booths that range from home goods, crafts, cooking, pets and their own farmer's market.

The event, sponsored by IKEA and Country Garden talk radio 96.1 FM, will have a live broadcast by the Country Garden Radio program.

"I will be holding a presentation on how to drought-proof your yard. We also have one on beautifying your yard and one on grilling in the garden," said Lindsay Ono, the BC Agriculture Department chair. Ono is also president of CLCA Kern County Board of Directors and host of the talk show Country Garden 96.1 FM.

Many of the demonstrations that will take place correspond to California's new water regulations that will soon be put in place.

Garden Fest not only holds plenty of demonstrations, but they have children's activities and various foods as well. If you're interested on how to grow a garden, keep your grass green in this drought, or just want to have a nice Saturday here on campus with your family, Garden Fest is the place to be.

Marijuana not legal on BC campus

By Kevin Phillips
Reporter

Marijuana is legal in 23 states for medical use, and it is legal in Washington and Colorado for recreational use. In California, it is legal to smoke marijuana in the privacy of your home.

But at no time is it legal to smoke marijuana in public with or without a medical card. Two Bakersfield College students found that out the hard way.

On Feb. 18, 2015, at about 1 p.m. in the student parking lot across from the swimming pools, director of Public Safety Chris Counts caught two students smoking marijuana.

"Even with a medical card, marijuana is not allowed on campus to use or to have on your person," Counts said. "No exceptions."

Counts continued, "I catch students smoking all the time. They think with that medical

card they are legal and won't get in any trouble, so they do it right in front of everybody, and I have to bust them."

After asking a few dozen students at BC if they smoke marijuana, the majority of them said that they do.

And the students who said they don't smoke it, said they had tried it before.

There are a number of medical marijuana shops in Bakersfield. The shops have green crosses on them that designate what they are, and some have people on street corners holding signs with green crosses and pointing to the shops.

A visit to one of the shops shows that marijuana has a lot of different names and has a lot of different methods that disguise the use of it.

It can be used by smoking it, drinking it or using vapors. It comes in soda, candy, wax, tea, and many other forms.



HEY, STUDENTS! CHOOSE YOUR STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

VOTE

**General elections open
April 13-16
Vote online at InsideBC**

Offices of SGA president, vice president and others are on the ballot

Candidates will be chosen for 2015-16 school year



FOR QUESTIONS,
CONTACT BCSGA AT:

Phone:
(661) 395-4614

Email:
studentlife@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Online:
bakersfieldcollege.edu/campus/bcsga-elections

Choir and chamber singers hold performance at BC indoor theater



PHOTOS BY MASON J. ROCKFELLOW / THE RIP

Several members of the BC choir sing during their performance on March 20 at BC.



Conductor Jennifer Garrett acknowledges the entire choir, while the crowd applauds the show held on campus.

The Bakersfield College choir and chamber singers performed their spring concert on March 20 at the SPArC indoor theater.

The choirs performed a variety of songs dedicated to spring as well as to the journey of life.

"Enjoy the journey of our concert, enjoy the journey of your life," said music professor and director Jennifer Garrett.

One of the songs performed was "Pure Imagination," widely known from the movie "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory," which had some members of the almost packed house singing along with the choir.



Bakersfield College's choir sings with guest flute player Audrey Boyle in BC's indoor theater on March 20. The event had a large audience, some sang along with the choir.



MASON J. ROCKFELLOW / THE RIP

Performers from the Icarian Games juggle each other with their feet at the Cirque du Soleil performance at Rabobank Arena.

VAREKAI: Cirque du Soleil visits Bakersfield arena and performs acrobatic stunts throughout 'Varekai'

Continued from Page 1

ing on what they do for the show, chooses on how long they travel with the show and when they choose to leave and walk away.

"It varies for each performer, because some muscles are more prone to injuries. The majority though have traveled the world and are just ready to settle down," Napoli said.

The families of each performer have the option of traveling with the show if they choose to, but Cirque Du Soleil does not pay for their travel arrangements. It is up to the performers to figure

out how to bring their family, which is especially important to performers with children.

"They may have babies, and they just don't want to be away from them," said Napoli.

With a total of just over 100 people always traveling together, they have the tendency to take over their hotel, but they are always together.

"If they go to get out of the hotel just to even sightsee in whatever town they are in, they go out together," Napoli commented.

Just before coming to Bakersfield the show had taken a two-

week break in order to rest up for their next 10 to 12 weeks on the road.

With two weeks off in between each tour, it averages out to give them 12 weeks off a year.

Napoli said that isn't too bad of a break when you think about it.

If you wish to learn any more about the show, you can check out www.cirquedusoleil.com to find out more information on their events, as well as tour dates, the cast of characters, and which acts travel with the show.

WATER: Drought forces statewide changes on water consumption

Continued from Page 1

are going to directly affect the urban population include things such as restricting to watering your yard twice a week. Any run-off water from your home irrigation system could result in a hefty fine, and if you are thinking about washing your car, driveway or sidewalk, don't do so without a shut-off nozzle.

You are also not able to use your outdoor irrigation, such as sprinklers or hose, during times of rain or measurable precipitation.

These new water restrictions not only affect us at our homes, but where and what we eat as well.

Without water, the production of vegetables and fruits will lower, directly affecting our nutrition and economy.

One Bakersfield grape farmer said, "If the people of California don't do something quick, our economy won't even have grapes. I will have to let my vines die and the production of table grapes will be low."

Ono also commented on the problems agriculture is facing with the drought.

"There are no [water] restrictions on ag, and the reason why is because they have to pay for their water."

According to Ono, farmers today pay substantially more than what they did five years ago.

"They pay a lot for their water," he said. "And, in agriculture, they are allotted so much water and that's it. Once they run out, they are out for the rest of the year."

Many restaurants have now

cut back on water use by waiting until the customer requests water instead of automatically providing it.

"You just never know. I see a lot of people I serve that don't even drink the water I give them. They just want Pepsi or a drink from the bar. I think it's easier for servers now anyway," said Jennifer Lacey, a server and cocktail waitress at a Bakersfield restaurant.

SGA President Alex Dominguez said him and other SGA members know the importance of water conservation and plan to spread the word to students during Spring Fling.

"During Spring Fling week, we are doing a Water Rally 2.0 which will be a complete update on the new regulations and water issues," Dominguez stated.

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PHOTOS BY VANESSA A. MUNOZ / THE RIP

Former Assemblywoman Nicole Parra asks BC associate dean Corny Rodriguez the last question of the night on the main goal of The Civil Rights presentation.

Bakersfield College discusses civil rights

By **Trina Goree**
Reporter

Bakersfield College's Levan Center was host to a civil rights act lecture recently.

The lecture touched on numerous issues that the Mexican American communities deal with currently as well as in the past. The failure of the civil rights movement of the 1960's and the structural roots behind inequality and political exclusion in California's San Joaquin Valley were among the night's discussions.

The evening began with an introduction and back-story given by BC associate dean Corny Rodriguez.

Also discussed was a proposed project to help with Kern County minorities. The proposed project would be a center of social justice. The center would help to change policies along with other initiatives. Nicole Parra, former assembly woman, asked, "What is the goal of the proposed center?" which Rodriguez responded with mentioning everything is data now, and the potential data collected by the center could be part of a bigger picture regarding the underrepresented Hispanic community.

Also mentioned was a leadership and equality academy. Gerald Cantu, BC adjunct philosophy instructor was among the speakers that night. He demonstrated that there is a direct connection to homeownership and voting regarding minorities espe-

cially amongst Hispanics. "Homeowners are more likely to be involved and engage in local politics," stated Cantu. Cantu gave statistics on Kern County Latinos, and in the surveys it showed depending on education, language, and incomes were all important factors in determining the voting probability of Latinos.

Another speaker Jesus Garcia, CSUB adjunct political science and demographer agreed with the information being presented and also gave his own presentation on data he collected while researching the similar demographics.

Garcia's data was based on Oval Park a suburb of Visalia. The suburb is a mixture of solid middle class. The information showed that the area has been plagued with troubled political history. Part of the trouble there has only been one Latino on the city council in the city's 100-year history. Garcia also demonstrated proposals for a relining of districts that would better represent the Latino voter.

Finishing the night's lecture, Rodriguez spoke on the lack of minority representation not only in Kern County and Bakersfield but at BC as well.

Rodriguez mentioned the student body having a large minority representation and how the faculty at BC disproportionately represents those figures and hoped that students would come back to BC to teach after receiving their education.



Associate Dean Corny Rodriguez explains the actions for the civil rights and how the new districts and data intake will give direction on the progress that is needed for the minority population.

SGA elections officially start this month at BC

Key candidates for SGA office

President

Reg Autwell
Michael Avila
Jacob A. Diaz
David Fluhart
Clayton Fowler
Colton Nicholson

Vice president

Sahar Forouzanfar
Janell Orozco

bakersfieldcollege.edu/campus/bcgsa-elections

By **Elizabeth Castillo**
Editor in Chief

Bakersfield College Student Government Association will host candidate debates until April 9. General elections for SGA open April 13 and close on April 16 at 4 p.m.

According to Miles Post, a SGA senator organizing elections, the interest for being involved with SGA is growing.

"Last year, there were three presidential candidates, and this year there are more," he said.

There are six nominees running for SGA president for the 2015-2016 term. Last year only one candidate ran for the vice president position, but this year there are two candidates. Nine students are running for senator positions and all candidates must be involved in the debates.

The SGA held senator debates on April 6 and 7 in the Fireside Room. The debates for presidential and vice presidential candidates will be held on April 9 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room. Post said that at the debates, students can discuss platforms with the candidates. For those hoping to find more information on the candidates, their email addresses are available on the BC website along with their letter of intent and resume.

Students can vote for new SGA members online at InsideBC, but there will also be a physical voting location on campus still to be announced. At 6 p.m. on April 16, there will be a reception announcing the new SGA members in the Fireside Room. For more information on SGA candidates and the voting process, visit the link listed in the box.

A lecture uses a life-learning book

By **Victoria Miller**
Reporter

Dr. Greg Schneider spoke at the Levan Center at Bakersfield College on March 25 about Fyodor Dostoevsky's book, "The Brother's Karamazov."

Schneider talked about "The Brother's Karamazov" and how it involves hardships, which force the characters to make difficult decisions and contemplate their morality.

"This book explores questions of faith and doubt, freedoms and responsibilities; questions humans frequently have," said Schneider.

Schneider explains the book is about four brothers and their

neglectful father. All of the Karamazov brothers have a different understanding of morality, and this is exemplified by their actions and reactions in the scenarios that unfold. Schneider claims that Dostoevsky's telling of human gestures is poetic and compelling. "Dostoevsky's characters intentions, like our own, emerge moment by moment," said Schneider.

Schneider says that despite the brothers' differences, they find themselves connected. "The emphasis of the connection between two people emerges over and over again in the novel," said Schneider.

Also, Schneider discussed the theme of regeneration and trans-

formation of the characters that appears throughout the book. An example he used involves the most intellectual of the brothers, Ivan. Ivan argues against religion and morality in favor of intellect. By the end of the novel, Ivan dies for a crime he did not commit and, in Schneider's words, "Emerges as the crucible."

Schneider says the novel is not biased toward one moral viewpoint.

"It celebrates intellect and wrestles with the mystery of Christianity," he said. "It skews both the thoughtless believer and the intellectual."

Schneider is a faculty member at St. Johns in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

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Police brutality isn't all that it seems

By Tyler Goucher
Reporter

Recently in the United States, there has been an uprising of police brutality, or at least that's what the media is portraying.

It has become very popular for these media organizations to flood the airways with fear-mongering material aimed at sparking controversy and backlash, often times only shedding light on the victim's perspective, rather than giving the viewer an overall unbiased look at what's really the root cause of most of these violent incidents.

In a recent interview with police Sgt. Joe Grubbs, public information officer for the Bakersfield Police Department, he had some insightful things to say

about these recent events.

"What is going on in our nation is the narrative is putting all the blame on the police. There isn't much of a discussion on different ethnic groups killing each other," said Grubbs.

Although there hasn't been many shootings in Kern County, in other locations in the U.S., there have been several cases of deadly force being used in situations where a TASER or some other type of force could have been used.

"Often times, in some of these situations, less lethal force is used," said Grubbs. "It doesn't always work for a variety of different reasons, though. Sometimes these devices don't work or people don't respond to them, and the officer is left with five

seconds to make a rational decision."

Often, media is blamed for a lot of the way people think about law enforcement. The theory is that if it wasn't for all the coverage of controversial subject matter, such as unarmed shootings or racial profiling, it is possible that this negative stigma that has been created for the police, may not be as harsh as it is now.

"The media isn't fully to blame. Law enforcement is somewhat to blame. Not all shootings are 100 percent right. We aren't doing a good job of educating the community about how law enforcement works and how their training goes," said Grubbs.

"It goes back to a lack of education in civics. Our education system has a lot to do with it. Of-

ficer shootings are almost always preceded by a bad decision made by the person the officer is shooting at."

Due to all the recent riots in Ferguson and Oakland, as well as other cities and towns in the United States, some Americans believe that we are on the brink of a civil war because more and more civilians are becoming more combative with police officers and authority in general.

"I hope that it doesn't happen," said Grubbs. "I don't see a civil war happening, but I do see somewhat of a national kind of event happening that will cause society to stabilize and come back to its core. And even if that did happen, law enforcement would still be there to do their job, regardless of what public

opinion is."

Some think the problem is within the hiring process of law enforcement and that it breeds corruption. It could also be that along the way, good cops become bad because of the already negative outlook on them by the people they are sworn in to protect.

"I don't think people come on the force with intentions of becoming corrupt. Through the course of their careers, some officers have become corrupt, though. In most cases they are weeded out quickly," said Grubbs.

"Police officers take their job very seriously, as well as their responsibilities and role in society very seriously. If these corrupt individuals are found, they

are reprimanded or fired very quickly."

For those who are interested in finding out statistics on police shootings, there is no national database, so the only way to find the information would be to search on Google for the date and location you are inquiring about.

For the numbers being as low as they supposedly are, it's questionable why they make the information so difficult to find.

"There should be a national database, there is a database for California," Grubb said. "I think that most law enforcement agencies don't have a problem with that. Most of our shootings are justified, so why would we have a problem hiding that information?"

Liberal studies now offers AA-T

By Darla Mangrum
Reporter

It is official; Bakersfield College's Liberal Studies program for people interested in becoming an elementary teacher will soon become the Associate in Arts in Elementary Teacher Education for Transfer Degree Program (AA-T).

This change will be in the 2015-2016 catalogs. According to professor Bernadette Towns, if you are close to finishing the Liberal Studies program then stay with that program, but if you are a new student interested in becoming an Elementary School Teacher, this new path is the one to take.

If interested, you can talk to a counselor about the Student Educational Plan pathway that is already set up.

This path suggests that you take 15 units per semester for four semesters. The pathway is a total of 53 units with seven additional elective units, which will complete the full 60 units for the degree.

This path will help you finish the program in two years. With this SEP pathway finished, you will have automatic early registration at CSUB when you transfer, which is just one option toward receiving your bachelor's in education.

If you need more information on how the SEP path works, you can always schedule an appointment with one of BC's Career and Technical Education advisors located in the FACE building room 16, or call them at (661) 395-4089.

There are also other university opportunities to choose from, such as the University of La Verne, which has a campus in Bakersfield; their Kern County Regional Campus is located at 1201 24th Street, Suite D-200, Bakersfield 93301, (661) 861-6800. For more information you can go to www.laverne.edu.

There is also Point Loma Nazarene University's School of Education. Their Bakersfield Regional Center is located at 5080 California Ave., Suite #300. For more information you can go to www.pointloma.edu/grad or gradinfo@pointloma.edu.



PHOTOS BY MARIA MAYA / THE RIP

Captain Savee speaks with a local girl scout troop about safety during the safety demonstration at Beach Park located on Oak street on March 21.

Community members gathered for demonstrations from first responders, public safety information, community wide vendors, games and food on March 21 at Beach Park located on Oak street.



Officer Daymon Banning of the Kern County Sheriff's Mounted Search and Rescue division poses with his horse during a safety presentation at Beach Park on March 21.

Possible new BOG fee waiver requirements are imminent

By Victoria Miller
Reporter

Talk of a new policy concerning the Board of Governors (BOG) fee waiver has some students worried that they won't meet the new requirements. Here's what students need to know about the new policy.

The BOG fee waiver allows enrollment fees to be waived for eligible students. According to

Primavera Arvizu, the Director of Financial Aid at Bakersfield College, the new policy regarding the BOG waiver will require students to have a 2.00 GPA and pass 50 percent of their classes in order to qualify.

Arvizu says this new policy will be implemented fall of 2016.

Arvizu encourages students to apply for the BOG waiver, as well as financial aid (FASFA) in

general even if they have doubts they'll qualify.

"Financial aid is there to assist students with their education; we're here to help. Even if you don't think you're eligible, still apply," said Arvizu.

Arvizu also said for students concerned about missing the priority registration deadline on March 2 for FASFA to still apply.

"We want students to apply

early because if other documents need to be submitted, there is enough time to submit those documents so the student receives their financial aid on time," explained Arvizu.

One thing Arvizu stressed was the need for students to check their emails.

If there is a problem with a student's application for financial aid or if more documents need to be submitted, students

will be informed over their BC email and some students do not check theirs. This results in students waiting longer than they needed for their financial aid to process.

For help with applying for financial aid, check the BC website for a list of the financial aid workshops. The BC website also has financial aid 101 and financial aid TV to assist students with any questions they have.

Staff Editorial

Finally, spring is here

Spring is here, and that can only mean one thing: fun.

There are many reasons that spring can bring joy to us. California has some of the best spring weather in the country, and we are lucky to be living here. Although Bakersfield can get extremely hot during the summer time, the spring offers some of the best weather.

Around campus, we can see that spring is a perfect time for students to be fashionable. In the early spring mornings, the weather can require a student to walk out of the house in a pair of shorts and possibly a long sleeve T-shirt. Gym clothes are also a very popular spring time wear. So it is safe to say that spring offers us the type of weather that allows us to wear almost anything, and be comfortable doing so.

Another plus that spring can offer is that needed break between the semester, for us college students, also known as spring break. Last week's spring break allowed Bakersfield College students to get away from the classroom. With Bakersfield located in the heart of California, there are many things and places for us to enjoy.

The Pacific Coast beaches and the beautiful city of Los Angeles are located about two and a half hours west or south, depending on your destination, and the Bay Area is located about five hours northwest. San Diego is also about four hours south. These are just some locations around us that we have access to.

If the drives to these locations are too long, there are other places in our own backyard. For instance, the Remington Hot Springs located right off the CA-178 going east. The hot springs offer a relaxed environment, a short drive, and a cheap alternative to some getaway fun.

Spring time also offers students to support their school at sporting events.

Baseball, track and field, swimming, are some events that Bakersfield College students can attend. If you're a student who doesn't like watching community college sports then there are other alternatives, such as professional sports in town such as the Bakersfield Blaze baseball team.

Spring time can also mean the start of barbecue season.

Fire up those grills, whether it's propane or charcoal, all you Bobby Flay wannabes, this is the perfect time to put those skills to the test.

Family get-togethers or even Easter Sunday offer a perfect time to spend it out in the sun eating good food. There just don't seem to be too many negatives to spring, outside of the fact that summer is just around corner.

For some, summer time in Bakersfield totally blows because of the heat. But if that is the only negative thing about spring, then overall, it is one of the best well-rounded seasons for us.

Roommates: a problem or a solution?

By Trina Goree
Reporter

I live for a roommate.

There are so many benefits from living with others; my thoughts are tumbling over one another in an effort to get everyone out. I have lived in many different living environments in my short life, maybe a hint to the free spirit I am.

The most epic moments and experiences have been life spent with roommates. I believe, the more the merrier.

I have lived with one roommate at a time to the not-so-common 10 roommates at a time. Ten individuals, including myself, can be challenging but never regrettable.

Life can tend to get a bit mundane. For individuals such as myself, whether it's social butterflies, drama queens, busy bodies, adventurers, and the ever-popular life of the party individuals, this will simply not do.

To eliminate the rigors of boredom, we tend to flock together. Roommating is the perfect solution to our problems. When living with others, life is never basic or ordinary. There will always be something going on and a fire needing to be put out. That is when room-mating is the ultimate living situation. There is a house full of helping hands and minds ready to aid oneself with anything and everything at all times.

Roommates often become more than someone contributing to bills and shelter; roommates become one's second family. For those with difficult immediate family situations, roommates even become one's main family. Roommates are there for one another, not only for all the awesome times, but can be counted on when one is in a state of crisis.

When living with a roommate, one is able to do what you want when you want. You do not have to deal with parents' disapproval of everything one does or does not do. This, in itself, makes rooming with others ideal. Sometimes when living at home as an adult, it gets challenging, especially when one wants independence, but the family treats that person like a child, whether it is curfew or noise restrictions after certain hours. These and many other factors result in individuals moving out of the family home. Room-mating helps cut the cost of independent living. It also gives oneself all of the benefits of an independent lifestyle.

Having roommates also cuts the cost of many other aspects of the independent individual. For instance, one's wardrobe can double, triple, or quadruple, according to the number of roommates living with each other. Room-mating individuals can spend more on quality clothing and still have an extended wardrobe. Winning!

Good eats is also a perk to room-mating. There are different food pallets, which mean tons of options when it is mealtime. It is like eating at a daily buffet. When cooking meals are rotated between roommates, housemates get food cooked and served to them just like dining at restaurants. Also roommates tend to have care packages and food baskets given to them by family, which frees up money to be spent elsewhere or saved for us logical ones.

By Mason J. Rockfellow
Reporter

I don't believe in roommates.

Sharing one bathroom with roommates is not pleasing to the eye or the nose. This becomes much worse with the more roommates you end up with, men or women. There is always going to be that roommate or two who just doesn't want to clean the bathroom, and someone ends up cleaning it all the time because they can't stand it any more. There's

that roommate that takes 15 minutes to go the bathroom, and then you get in there and it smells like death, plus, the toilet paper roll is fresh out.

The kitchen is a place where it gets messy, so clean up the mess that you make, no one wants to clean up a mess that's not their own. At least wash your dish off and run the garbage disposal.

Then there's that roommate who leaves food out on a plate and it crusts onto the plate overnight or leaves left-overs in a pan to spoil and crust up, especially when it was the pan you plan cooking with at that very moment.

The crusted food on the plate might be bearable sometimes, but leaving the left-overs to spoil, come on, there is a reason for roommates in the first place, to split the cost of rent and save money, not waste more money on food.

With school and work thrown into the mix, it can get a little more complicated. There's a high chance your roommates will not have the same school,

work or sleep schedule that you do.

For instance, you're studying for a midterm or writing a paper that's worth a good percentage of your grade, and your roommates are out in the living room drinking with their friends, playing loud music, watching movies and playing video games, and just being plain distracting.

That's not going to help your concentration and neither is your roommates coming in every hour to ask if you're ready to join the party.

Let's add all of those same situations to while your trying to go to bed. This doesn't seem like it's the way to go, especially if you work a shift that demands you to start your day earlier than 5 a.m.

Now it's time to pay the rent, and a roommate doesn't have part of the rent, the cable bill, and who knows what else. Well let's see, most likely you'll have to cover the missing part of the rent, your roommate will probably eat your food you left in the fridge from the leftovers you saved so they wouldn't spoil, and probably won't clean the plate after their done. By the time you get to the bathroom, it will not be clean, the toilet paper will be gone and your hand soap will be empty.

My opinion is you're better off not having a roommate and getting a small studio apartment, where you pretty much live in one room and just have to worry about yourself.

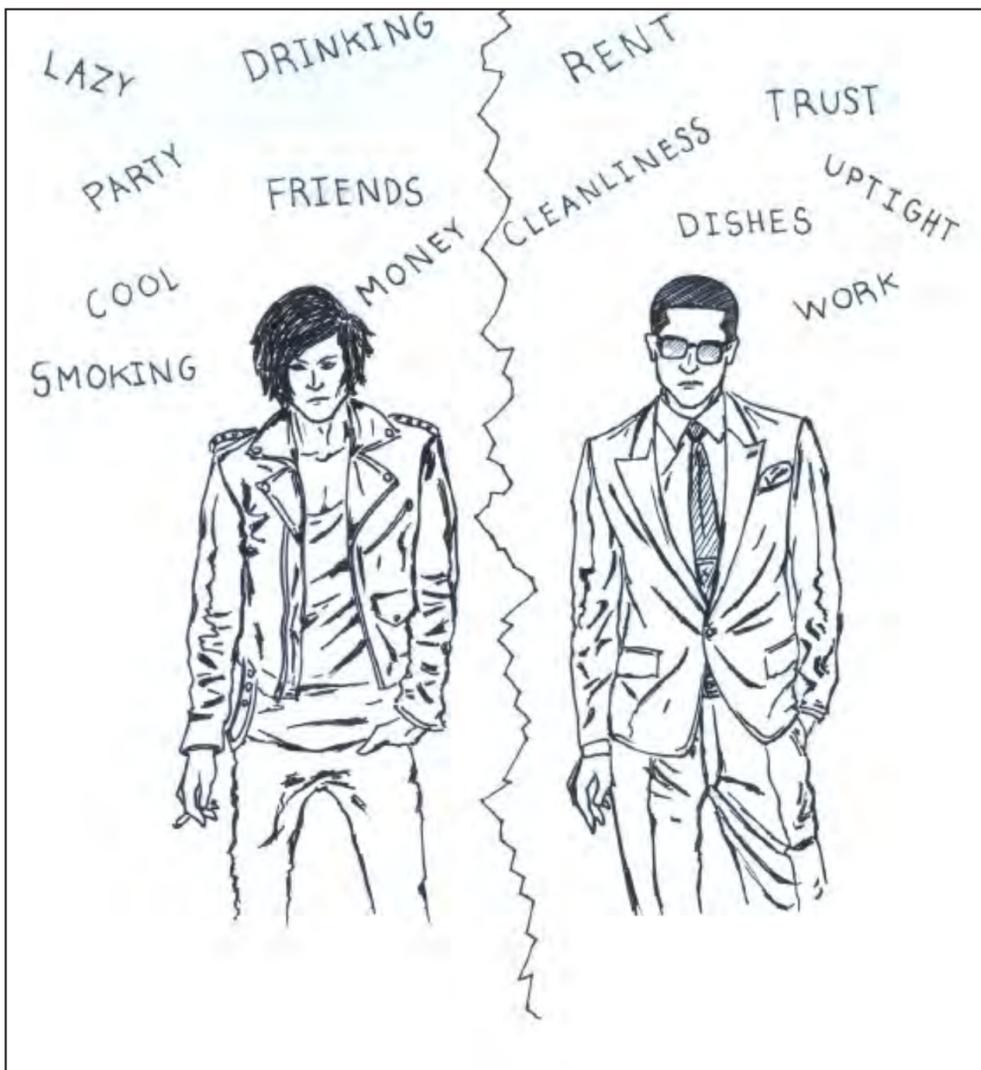


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Movie Review

The highly anticipated film 'Furious 7' speeds into theaters

By Marcus Castro
Reporter

"The Fast and the Furious" movie series has once again made an instant hit.

"Furious 7" is a film that is the most recent in the timeline of the movie series. The way this film tied in the third movie in the series, "The Fast and The Furious: Tokyo Drift," was perfect.

This film is about a crew of old street racers and heisting pros. Right when the crew thought they were finally done with a life full of insane action, they get side busted by Deckard Shaw, played by Jason Statham. Deckard is the older and more ruthless brother of Owen Shaw, played by Luke Evans, from the "Fast and Furious 6."

When the crew, consisting of Dominic Toretto, played by Vin Diesel, Brian O'Conner (Paul Walker), Letty Ortiz (Michelle Rodriguez), Tej (Ludacris), and Roman (Tyrese Gibson), realizes they are being hunted, after their friend Han (Sung Kang) is killed by Deckard, they know that



GOOGLE IMAGES

they have to fight back.

The crew needs help with finding the highly skilled assassin Deckard, and it's help they got. Doing a favor for Mr. Nobody, played by Kurt Russell, in return for his help is the only way of finding Deckard. So the crew once again gathers some fast cars and other essential equipment to take on the task at hand.

The stunts in the film were great. It was awesome to

watch scenes packed full of unrealistic stunts that had me biting my fingernails out of nervousness. The intensity level of the stunts was much greater than previous movies in the series.

I was looking forward to the inevitable fighting scenes that the series is known for. When the scenes came on screen, I was on the edge of my seat and not disappointed.

The acting and filming was once again outstanding. I believed every bit of emotion portrayed by the characters.

One of my favorite parts of the movie was the scene dedicated to the deceased star Paul Walker. It was hard to fight back the tears as the scene was truly a beautiful goodbye to Walker.

Overall, the movie was extremely good. It has become one of my all-time favorites, and I suggest that everyone watches it as soon as possible.

★★★★★



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Column

Partying is done for spring break

Vanessa A. Munoz | Nessa's Music Rant

Is spring break dead? Growing up, I remember watching MTV and seeing all the craziness that would happen during spring break, yet lately there hasn't been much fuss in the music world over it, which makes me wonder what happened.

During spring break I waited to see what would happen in the music media world but found nothing. The typical college student was either on vacation or working. As I asked around what people were doing for spring break, most answered with nothing. One thing I did notice was music artists were releasing their albums before spring break but not that many were performing during spring break.

If you found yourself in Vegas, it was the shows and comedy acts that seemed to be the attraction. This information of course came from me asking around. And there is the annual MTV spring break that usually displays half-naked barely legal females and young men who are barely old enough to drink getting all crazy and loose while on vacation from school, home and work.

There is also the spring break concert that country music artist Luke Bryant puts on every year, but 2015 is said to be his last spring break performance at Miami Beach. According to the Country Music Billboard list, his spring break album from last year came in at the top of the country chart over spring break this year, along with his new album.

Over the years, events and social functions usually progress, but for spring break, the events seem to be dying down as people are not wanting to participate in spring break functions or do not have the funds to participate.

According to ABC News, Miami is tired of the drugs, alcohol, and partying that takes over the beaches every year during spring break. As certain states are regulating new laws and rules just for spring break, the public may be finding the event as an inconvenience. The problem is not just the students, but how crazy people get in general during spring break. It's not just alcohol and drugs that are the problem, but sexual assault and shooting's happen that cause arrests to be at an all-time high during spring break each year. Maybe artists are aware of these troubles and no longer want to line up to perform on stage for a bunch of drunks.

At the rate of these new laws and regulations that are going to be enforced by certain states, it doesn't look good for spring break in the future. Artists are no longer performing and instead are having their own fun with their families and friends while posting pictures on social media websites such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

There is no longer a party going on at every other beach around the world, but spring break is still celebrated by almost every country as all students can agree on the much-needed break that it has to offer. My thoughts are when it comes to the decline in partying during spring break. Are students getting too tired to party? Are financial difficulties becoming that extreme? If these problems do exist for students now, then spring break will soon not exist.

Restaurant Review

Sandwich shop really hits the spot



This combination sandwich includes capocalla, dry salami, pepperoni, ham, chopped onions, shredded cabbage, sliced tomato, oil & vinegar dressing, and provolone cheese on white bread. The sandwich is priced at \$5.35 at City Sandwich (above) on Mt. Vernon Ave. in East Bakersfield. PHOTOS BY JAVIER VALDES / THE RIP



By Elizabeth Castillo
Editor in Chief

City Sandwich Company proves that looks can be deceiving. When I walked toward the shop, I actually thought the place was closed because of the bars on the windows, but the blinking open sign suggested otherwise. Sure enough, the place was open.

When I entered the sandwich shop, I was expecting to be very disappointed. The interior is very drab and there was only one patron there when I entered. I thought the food would parallel the interior, but thankfully I was wrong.

I ordered the number six, a cold, combination sub made with dry salami and cotto salami. All sandwiches include shredded cabbage, sliced tomatoes, oil and vinegar dressing and provolone cheese. When I got the sandwich, it looked like there was way too much bread and not enough meat. Once again, I prepared myself for disappointment.

Luckily, this disappointment never came to fruition. The flavors of the salami shined, and the bread ensures that the powerful flavor of the salami doesn't dominate the taste buds. The bread is soft and flavorful and worked well with the tanginess of the salami and vinegar. The provolone cheese is also very mild and counteracts the strong flavors of the salami.

City Sandwich Company ultimately puts too much shredded cabbage into their sandwiches, and mine was a bit messy. The shredded cabbage is better than shredded lettuce though, and I appreciated the extra flavor it brought to the sandwich. I do wish the sandwich had more to-

matoes in it. They were sliced very thinly, and I barely noticed they were there but the sandwich was still so flavorful that it didn't really bother me.

The size of the sandwich is a bit small but for a little over \$5. I was satisfied with what I got for the price. I would suggest buying chips or another side with the sandwich because it is not quite filling enough alone.

The shop also has a fountain drink machine with cherry coke, which is not available everywhere. For those who enjoy artisan sodas, the shop also sells several bottled sodas ranging from root beer to green apple.

They also had a pretzel caramel brownie for sale, among other baked goods if you have a sweet tooth, but for a pastry, I would recommend the doughnut shop right next door.

Overall, though, I was happy with my sandwich; it was flavorful and didn't disappoint. I was also happy they offered my favorite soda when a lot of other establishments don't. The cashier was nice, and my sandwich was ready moments after I finished my transaction. The employee making my sandwich referred to me by name and both employees were pleasant. It definitely seems like a friendly mom and pop shop that hungry BC students should visit, especially since it's conveniently located a short drive away from the Panorama campus. Don't be deterred by the bland interior or the bars on the window. For those looking for a good sandwich at a good price, City Sandwich Company is the way to go.

City Sandwich Company is located at 2697 Mount Vernon Ave. ★★★★★☆

Record Review

New album may give rappers a fight for the top of the charts

By Vanessa A. Munoz
Opinion Editor

There's a certain sense of depth when it comes to Kendrick Lamar's new album "To Pimp a Butterfly," which released a week earlier than expected in March.

No doubt Kendrick Lamar has rhythmic talent that goes beyond the typical rapper these days, and in his new album he and his band, along with collaborations with other rappers make this album a hip-hop success that will be incomparable in the future to come.

In his sophomore album, Kendrick goes beyond the streets and brings up his thoughts on what is going on in society showing off his rhyming, free talk, and poetry skills. From the Trayvon murder case to the riots in Ferguson, Kendrick makes it apparent that this album is not to be taken lightly.

He brings up murder, racism, unity, government, and of course, love and women. Mostly this album calls for all black people to unite and stay strong.

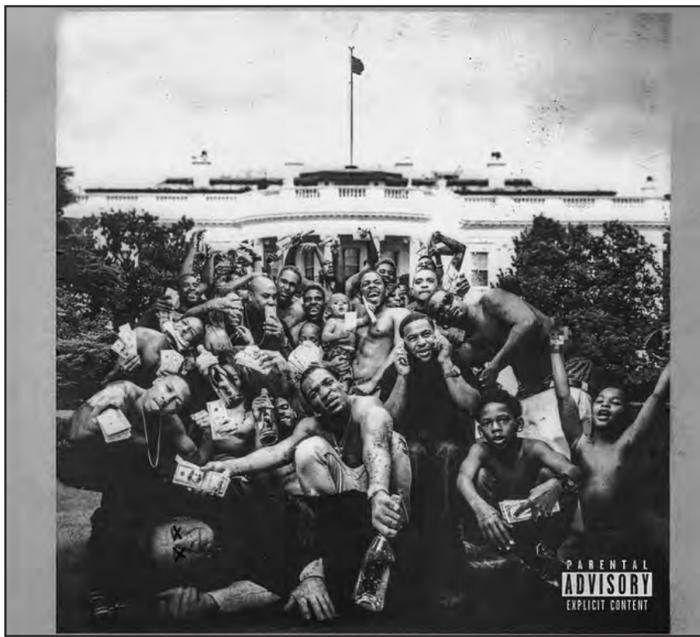
A few of these empowering tracks are "Alright," "U," "The Blacker the Berry," "Institutionalized," "I," and "Hood Politics."

The album starts out with "Wesley's Theory" talking about the financial struggle that the black community faces and how new and inspired upcoming rappers lose track once they get money. The next track "For Free?" has a little humor to it and can be seen as a dispute between him and a gold digging girlfriend, or it can be seen as a protest against being used by the government.

Many of the tracks have a good beat to them and some have an old school twist to it by including an old hip-hop melody that makes you feel like it's the '90s all over again.

A few of the tracks have a jazzy flow that gives a vibe of a coffee house that's hosting a poetry open mic night with Kendrick sharing his deepest thoughts and concerns especially on his track "U."

A feeling of depression almost comes over you as you listen to his song "Hood Politics." This track screams his frustrations about the work he put in for his people and neighborhood but now calls them all boo-boo. At the end of the track, he states how his thoughts drove him crazy



GOOGLE IMAGES

while feeling depressed about it all in a hotel room.

"Institutionalized" goes on about how his mind is still in the hood. This track features Bilal, Anna Wise, and Snoop Dogg. The entire song is about admitting to the struggle of being down for who you were and who you are now and how your mind can stay institutionalized in the hood. Every day is a struggle to come up in life and that sense of a struggle never leaves you.

The feel good track of the album is "I" which makes you start moving and wanting to dance. You get this sense of "feelin' yourself" as they say, the song is positive and talks about loving yourself and feeling empowered.

The best song on the album has to be his track "Alright," which goes deep on his views of the social problems in society that prey on the black community in America. Kendrick includes a tongue-twisting rhyme explaining how the black community is going to be all right and how the police and government want to see them dead. The beat makes it easy to follow along in the rhymes, which makes

the track more intense.

In his song "Complexion (A Zulu Love)" he openly admits to loving all complexions of women and that being this open gives him more options to look at. Rapper Rapsody gives the track a woman's perspective on the love for all complexions admitting her admiration to those of any color and that we're all beautiful kings and queens.

In almost every track, Kendrick shares parts of a common verse that goes like this, "I remember you was conflicted misusing your influence, sometimes I did the same, abusing my power, full of resentment, resentment that turned into a deep depression, found myself screaming in a hotel room, I didn't want to self-destruct, the evils that lose you was all around me, so I went running for answers".

"To Pimp a Butterfly" is one of hip-hop's best albums, and is a refreshing change from the gangster rap that's been plaguing the media lately.

This album goes beyond any genre or rap style. It's inspirational, influential, and empowering. ★★★★★

Practice what you preach

By Kevin Phillips
Reporter

Water conservation is a joke. Really.

Why aren't the people who are in charge of new development using some of that money they collect from the public every time we pay our water bill?

If you look at your bill closely, you will see that they add charges to your bill just to repair the water pipes. Over 10 percent of our water is wasted because of leaks in the pipes. So if the water company wants the public to conserve water, you would think they would do it as well.

Some of the money that they get from the government is for new projects.

The money is there, there's no reason for us to be in a drought other than someone putting money in his or her pocket.

The part that is really disturbing, is that we have been in a drought for over five years and they wait until the reservoir is at 17 percent before the water company says that it is the lowest it has ever been, and now that summer is coming, they want to do something. Really, and what they are thinking about doing, trucking in snow or ice from somewhere else? Wow.

We have the largest coastline of any state, so we have easy access to the ocean.

Almost all of the Middle Eastern countries have desalting units which take the salt out of the ocean water to make it drinkable.

And guess what? Their water is a whole lot better to drink than ours is.

That's why most people don't drink water from their faucet, it's not good for you.

Maybe we can learn something from the Middle East, and maybe if the government stepped in it might help.

Water is something we need every day to live. It's a shame that someone is in charge of our water and has self-interest instead of the public's interest in mind.

Golf not up to par

By Marcus Castro
Reporter

Bakersfield men's golf team is not doing good as they are at the lowest point in their season.

The team headed to Antelope Valley on March 23. With eight teams in the tournament BC placed last with a team score of 421. Jeremy Choi led the team with a score of 79.

"A very poor showing from my team. I'm very disappointed with how they are playing," said head coach Bob Paillet. Paillet has been put on paid administrative leave for using inappropriate verbal communication toward two players of the team.

Canyons took first place with a team score of 367. Eric Kim led COC to victory with a score of 69. The rest of the BC men shot above 80. Robert Chavez shot an 82, Brad Chamberlain shot an 84, Jerren Walter shot an 85, and Jarrett Buntley shot a 91.

The following week on March 30 BC headed to Allan Hancock. BC men placed last out of eight teams with a team score of 402. Choi led the team with a score of 74.

COC took first place with a team score of 368. Jake Ledbetter of Santa Barbara City College took first place with a score of 68.

The BC men then traveled to play at San Dimas Golf Course on April 6.

BC will be competing at Glendale on April 13, and will also be away competing on April 20.

Season over for BC tennis

By Daniel Ojeda
Contributing Editor

The tennis season came to a close with a resounding thud as the men's and women's tennis teams each lost their remaining two games to close out the season.

The men's tennis team beat Los Angeles Pierce College to end a three-game losing streak but ran into two teams undefeated in league play that are also on their way to the postseason.

First up was Ventura College (10-3), which managed to hold the Renegades scoreless as BC lost by a score of 9-0. Ventura College finished first in the Western State Conference while BC finished the season in third place.

The Renegades last match was against powerhouse Cerritos College (19-5), which won by the score of 7-2, both of the sets won by BC were by forfeit. The men's team finished the season with an overall record of 3-10 and a 2-4 division record.

The women's tennis team finished the season by losing matches against Santa Barbara City College (10-3) and Ventura College (8-7) to finish the season winless. Just like the men's team, the women's team ran into two teams preparing for the postseason. The Renegades lost 7-2 to Santa Barbara with both set wins coming via forfeit and were held scoreless against Ventura College losing 9-0.

The women's team finished the season with an overall record of 0-15 and a division record of 0-10.



ELIAS C. AHUMADA / THE RIP

Freshman outfielder Brooks Douglass (5) slides home for the Renegades after Hanz Harker's hit against Saddleback.

Painton, BC baseball look for consistency during April

By Mohamed Bafakih
Sports Editor

The Bakersfield College baseball team has yet to remain consistent in the season. Prior to the second and final meeting on the road against Glendale (14-13 overall, 10-2 WSC South) on April 7, the Renegades (11-16, 5-7 WSC South) haven't had an overall record of .500 or better since Feb. 6.

As for conference play, the Renegades began 4-4 but dropped two of their last three conference games leaving them at 5-7 in the Western State South Conference.

"We've been inconsistent for three months... if we can find some consistency over the next three weeks we'll be okay," head coach Tim Painton said.

With an Easter Classic Tournament over Easter weekend, this was an opportunity for BC to claim Central Valley bragging rights and even a chance to upset SoCal 11th ranked Saddleback without worrying about conference opponents – not to mention snapping a two-game losing skid.

The Renegades began the tournament against College of

the Sequoias (14-12) on March 31, a team who Bakersfield got a glimpse of early in the season when the Giants went on to beat the Renegades 11-3 at home on Feb. 13.

It was nearly a similar score again this time but with the runs in favor of Bakersfield. BC put up seven of their 11 total runs in the third inning alone and behind sophomore pitcher Joe Bresson (2-5), BC gave up just one run to the Giants. Bresson pitched all nine innings and finished with seven strikeouts.

On April 1, the Renegades faced another Central Valley foe, the Tigers of Reedley College. Reedley (10-16) came in looking for a tournament win of their own after dropping to Saddleback 13-7 the day before.

BC had other plans, however. The hitting came in at the right time, and it only took one right-hand BC pitcher again to hold Reedley off. Sophomore Christian Sinnott (3-1) managed to retire seven of the last eight batters faced en route to a nine-hitter.

"This was the best game he [Sinnott] pitched in two years for us," Painton stated.

Freshman catcher Jacob Herrera put the game away in the

seventh as his two-run single brought in Hanz Harker and Kaidan Meadows giving BC their first back-to-back wins in almost a month and a 5-3 victory over Reedley.

Lastly, the Renegades faced their toughest challenge of the weekend against Saddleback at Gerry Collis Field. Saddleback (18-10) combined for a total of 30 runs against Reedley (13) and Sequoias (17) over the weekend.

The Gauchos jumped out to an early 3-0 lead through four innings but Bakersfield's Brooks Douglass doubled down the infield line in the bottom of the fifth allowing outfielder Josh Stone to score. Shortly after, Douglass reached home after freshman Hanz Harker singled to right field cutting the Gauchos lead to 3-2.

The next series for Saddleback however sealed it as University of North Carolina-Asheville transfer Jack Kaloogian singled to first, but a BC error forced Kaloogian to advance to second and two Saddleback runners to score.

Although Allan Winans (1-6) struck out eight runners, his five runs were just too much as Saddleback finished the week-

end 3-0 with a 5-2 victory over the Renegades.

After Glendale, Bakersfield will continue WSC South play and make a run for the postseason at Antelope Valley on April 11 then return home to face West LA on April 14 (6 p.m.) before their final meeting at West LA on April 16.

"We get to .500 and somehow hurdle a couple teams that are a game or two ahead of us then we're where we need to be," Painton said.

Remaining games:

Apr. 9 @ Antelope Valley
Apr. 11 vs AVC 1 p.m.
Apr. 14 vs West LA 6 p.m.
Apr. 16 @ West LA
Apr. 18 @ Canyons
Apr. 21 vs Canyons 2:30 p.m.
Apr. 23 vs LA Valley 3 p.m.
Apr. 24 vs LA Valley 3 p.m.

WSC South standings:

1. Glendale (14-13, 10-2)
2. LA Valley (16-10, 9-3)
3. Canyons (15-12, 7-5)
4. Citrus (14-12-1, 7-5)
5. LA Mission (14-13, 6-6)
6. Bakersfield (11-16, 5-7)
7. Antelope Valley (8-18, 4-8)
8. West LA (4-23, 0-12)
(prior to Tuesday's matchups)



ELIAS C. AHUMADA / THE RIP

The BC softball team huddles around head coach Christie Hill after topping conference-leading Citrus on April 2. Pitcher Trinidad Lee hit a walk-off two-run home run in the bottom of the seventh; her second walk-off of the week.

Softball walks off twice

By Mason J. Rockfellow
Reporter

While everyone was on spring break, the Bakersfield College softball team was still stepping up to the plate, taking home two wins leaving them at 5-8 in the conference.

BC played a doubleheader against Glendale on March 31. Last time BC played against Glendale, they were completely destroyed in Glendale on March 5, 8-0.

Even with doubles being hit by Alex Avila, Brooke Quiddam

and Trinidad Lee, BC tallied up four RBIs while Glendale dialed in four doubles and eight RBIs taking the first win of the day, 11-7.

The second game was a turn around for BC as they flipped the script on Glendale and didn't even allow a run to them until the seventh inning. BC took the well-earned victory 6-4.

The next game was against Citrus College on April 2. This time Citrus had to come to BC's home turf after BC had lost both games in a doubleheader on March 10 at Citrus.

It was a close game, but BC got their revenge on Citrus and took home a close win 6-5. BC's Trinidad Lee definitely showed some initiative against Citrus with two home runs, four RBIs and a triple.

After the doubleheader at Santa Monica on April 7, BC will be hosting to College of the Canyons on April 9, traveling to LA on April 14 to play Los Angeles Valley College and will also be in LA on April 16 to face off against Los Angeles Mission College, and will then be in Antelope Valley on April 21.

Remaining games:

Apr. 9 vs Canyons 2:30 p.m.
Apr. 10 vs Hancock 2:30 p.m.
Apr. 11 vs San Bernardino (doubleheader - 1 & 3 p.m.)
Apr. 14 @ LA Valley (doubleheader - 1 & 3 p.m.)
Apr. 16 @ LA Mission
Apr. 21 @ Antelope Valley (doubleheader - 1 & 3 p.m.)

WSC Blue standings:

1. Citrus (22-8, 11-2)
2. Canyons (22-5-1, 10-3)
3. AVC (20-10-1, 9-4)
4. Glendale (16-12-1, 6-7)
5. LA Mission (20-10, 5-8)
6. Bakersfield (14-14, 5-8)
7. LA Valley (12-17, 5-8)
8. Santa Monica (3-25, 1-12)
(prior to Tuesday's matchups)

Column Coaches have lost the edge

MOHAMED BAFAKIH | Going beneath the shield

As a coach, it's essential to push your athletes to the best of their abilities – and even higher if possible.

You're their mentor, their teacher, their parent.

It's a process that begins with yourself, first and foremost. How you interpret the way you go about your everyday life. You begin to build that track record.

It begins as a parent first. Earn your athletes' trust, build relationships to where they feel comfortable around you, stay within reach with their professors, and then manifest that within their range of talent and needs for improvement.

That's when the teacher role comes in.

You begin to expand their abilities as an athlete and how they can take their game to the next level.

When it breaks the athlete down, that's when you become the mentor. That helps to heal their wounds.

It also instills the coach's belief in them and enables the coach to allow them to get better.

Coaches nowadays have lost that edge. It seems to no longer be about the athlete, but about the fact you're an employed coach and just oversee players that you have really no desire being around. Some coaches are satisfied with employment and a paycheck and figure the job is "easy" or just "enjoyable."

Generally speaking, it seems more apparent at the community college level.

These are 18-, 19-year-old kids who have the talent to be able to play at the four-year level, but whether it's grades or just lack of focus, they need that extra push at community college to take that next step.

It's a tough process for some of these young kids to understand.

Then you add a coach who neglects to make you more polished as a person, student and athlete to prep you for being able to compete at the next level and make that transition smooth is daunting.

It seems as if certain community college coaches know that since two years can go fast, that they don't need to be responsible for their players because they are adults already, and it's a short stint that it becomes no big deal to a coach because athletes are in and out every year.

Even for myself as just a student, I overlook the community college system.

You have all the intentions to automatically go straight to a four-year program out of high school but realize that isn't the route quite yet.

It's just a setback. Maybe student-athletes feel the same way.

However, a coach's responsibility is also to be a resource for his/her players.

If a coach put as much effort as they do game planning for a matchup or event into the students, we'd probably have a higher success rate with student-athletes staying eligible and even eligible to play at a higher intercollegiate level or even just graduating on time.

I enjoy seeing colleagues of mine excel in the classroom then being able to go their sporting event and excel there as well.

It shows their determination and amount of work they put in to balance each.

It's time we start seeing coaches do the same as well and become far beyond just a position on a staff but influencers who believe in their athletes in all areas – whether it's inside or outside the classroom.

Swimmers reflect on time at BC

By Mohamed Bafakih
Sports Editor

Lexi Zimmerman: With the season winding down for the 2015 swim season, sophomore Lexi Zimmerman is priding herself into capturing back-to-back Western State Conference titles for the Bakersfield College women's swim team come April 18.

Although her time here at BC is nearing its end, Zimmerman's swim career will continue at the next level as she will be transferring to California State University-East Bay.



PHOTOS BY MARCUS CASTRO / THE RIP

Standout Mikey Fink is looking for a perfect ending in his last few weeks as a BC swimmer.

On why Zimmerman committed to East Bay: "I was looking at a couple other schools, like in Oregon... but I just love the area and I respect the coach - he knows what he's doing," Zimmerman added.

During her time here at BC, Zimmerman has accomplished many records.

She currently holds two BC records, the 50-yard breaststroke and 100-yard breaststroke.

"I'm really close to the 200 [yard] individual medley so that's one of my goals also," Zimmerman said.

Zimmerman swam in Tehachapi all four years for the Warriors and explains her transition from swimming at the prep level to the college level as a "work ethic" leap.

At Tehachapi, she was a four-year All-Area First Team swimmer and MVP of the team each year.

Zimmerman credits head coach Matt Moon for her development during her two years here at BC.

"I'm more prepared now to swim at the next level," Zimmerman stated.

Mikey Fink: Coming off a third place finish in the Western State Conference championships last year, sophomore Mikey Fink came in without leading swimmer Andrew Hargis by his side.

However, Filling in for Hargis has been quite smooth for Fink.

"Living up to Hargis, who's a pretty good swimmer, and being at his level is pretty cool," Fink said.

Fink went to East Bakersfield High School and being coached up is what Fink believes he lacked at East.

"I never really had the quality of coaching at East... so Bakersfield College has been a good step for me to see where my potential was in swimming and take it to wherever I want to go," Fink stated.

When it comes to swimming, it's all about what Fink envisions.

"I just go into a phase where my mind is blank but



BC swimmer Lexi Zimmerman has broking another school record and WSC title in mind.

once I hit the water it's on."

Fink's time at BC is almost up but he hopes to compete well enough to make it to state in the final weekend of April.

"I knew if I put in 100 percent then that's what I'm going to get at the very end of my last race here," Fink mentioned.

Women leading BC track

By Marcus Castro
Reporter

The Bakersfield College women's track and field team continues to show their dominance while the men's team tries to improve.

On March 20, the team traveled to compete in the Antelope Valley College Spring Invitational.

The women took first place with a team score of 179.5.

Kaira Saunders placed first in the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.15 seconds. She also took first place in the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.11.

Leah Theroux took first place in the 800-meter run with a time of 2 minutes 20.55 seconds. Jessica Campbell took first place in the 1,500-meter run with a time of 4:49.96. Yareli O'Campo placed second in the 3,000-meter run with a time of 11:51.21.

Lilliana Portillo placed third in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 17.21 seconds. Paola Silvestre placed third in the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a time of 12 minutes 44.69 seconds.

The women's A-relay team took first place in the 4x100-meter relay with a time of 49.64.

DeannaLynn Rubio took first place in the long jump with a distance of 15.87 feet. She also took first place in the triple jump with a distance of 33.16 feet.

Sha'Nya Terry placed third in shot put with a distance of 32.77 feet. Stephanie Perez took first place in the javelin throw with a distance of 87.2 feet.

The men's team placed third with a team score of 109.

Brandon Segura-Hernandez placed third in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 17.02 seconds. He then took first place in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 57.64.

BC men's A-relay team took second place in the 4x400 meter relay with a time of 3 minutes 24.44 seconds. Edgar Llanes took first place in pole vault with a height of 13.45 feet. Victor Rodriguez placed second in the long jump with a distance of 21.85 feet. Kyle Millwee placed third in the triple jump with a distance of 41.56 feet.

The track and field teams headed to College of the Canyons on March 27 to compete in the WSC Inland meet.

The BC women took second with a team score of 116.

Saunders took first in the 100 with a time of 12.35 seconds. She also took first in the 200 with a time of 25.46 seconds. Nicole Lewis placed third in the 200 with a time of 26.17. She also placed third in the 400 with a time of 58.98.

Campbell placed second in the 800 with a time of 2 minutes 22.63 seconds. She also placed third in the 1,500 with a time of 4:43.83.

The BC women's A-relay team placed first in the 4x100-meter relay with a time of 48.53 seconds. Perez placed second in the pole vault with a height of 8 feet. McKayla Hunt placed third in pole vault with a height of 7 feet. Amanda Reyes placed second in the discus throw with a time distance of 118.6 feet.

The BC men's team placed fourth overall with a team score of 66.

Juan Calderon placed second in the 800 with a time of 1 minute 57.05 seconds. Segura-Hernandez placed second in the 400 hurdles with a time of 57.67.

Millwee placed third in the triple jump with a distance of 44.32 feet. Richard Ortiz placed third in shot put with a distance of 40.32 feet. Dillen Littles placed second in the discus throw with a distance of 136.31 feet. Nathaniel Vinson took first place in the javelin throw with a distance of 152.55 feet.

BC's track and field team will travel to compete in the Mt. SAC Invitational on April 10, and will also travel to compete in the Conference Prelims on April 17.

Swim teams ready for WSC Championship

By Mohamed Bafakih
Sports Editor

The William A. Wheeler Aquatic Center at Bakersfield College, home of the over \$3 million Olympic-sized Italian-imported pool, was finally put to use on March 27 as BC along with Citrus, Cuesta, L.A. Valley and Santa Monica took part in the final meet before the Western State Conference Swim Championship.

It took 42 days since the start of the 2015 swim season for BC to finally host a meet.

The Renegades came in with nearly two weeks to prepare.

"We kept a lot of energy," sophomore Lexi Zimmerman said in regards to the preparation over the course.

Zimmerman finished in first place in both the women's 200-yard breaststroke (2:35.35) and 400-yard individual medley (5:03.61, over 30 seconds ahead of the runner-up, her teammate Christina Ruettgers) while helping BC finish second in the women's 400-yard freestyle relay alongside Paige Richardson, Sara Klang and Alison Lechman.

Richardson also had a decent day, as she placed first in the 1,000-yard freestyle (11:47.29) and third in the 100-yard freestyle (1:00.08).

Freshman Sara Klang also didn't disappoint.

Klang took first in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:45.58 (40 seconds ahead of the



VICTORIA MILLER / THE RIP

Lexi Zimmerman swims the butterfly leg of the 400 individual medley and finishes in first place with a time of 5:03. Zimmerman also finished first in the 200 breaststroke with a time of 2:35 in the only home meet of the season for BC.

runner-up, her teammate Victoria Vargas) and second in the 200-yard butterfly with a time of 2:30.36.

On the men's side, they accounted for 12 of the total 23 top three finishes as Erik Wood

took first in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:08.04 (teammate Drake Lyle falling just behind in second with a time of 5:13.37) and third in the 400-yard IM. Cristian Serrato and Mikey Fink were the only

other swimmers to place first for BC as Serrato took first in the 200-yard breaststroke (2:27.31) while Fink finishing in first in the 100-yard freestyle (49.46).

The Renegades will have had two weeks to prepare again, but

this time for the WSC Championship in Ventura on April 16-18. The women will look to defend their conference title while the men will look to surpass their third place finish last year.

Saunders sisters inspiring one another

By Marcus Castro
Reporter

Kaira and Taira Saunders, 19, are Bakersfield College's track and field talented twin dynamic duo.

"You get dejected playing with a beast," said Kaira, warning her competitors about how rough it will be to compete against her and her sister.

Both Kaira and Taira are freshmen at BC and they both run in the 100 and 200-meter dash. Kaira's personal record in the 100-meter dash is 12.1 seconds, and in the 400-meter dash her personal record is 25.11. Taira's personal record in the 11 is 12.45, and in the 400 her personal record is 26.08.

Kaira is a criminal justice major, and Taira's major is currently undeclared. Kaira is hoping to get a scholarship to go run at Washington State University, and Taira looks to move up as well, but she is not sure what college she wants to go to quite yet.

Kaira and Taira both started running cross-country in the second grade, but did not start running track until the seventh grade.

Kaira knew in the eighth grade that she wanted to run competitively but didn't consider herself a competitive runner until her freshman year of high school. It took Taira a little longer to consider herself a competitive runner; she finally considered herself one when she was in her sophomore year of high school.

Kaira's inspiration to run isn't what most people use as inspiration; she inspires herself as she says she is

good at running and that is why she likes doing it.

Taira said, "My inspiration is her [Kaira] because I want to be her. So I have to run."

When it comes to being twins, Kaira thinks it is great at times, but then it can also be annoying because they share clothes and follow each other around all the time. Taira came back with first saying that she does not follow her sister around, and that she likes it because there is two of her.

They both agreed that they were close to each other, but Taira seems to be a stronger believer in how close they are more than Kaira. "I think we're like two peas in a pod," said Taira.

When it comes to competing they both give each other support. Before their events, they both encourage each other to do well, and they cheer for each other when they are in separate events.

When asked if they enjoy competing against each other, Kaira said, "No, because she can never beat me." Taira said, "She's a liar. I think that it is totes [totally] fun."

Being that twin dynamic duo, the sisters believe that it does intimidate some competitors. "I think it's cool because sometimes people don't know and will say 'Didn't you just run?' and it's funny. It's especially cool when we're running in the same event right next to each other," said Kaira.

Both of them agreed that it is very difficult to manage school and track. "Half of the time you're at school and half of the time you're at track and sometimes they just



MARCUS CASTRO / THE RIP

The twin duo Kaira (left) and Taira (right) Saunders run hard in the 200-meter dash.

collide with each other," said Taira.

These twins' futures in the world of track and field seem to be bright, and they are doing all that they can to keep it that way.

Meteorite specialist showers over BC

Early journeys start off career

By Elizabeth Castillo
Editor in Chief

Meteorite specialist, science writer and world traveler, Geoff Notkin presented a lecture as part of the STEM series at BC.

"I'm officially a science nerd and don't let anyone tell you that there's anything wrong with it," said Notkin.

The co-star of the Science Channel's "Meteorite Men," detailed why he became a meteorite specialist. He said that growing up, his parents took him on adventures all over the world. He went on an archaeological dig at the age of six and fell into an active volcano when he was 13. He enjoyed science growing up and realized that studying meteorites was a combination of astronomy and geology and helped him learn more about space.

"Meteorites are alien fragments of alien worlds," he said.

Notkin explained the techniques he uses in the field to find meteorites. He said that visiting historic sites around the world can yield meteorite finds and that utilizing metal detectors can help in the search of meteorites. He said that he enjoys using a military-grade bomb detector to scope out meteorites as well.

Notkin also discussed his company, Aerolite Meteorites, and recapped tales of some of his more eccentric clients. One of which, believed that meteorites came from stars, which is untrue. Notkin explained that the majority of meteorites come from asteroids and other debris in space. He also said that meteors do not land on Earth, and only meteorites can be found on the ground and leave impact craters.

"Meteor Crater in Arizona is erroneously named," Notkin said.

His company not only sells to collectors but also provides museums with specimens as well. His company may trade specimens with a museum so that the meteorite can be studied.

"This is a great way for field workers and academia to work



PHOTOS BY JAVIER VALDES / THE RIP

Television host and professional meteorite hunter Geoff Notkin re-enacts the pose that he displays when encountering a new meteorite.

"I'm officially a science nerd and don't let anyone tell you that there's anything wrong with it."

**—Geoff Notkin,
Co-star of Science Channel's
"Meteorite Men"**

very well together," he said.

During Notkin's lecture, he allowed the audience to examine one of his meteorites and recalled his excitement handling a meteorite at a lecture he attended.

"I was thinking about stealing the meteorite from the Smithsonian," he said.

Notkin was involved with "Meteorite Men," a Science Channel series that had three seasons aired. He hopes to be a part of another television series, "Meteorite Hunters Unlimited" with fellow meteorite expert Steve Arnold.

For more information on Notkin, visit geoffnotkin.com.



Geoff Notkin signs a copy of his book for a fan after his presentation at the Levan Center on March 23.

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