



# The Renegade Rip

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

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## Four-year degree open to students

By Elizabeth Castillo  
Editor in Chief

Bakersfield College announced on Jan. 20 that it will be one of 15 colleges in California to offer a four-year baccalaureate degree program. Students who participate in the pilot program will earn a baccalaureate of applied science in industrial automation. BC was selected by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office to offer a unique program that focused on automation.

"An important criterion to be selected was that the program could not duplicate other programs offered at the California State University level," said Liz Rozell, the Engineering & Industrial Technology Dean of Instruction at BC.

The program will comprise of 122 units, and the degree was designed to follow the CSU General Education Breadth of courses. Sixty-two units must be completed in lower division courses. Rozell said that she is excited BC is offering this program so that students can prepare for mid-management positions within manufacturing and automation.

"With this program, we can prepare students for the workforce," she said. "Students who received an associate degree were tracked in their field and could not be promoted to managerial positions without a BS degree."

Rozell said that with the new program, students will be eligible for mid-management positions. The program allows students to learn technical management, industrial safety, quality assurance and other skills that will prepare them for managerial positions within the automation industry. Rozell hopes the pilot program can help improve the Kern County economy and give students more options for their education.

Currently, BC offers associate in science degrees for engineering, engineering technology, and industrial technology. With the baccalaureate program, students can further their education and earn a degree with classes that are missing from BC's present curriculum. According to a press release, 15 percent of the population served by Bakersfield College holds a degree at the bachelor's level. Rozell hopes the pilot program can serve the Bakersfield community by providing a reasonably priced baccalaureate degree.

The program will begin in the fall semester

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Nelson Lewis prepares to pick oranges during his Forestry B2 class, while a cow enjoys fruit from the ground during the orange sale.

PHOTOS BY JAVIER VALDES / THE RIP

## Fun-filled fruit picking day for students



Eric Myers, 27, picks oranges during the annual orange sale held at BC's agriculture farm.

The annual Bakersfield College orange sale took place at the agriculture farm on the far northwest side of the BC campus on Jan. 27-28 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Students learned the process of how to pick a good orange and had the chance to participate in the agriculture experience. The event was open to the public and encouraged customers to pick their own oranges for \$5 a bag, but they also gave the option to buy a pre-picked bag for \$10. The orange sale takes place annually during the second week of the spring semester.

## BC's gallery given official art director

By Mason J. Rockfellow  
Reporter

Bakersfield College's Wylie and May Louise Jones Art Gallery now has an official director.

The new gallery director is Tom Betthausen, 28, who is also an artist and an adjunct professor for the Kern Community College District.

Betthausen graduated from Tamalpais High School in Mill Valley, Calif. After high school, Betthausen went to San Francisco State where he finished his general education and later went on to study art history and studio art at San Francisco Art Institute. He then graduated from Yale School of Art with a Master of Fine Arts.

This is the first opportunity Betthausen has had to be a director of a gallery, but he has experience working in them previously.

"Outside of academia, if you're the director of a gallery, you usually own it...it's my first opportunity to direct a space and it's



JAVIER VALDES / THE RIP

Gallery director, Tom Betthausen, is seen showcasing the art piece, "Dust Collectors," by artist Roni Shneior at the BC art gallery located in the library.

gone pretty well," said Betthausen.

For the better half of the last decade, Betthausen has been working as an instructor in museums and colleges.

"I've worked as a gallery assistant and an art handler on and off for the past 10 years in San Francisco, Connecticut, New York and in Los Angeles helping both established galleries and independent or academic spaces manage exhibitions," he said.

Betthausen has been with the KCCD since

2013 as a Fine Arts instructor and has been there for the last two and a half years. He had been instructing an art history class at Cerro Coso, but is now instructing specifically at Bakersfield College. This semester he is instructing the figure drawing class and since September has been the director of the Wylie and May Louise Jones Art Gallery.

The Gallery will be having three upcoming exhibits this semester. The first one will be

Please see **DIRECTOR**, Page 5

## BC's mentor program receives recognition

By Elizabeth Castillo  
Editor in Chief

The Making it Happen program at Bakersfield College won an Exemplary Program award from the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges on Jan. 21. The award, which included a \$4,000 cash prize, was given to the MIH program for being the best representation of this year's theme, "Transitions from High School to College: Assisting Students in Meeting Their Educational Goals." Janet Fulks, the MIH lead and dean of Precollegiate Studies and Student Success at BC said that she was excited to win the award.

"It was a great honor for BC to be recognized," she said. "It was a team effort and now we can reinvest that money into good things."

Fulks said that she already has plans for the money. In February, members of the MIH

team will attend the DREAM conference in Baltimore. The conference, organized by Achieving the Dream, is held to help leaders in community colleges focus on student success.

While Fulks has attended the conference in the past to learn from others, this year she will be presenting on the MIH program. She hopes to take two students that are currently enrolled in the program to the conference. The funds from the award will help pay for travel expenses for the students.

"We were asked to give a presentation at the conference and now we get to talk about the program nationally," she said.

Although Fulks has made progress with the program, she said that her team has learned a lot about what isn't working within MIH. One problem that the program has encountered

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## Owner clears the air



JAVIER VALDES / THE RIP

Pyrenees owner, Julie Crawford, engages in conversation with two Pyrenees customers.

By Amber Hayden  
Online Editor

If you have ever driven down East 21st Street, you would have noticed both Narducci's Café and Pyrenees Café, and of course heard about the recent events that caused a rift between Jimmy Narducci and Julie Crawford.

But, according to Pyrenees owner Julie Crawford, there was never really anything for Narducci to be upset over.

She said she had always been forthcoming about the show "Diners, Drive-ins, and Dives" coming to film inside Pyrenees and not Narducci's, which at the time she was helping run.

"I told Jimmy, no this is for Pyrenees not Narducci's. But I was so excited about it," said Crawford.

Crawford had worked for Narducci's for almost 10 years, in which time her and Narducci had come to an agreement on running the restaurant 50/50. The agreement had always been verbal between the two and

nothing had been set in writing. But since Narducci doesn't live in Bakersfield but in Martinez, Crawford was left to do most of what needed to be done for the café alone.

"My advice is always get it in writing," Crawford said concerning the agreement between the pair.

She also commented that over the last two months she had been with Narducci's, she had been working hand in hand with US Foods and the US Foods specialist in order to create a better and healthier menu for the café.

Shortly before the menu could be put together completely, Crawford's time at the café came to an end.

Since about 2005, Crawford had been trying to buy Pyrenees, but someone else always seemed to inch her out.

This was until September of last year when she was finally able to purchase the café.

She decided that before opening the café she wanted to remodel the inside and did so.

Pyrenees opened its doors under Crawford's management on Oct. 14, 2014.

Inside the café is a bar area in the front, and in the back is a separate room for those who want to sit down and eat.

She does however hate to think that Narducci's Café may come to an end with all of the comments that have been said, as well as so few of the employees remaining with the café.

"Out of the 25 employees we had there at the time, 22 came to work for me when I told them they were welcome here," Crawford commented.

The bad blood between her and Narducci himself, though, will always be there. "If you are asking if I wish Jimmy the best though? I don't at all. I absolutely do not," Crawford said.

If you want to catch the episode of "Diners, Drive-ins, and Dives" that will feature several restaurants here in town as well as one in Taft, Crawford believes it will air around the same time as the opening of Johnny Garlic's inside the Marketplace.



ELIAS C. AHUMADA / THE RIP

Retired Master Gunnery Sergeant Long shows off shoes he has been given by local kids.

## Retired Marine a great example of the motto 'Semper Fidelis'

By Elka Wyatt  
Reporter

Retired Master Gunnery Sergeant M.C. Long exemplifies the motto of the United States Marine Corps, "Semper Fidelis."

Adopted by the Marine Corps in 1883, the Latin phrase means "always faithful."

Long, 86, of Bakersfield, is very proud of his 31-year career in the Marine Corps. Born April 21, 1928 in Bessemer, Alabama, Long enlisted in the Marine Corps as a 16-year old in 1944, two years after President Franklin Delano Roosevelt established a directive to allow African-Americans to enlist in the military.

"I received basic training at Montford Point Camp at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina. It was where they sent the Negroes during the years of segregation," said Long.

Indeed, Montford Point Camp was a facility at Camp LeJeune where, according to the Montford Point Marine Association's website, approximately 20,000 African-American recruits received basic training during

World War II, from 1942 until 1949 when President Harry S. Truman ordered the desegregation of the Armed Forces.

According to the website, in July 1949, there were 1,525 (1.6 percent of the corps) enlisted African-American men in the Marine Corps. Long was among these men.

Long's Military Occupational Specialty was as a fighter pilot. He fought in three wars: World War II, Korea and Vietnam. In 1944 he fought in the month-long battle to liberate Guam from Japanese forces.

"We were taught to kill or be killed for the safety of the country," said Long. "I was fortunate to never have been wounded."

Perris Island, San Diego, Okinawa, Bakersfield, and Korea are among places Long was stationed.

Long retired from the Marine Corps in 1975 as a Master Gunnery Sergeant, which is the highest enlisted rank available to Marines. Master Gunnery Sergeants serve as technical experts in their Military Occupational Specialty, and offer leadership in their field to other Marines.

Long's son was also a Marine while his grandson was in the Army.

Long was married once in 1948 and was married to his second wife, Charlotte from 1958 until her death in 1995. They have four daughters who live in Northern California and a son in North Carolina.

Living in Bakersfield since he retired, Long has been instrumental in the implementation of several programs for youth, including the Marine's Toys for Tots.

He considers this his most important work.

Long receives hot lunches from Kern County Aging and Adult Services' Senior Nutrition Program. He sets the trays outside in his yard to show his appreciation for the meals. Sometimes they give him rides to the doctor, since he can no longer drive.

Anyone driving down Belle Terrace can catch Long standing in his yard saluting cars as they drive by. And if you stop and ask, he will also take you on a tour of his makeshift museum, which consists of his extensive and impressive military career.



JAVIER VALDES / THE RIP

Pyrenees is located on Summer Street, located around the corner from Narducci's cafe.

## This issue's Top Ten Workout Songs

1. Britney Spears- "Work Bitch"
2. Survivor- "Eye of the Tiger"
3. Daft Punk- "Harder Better Faster Stronger"
4. Jessie J & 2 Chainz- "Burnin' Up"
5. LL Cool J- "Mama Said Knock You Out"
6. Kanye West- "The New Workout Plan"
7. Queen- "We Will Rock You"
8. Cona Pop- "I Love It"
9. Eminem- "Lose Yourself"
10. Salt-N-Pepa- "Push It"



## BC and BARC team up to help the campus

By Mason J. Rockfellow  
Reporter

Bakersfield College has taken an initiative in sustainability on campus and has teamed up with local Bakersfield recycling company Bakersfield ARC.

On Jan. 30 at Bakersfield College's Levan Center, the Sustainability: Building an Institution for the Future Generations symposium was held, where BC's plans and actions for going green and teaming up with BARC were discussed.

This will be the first sustainability program for Bakersfield College. Craig Rouse, manager of Maintenance and Operation, said, "We are behind the 8-ball on what is to be a green campus." They are working on making the campus more green in order to make Bakersfield College better for the environment and the community.

One issue BC is working on, is making its campus a non-smoking zone with designated smoking areas. A committee has been formed and they are moving forward with making BC a non-smoking campus.

BC plans to get funding and improve the school's maintenance and infrastructure over the next 30 years. BC has already started making green changes all around the school and has some plans for the near future as well.

The solar panels that were installed in the northeast corner parking lot produces about one-third of the energy used by Bakersfield College.

These solar panels follow the sun to maximize the amount of energy produced in a day and require minimal maintenance.

With help from state grant funding, BC replaced all of the toilets on campus with low-flow toilets, a low flow toilet uses about half as much water than a full-flow toilet. By using these toilets BC is saving millions of gallons of water per year.

There are now electric trucks around campus. Those have replaced the gas-running vans that BC previously used. Bakersfield College provided 20 percent of the cost and the remaining 80 percent was covered by the state. With these changes taking place, Bakersfield Campus wants to try to have all gas vehicles replaced by electric vehicles by 2016.

BC has also replaced some of the lights on campus with LED lights and hopes to have all lights on campus replaced by June of



JAVIER VALDES / THE RIP

Craig Rouse, Manager of Maintenance & Operations, introduces a sustainability plan showcasing progressive projects on the BC campus.

2015.

Soon BC hopes to qualify for a grant to replace the current sprinklers and sprinkler system. New sprinklers and sprinkler systems could save 20 to 30 percent of water per year.

As part of Bakersfield College's efforts of going green, BC has teamed up with BARC and have started a new recycling program.

Mike Grover, Senior Vice President of BARC, talked about BARC's role as a business and as a service of the community, as well as their role at BC.

BARC's mission statement is "BARC's mission is to build a stronger community by helping people with intellectual and developmental disabilities achieve individual goals for a better life." BARC works with four types of people with disabilities: people with epilepsy, cerebral palsy, autism, and intellectual disabilities.

BARC gets their funding three ways. They get funding through donations, state funding, and through the services and pro-

grams they provide competing in an open market.

"Every dollar we get goes back into the programs," said Grover.

The programs that BARC runs help people with one of the four disabilities learn how to work and it helps them get jobs.

"We provide the opportunities but they get to choose what they want to do," said Grover.

Phase one of BC and BARC's sustainability plan has already started.

If you haven't noticed yet, they have put up blue recycling bins accepting co-mingled recycling around campus, anything recyclable with the numbers one through seven on it can go in the bins, this number will be inside of a triangle made of arrows usually located at the bottom of the recyclable, this number is called the resin number.

The resin number identifies what types of recyclable materials it's made of.

"Sustainability is about planting seeds...and making sure the next generation gets to use BC just like us," said Grover.



JAVIER VALDES / THE RIP

Senior Vice President of BARC, Mark Grover, speaks about the recycling program.



TYLER GOUCHER / THE RIP

Host Christine Dinh O'Dell, left, speaks with Armondo Trujillo and Joe Acosta on veteran issues.

## New BC web broadcasting station serves students needs

By Tyler Goucher  
Reporter

EquityTV, Bakersfield College's new webcast series, is shaping up to be an important addition to the continued education of our community.

Coordinated by BC Sports Information Director, Francis Mayer, and hosted by Christine Dinh O'Dell, EquityTV is a live hour-long news program that airs every Monday at 11 a.m. exclusively on Bakersfield.com.

With their 14-week schedule, the staff and volunteers that are making EquityTV pos-

sible, are putting forth an astounding effort to reach and inform new students, as well as existing ones, about special populations of students and featured guests that have amazing stories to tell.

These stories aim to inspire hope and passion among the vastly diverse population within Bakersfield College.

On the Jan. 26 edition of EquityTV, O'Dell interviewed guests with knowledge and experience regarding returning-home veterans. Over the course of the hour-long broadcast, viewers learned of the many services that Bakersfield College offers to veterans, as

well as success stories of vets that have taken advantage of similar programs that have benefited them throughout their lives.

Guests on the show included Paul Beckworth, Justin Whipple, Dick Taylor, Jeannine Waits, Armondo Trujillo, and Joe Acosta.

They proved to be great sources of information for anyone looking for help or assistance in acquiring benefits or seeking a support group in their local area.

Closing out the broadcast, O'Dell had this to say: "We hope to inspire all of you to reach your dreams at college."

## How to impress your date while spending \$5 or less at the movies

By Darlene Mangrum  
Reporter

Being a college student and having a dating life at the same time is near impossible. Students are not exactly the richest people on earth and between buying books, supplies, and paying for college they don't have much money left to live on. Which means, they have even less to spend on dating.

After a long hard week of lectures, reading and homework, every student needs and deserves a break from all the stress.

There is no better way to destress than to go have some fun with someone you care about or want a chance to get to know.

So, this semester The Ren-

egade Rip is going to offer some great ideas for going on dates that can cost around \$5 per person or less in each addition of the paper.

Besides the obvious choices of taking a walk in the park or having a picnic you can always go to the movies. I know what you're thinking and yes, there is such a thing as going to a movie that does not cost an arm and a leg. You can always take your date to the Dollar Movies at the Starplex Cinemas.

Starplex has movies ranging from \$1 to \$3.50 per person depending on the days, times, and dimensions of the movie you want to see. On Tuesdays the 2D movies are \$1 per person and the 3D movies are \$3 per person all

day long, the rest of the week 2D movies are \$1.50 before 6 p.m. and \$2 after 6 p.m., and 3D movies are \$3 before 6 p.m. and \$3.50 after 6 p.m.

If you get hungry while watching a movie you can always treat yourself to a \$1 hot dog or fill your pockets with snacks from the Dollar Store and don't worry they don't check your bags so you can always bring bottled water or refreshments.

Starplex Cinemas is located at 4200 California Avenue, Bakersfield, California, 93309. For more information call 661-869-0169 or visit www.starplexcinemas.com

This weekend try to relax, have fun, and enjoy spending time with someone at the movies.

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# Mind Surfin' hypnotizes BC students

By Daniel Ojeda  
Contributing Editor

Board certified hypnotherapist Rich Aimes stopped by the Panorama Grill on Jan. 27, and for those students in attendance they were treated to some mind-boggling tricks.

Aimes isn't a stranger to Bakersfield College and has been performing professionally for over 20 years. Performing at BC also gives him the ability to perform in front of what he calls the best type of audiences.

"I love performing for college students. College students are able to let loose. I've done performances for big corporations, and they're a little more uptight," said Aimes.

As the show got under way, Aimes began by picking a couple of volunteers from the students in attendance. Two students successfully tied his hands together and then held up a jacket, blocking the audience from viewing his escape but making the trick more mysterious.

Aimes then explained that Harry Houdini was able to free his hands in less than three seconds while occasionally Aimes would raise a single freed hand to point at people in the audience. Then on the count of two, Aimes was able to free himself while an amused crowd gave him a round of applause.

Then Aimes had students write questions on a piece of paper and would randomly select a few. He had those students stand and successfully guessed every question that he selected guessing everything from what certain jobs students were thinking of to successfully naming places that they wanted to visit.

Despite not faltering at all and guessing every trick, Aimes knows that there are those that are skeptics or call him a fake.

"I believe that it is real, but it's not what most people think it is. Most people think hypnosis is what you see on television or the movies and that it's fake. But when you see a real hypnotist that is a genuine phenomenon," said Aimes.

As the show was concluding, Aimes explained that hypnosis could be used to help students become more successful in their everyday lives.

He then asked for anyone in the audience with test anxiety or anyone who was simply struggling with school to close their eyes.

The session continued as



PHOTOS BY ELIAS C. AHUMADA / THE RIP

Certified hypnotherapist Rich Aimes returns to Bakersfield College for another Mind Surfin' show at the Panorama Grill, located in the Campus Center on Jan. 27 to a crowd full of BC students. Aimes has performed for over 20 years.

Aimes walked the students through a series of breathing exercises. After a couple of minutes of telling them they would be better at anything that they wanted to do, he told them to open their eyes and the hypnosis was over.

Aimes went on to say, "Most people think that a hypnotist tries to exert his will over people but that's not what really happens. A good hypnotist lets people have fun and allows them to get into the moment. I tend to liken it to a beer buzz without the alcohol you're just relaxed. Then I give them suggestions that help remove the mental blocks and that's when things start to happen. That's what we do."

We'll have to wait and see when finals roll around to see whether the hypnosis on the BC students was a success or not. As for Aimes, he'll hop back on the road with his next stop in Tucson, Ariz.



Middle: Rich Aimes calls on BC student Keven Bravo for help during one of his mind reading presentations. Above: BC students enjoy their lunch and some laughs during the Mind Surfin' show performed by Aimes. Students are seen taking part in Aimes' test anxiety hypnosis presentation.

## Learning with new devices

By Elizabeth Castillo  
Editor in Chief

Bakersfield College will host a conference, Learning Technologies on Feb. 5. The conference will include different speakers who are experts at integrating technology with education.

The two keynote speakers of the event will be Dr. Michael Wesch and Dean Florez. The conference is primarily for educators although anyone is welcome to attend.

"People need to understand that education is changing," said Amber Chiang, a member of the planning committee for the conference.

"If you think PowerPoint is using technology, you're behind."

The conference will be free for all Bakersfield College and other Kern Community College District employees through the use of professional development funds. William Moseley, another member of the planning committee and the faculty coordinator of technology, innovation and professional development at BC, said that he hopes attendees of the conference will learn the importance of utilizing technology in the classroom.

"It's important for educators to understand how technology can help students learn in powerful and tangible ways," said Moseley.

Michael Wesch, the first keynote speaker of the event, is an associate professor of cultural anthropology at Kansas State University. Wesch was named an Emerging Explorer by National Geographic, has won a US Professor of the Year award from the Carnegie Foundation and has been featured in Wired magazine.

Wesch said that he hopes to address the idea that utilizing social media in the classroom does not automatically create a connection for students and teachers, but teachers must influence students to find joy within the learning process.

"What is needed more than ever is to inspire our students to wonder and to nurture their appetite for curiosity," he said.

Wesch will also be presenting on Feb. 4 at BC's indoor theater.

While his speech during the conference will focus on education and teaching, his lecture on Feb. 4 will be geared toward a more general audience and will present the effects technology has on cultural interactions.

"For the presentation on Feb. 4, I will be putting on my anthropologist hat and analyzing the key trends and dynamics operating at this particular cultural moment," he said.

Florez will be speaking only on Feb. 5. Although known for his work in politics, Florez is now the president and chief executive officer of The Michelson Twenty Million Minds Foundation. The organization specializes in providing free textbooks online via OpenStax College and would like teaching professionals to create their own material for others to use.

There will also be a live feed of the conference which will be posted to BC's website. Viewers can access the conference page after using the About BC pull-down menu. The live stream is free to watch and viewers can ask questions to speakers via twitter using #bclearns or the chat box that will be connected to the live feed. The Learning Technologies conference will be held this year to inform educators of where education is headed.

"There is a place for technology in learning and it has a very important role," Chiang said.

## A no-smoking campus policy might be put in place soon

By Darla Mangrum  
Reporter

Once again, the No Smoking Policy has been introduced to the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees. There has been a change to the paperwork and the changes were on First Reading in December's meeting.

The paperwork has been changed to allow each individual college campus – Bakersfield

College, Cerro Coso and Porterville – the authority to decide which policy they prefer.

One college may want just a tobacco-free campus whereas another may decide that they want a smoke-free campus.

Vapor products would be included in the new Board Policy (the new policy includes not allowing vapor or tobacco products).

According to Student Government Association President Alex

Dominguez, "We are forming a committee on how to implement the 'No Smoking Policy' in the event that the Board approves the change in policy."

Dominguez believes the board will be voting on this issue at the next meeting on Feb. 12.

"If the No Smoking Policy is approved," Dominguez said, "then the SGA is planning on holding a forum to introduce the students to the health risks and other related issues associated

with smoking."

In Fall 2014, Dominguez and Cindy Collier, the dean of the Nursing /Allied Health Department of BC, discussed educating students about how to quit smoking or never starting to smoke.

They plan to bring health issues to the student's attention for the first two or three years then they will be starting a citation policy for the students that continue to smoke on campus.

A more-restrictive smoking

policy, beyond state law, at BC is not a new issue.

In fact, it has been going on since September 2006. The SGA has been discussing it for years but they never actually filed any paperwork until Fall 2011 after students and staff voted on it.

SGA's officers change yearly, so the proposal hasn't been pushed much since 2012, but since Dominguez is one of the board members, this issue might be decided on soon.

## BACCALAUREATE: New four-year degree offered at Bakersfield College in industrial automation

Continued from Page 1  
of 2015. Students currently attending BC have already expressed interest in the program. Eric Rodriguez, 23, said that he wants to enter the program in the fall so that he can earn a baccalaureate degree at a cheaper price and stay in Bakersfield for his family.

"I have a son that's 3 months old," he said. "I don't want to leave him, and I don't want to miss any moments."

Rodriguez is a lab assistant for the computer integrated manufacturing lab at BC and hopes to find a stable job within the manufacturing and automation industry.

He said that he enjoys working with the equipment because it requires a lot of thinking.

Some of the equipment in the CIM lab is designed to work together while other systems are

not. Students learn how to get different systems to communicate with each other in a hands-on environment.

"If you do something wrong, you will break it," Rodriguez said.

The CIM lab will be a part of the baccalaureate program's lower division requirements and students learn how to use programmable logic controllers. The lab features Allen Bradley SLC-500 series controllers.

These controllers have been used at the Dreyer's Ice Cream factory in Bakersfield. Rodriguez said that Dreyer's uses a large amount of automation and he's interested in learning tools that are used in the field.

"When the equipment breaks, the professor makes us fix it," Rodriguez said. "We take apart the controller and put it back together again."

Within the application process, BC obtained over 60 letters of support from community leaders and businesses operated in Kern County including Chevron, Aera and Bolthouse Farms.

"We are searching for 57 jobs in our Bakersfield production facilities with many requiring the technical skills that the proposed baccalaureate degree would fulfill," said Darren Filkins, the Senior Vice President of Agriculture for Bolthouse Farms, in a letter of support for the program.

According to Rozell, automation is a large sector within Kern County and the program could offer students an array of choices in manufacturing and automation. Jose Sepulveda, 18, hopes to eventually own an automation company.

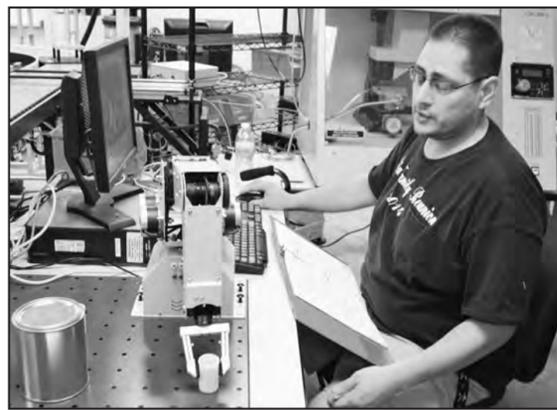
"Automation is exactly what I want," Sepulveda said. "This is a job I would love."



Above: Robert Ruiz operates the 5150 Robo CIM in his lab class for industrial technology. The equipment is held in the computer integrated manufacturing lab.

Right: Andres Arciga, 20, operates programmable logic controllers during his lab class located in the computer integrated manufacturing lab.

VICTORIA MILLER / THE RIP



## DIRECTOR: New gallery director on campus

Continued from Page 1  
the opening of the Panorama Invitational on Feb. 5 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. The Panorama Invitational is a juried show with art pieces selected by representative teachers from the high schools in Bakersfield.

In March, the gallery will be showing an exhibit of new artworks from Alaskan artist, Tom Chung. Tom Chung has his MFA from Yale University. Chung is living in Alaska and teaching at the University of Alaska. You can see some of his artwork on his website <http://tomchung.org/>

Following up in April, the gallery will be holding an exhibit consisting of Bakersfield College student's works of art.

All openings will be held from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the first Thursday that the exhibit is held.

"The primary mission of the Jones Gallery is to serve the community of Bakersfield College and the City of Bakersfield by exhibiting a diverse range of contemporary art made by developing artists living and working outside Kern County in addition to annually exhibiting artwork made by students at Bakersfield College, the arts faculty of Bakersfield College and high school art students from around Kern County," said Bethausser.

The gallery's hours this semester are going to be every Thursday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. instead of Monday through Thursday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for the rest of the academic year.

"Although we would love to have the gallery open more, this new schedule seemed like it was the best way for us to serve the

student body by keeping the gallery hours consistent and having the gallery open throughout the academic year," said Bethausser.

"I don't want to leave the gallery vacant, even during breaks, even if it's just people peering through the window, I want to make sure people know the gallery is active."

There was even an exhibit that was up during the winter break. You can view the art that was displayed on <http://jonesgallery.tumblr.org/>

Bethausser also deals with art in his own time off of campus. You can check out his artwork <http://tombethausser.tumblr.com> Bethausser said that his Tumblr should be updated with some of his art from last year within the next month. The gallery is located inside of BC's library.

## AWARD: MIH program helps students succeed

Continued from Page 1  
is getting a hold of students still in high school. Fulks said that many students that MIH attempts to contact don't have their BC email set up. The program also calls students on cell phones, and many do not have their voicemail set up or parents answer and are hesitant for their children to be involved in MIH.

"Now we have our mentors text students," she said. "We've contacted high schools and let them know that we're contacting students via text and showing them how to access their BC email account."

According to Fulks, the MIH program allows BC employees to learn about BC through the eyes of first generation students. Mentors for the program include full-time and adjunct faculty, classified staff, and administrators.

According to Fulks, Sonya

Christian, president of BC, also has mentees and has learned that students have questions she is unable to answer. Fulks said it's important for mentors to understand the barriers students face while trying to succeed at BC.

"We're learning about students' needs and we have the power to change things," she said.

One change that has occurred though MIH is the process students go through to get a job on campus. Fulks said that students who work on campus are more likely to do better in their classes. The process students went through to get a job on campus has been changed from 14 steps to four, with the help of MIH. Now, some students involved in MIH are tutors on campus.

Fulks hopes to expand the program in the future.

While 500 students were chosen to participate last year, the

program should expand to 1,500 incoming students in the next year. Alexis Soto, 18, is a BC student currently involved in the program. Soto graduated from Tehachapi High in 2014 and is happy to be a part of the MIH program.

"I wasn't too excited to begin with, but now I see how lucky I was to have been selected," she said.

Soto hopes to major in English at BC and eventually wants to become a high school teacher or a professor. She said that her favorite part of the program is all the help she receives from BC and believes the program gives students opportunities to succeed.

"The MIH coordinators provide you with skills and tools you need to excel at BC," she said. "These individuals are truly determined to see you succeed."

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## Bakersfield raised author driven by love and charity

By Elka Wyatt  
Reporter

Aliza McCracken uses the universal messages of love, hope and faith to inspire through her art and writing.

A gifted artist and author, McCracken, a Vietnamese orphan, was adopted by an American family and raised in New York.

She began painting at the age of 4 and by age 15 had developed into a professional artist.

After attending Purchase School of Performing Arts, McCracken transferred to the University of California, Santa Barbara, where she earned a degree in Fine Arts as well as a certificate in Visual Communications. She moved to Bakersfield in 1990 yet also resides in Santa Barbara.

According to her website, www.alizamccracken.com, McCracken's creations are among

the art of collectors around the world.

McCracken is also the author of six award-winning inspirational books.

"Artistic literacy has been a passion of mine and one that our culture is engaging in. At the heart of this work is the love I have for the written and visual language. My artwork affirms the beauty of who we are and what we are called to become," said McCracken. "My purpose as an artist and author is to share human kindness for the enrichment of our community. Through my artistry, I am hoping you may experience the fine art of living. A poetic celebration of life and love. May you be inspired!"

McCracken said her family and friends provide inspiration for her.

She feels blessed to have such wonderful relationships.

As to what advice she has for

aspiring artists and writers, McCracken said, "I would encourage discovering what makes your heart sing!"

Proceeds from the sales of McCracken's works benefit several charities worldwide.

Among the numerous awards she has won are the United States Congressional Award, the Living Legends Award and the International Woman of the Year Award.

"Celebrations of Love," an art exhibit will be held at The Arts Council of Kern; Access Centre, 1330 Truxtun Avenue in Bakersfield from Feb. 2-March 31, 2015.

An artist reception and book signing is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 12 from 5 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

McCracken's books are available at Barnes and Noble, Russo's Books and on the artist's website.



BING IMAGES  
**Aliza McCracken is not only an author but a contributing member to the Bakersfield community.**

## Transportation available to thrill-seekers at China Peak Ski Resort



ILLUSTRATION BY HUGO JAUREGUI / THE RIP

By Marcus Castro  
Reporter

This ski season, China Peak Mountain Resort is offering transportation to the resort from Bakersfield by charter bus for the first time.

The bus offers an alternative way of transportation where the riders can relax and not worry about the stresses of driving. China Peak is located about 65 miles northeast of Fresno.

It is also considered safe in the sense that people can participate in certain activities and not have to drive home afterward. Sherry Nolen, the resorts group coordinator, said, "If people want to drink a couple beers here it is safe because they don't have to drive after."

The bus picks the riders up from Bakersfield but also stops in Visalia to pick up any riders there.

The Visalia stop is a way for people with friends or family who live in or near Visalia

to link up for a day of skiing or snowboarding.

"It's a wonderful deal and a great opportunity for beginner and regular skiers and snowboarders," said Nolen.

The bus ticket price is \$40 for adults and \$18 for children from the age of 6-12. Not only can you buy the bus ticket, you can also purchase an all-mountain ticket for \$39 and rentals for \$25. The price for an adult all-mountain ticket at the resort is \$69 and the adult rentals price at the resort is from \$36-\$41.

There is a deal where you can purchase the bus ticket for the regular price of \$40 but you can also purchase a beginner's package for \$39. This beginner's package comes with a beginner lift ticket, lesson, and rentals. For an adult over the age of 17 the beginner lift ticket alone is \$42.

There is also the option for big groups, such as churches, schools, or big families to rent the charter bus. The price to rent the

charter bus is \$1,350.

The bus that picks up for Bakersfield is currently postponed due to the lack of snow at China Peak. When a snowstorm happens in China Peak, the bus tickets will be available for their assigned dates.

The days that are currently scheduled but not available for purchase because of the lack of snow are Feb. 14, Feb. 28, March 14, and March 28. Those dates all land on Saturdays.

The location that the bus will leave from is Action Sports in the Brimhall Square shopping area on the corner of Brimhall Road and Calloway Drive. The bus will leave there at 5:45 a.m. The bus to Bakersfield will depart from China Peak Mountain Resort at 4 p.m.

The trip on the way up will take approximately four hours and the same on the way back.

To stay posted on when the bus is running again and to purchase tickets go to www.ski-chinapeak.com/bustrips.aspx

### Get up & Go

#### February 4

The End of Wonder in the Age of Whatever, @ 6 p.m. Media Ecologist and Cultural Anthropologist Michael Wesch to speak at BC. Ticket Prices \$20/ Student Prices \$10, available at web link; <http://vallitix.com/vents/michael-wesch-the-changing-world-of-learning-with-web-20/49390/>

\*\*\*

CAS (Critical Academic Skills) Workshop. "Organize" @ 3-4 p.m. Instructor E. Miller. Located at SS building in room 151.

#### February 5

Mrs. B's Bawl Room Open Mic, @ 7:30 p.m. every Thursday. Poetry, Music (acoustic and non-acoustic), Performance Art, Spoken Word, & Rants. Annex Literary Arts Colony and Art Center, corner of River blvd. & Panorama Dr.

\*\*\*

CAS (Critical Academic Skills) Workshop. "Basic Math Skills" @ noon-1 p.m. Instructor K. Nickell. Located at SS building in room 151.

#### February 9

Musician Wadada Leo Smith @ 6 p.m. (lecture), 8 p.m. (performance), Simonsen Performing Arts Center Indoor Theater at BC. Pulitzer Prize finalist in music in 2013.

\*\*\*

CAS (Critical Academic Skills) Workshop. "Preventing Plagiarism" @ noon-1 p.m. Instructor T. Meier. Located at SS building in room 151.

#### February 10

Harlem Globetrotters, @ 7 p.m. Rabobank Arena. "Washington Generals Revenge" tour. Ticket prices \$88, \$53, \$36, \$28, & \$21

\*\*\*

CAS (Critical Academic Skills) Workshop. "Strive for Excellence & Emphasize Integrity" @ 11 a.m.-noon. Instructor V. Robinson. Located at SS building in room 151.

\*\*\*

CAS (Critical Academic Skills) Workshop. "College Survival Skills" @ 1-2 p.m. Instructor C. Schaefer. Located at SS building in room 151.

#### February 11

CAS (Critical Academic Skills) Workshop. "Writing a Strong Thesis Statement" @ 11a.m.-noon. Instructor S. Abbassi. Located at SS building in room 151.

#### February 12

Cricket Wireless presents; Enrique Iglesias & Pitbull, @ 7:30 p.m. Rabobank Arena. Ticket Prices \$29.50, \$49.50, \$79.50, \$129.50. Concert lasts for 4 hours.

#### February 13

E-40, Baby Bash, & Eldra Jermaine @ 7 p.m. Fox Theater. Ticket Prices \$30, \$45, \$55. VIP tickets are \$200 which includes premium seating, complimentary promo shirt and CD.

#### February 14

"Valentines Super Love Jam" @ 7:30 p.m. Rabobank Arena. Featuring: Midnight Star, Zapp, Heatwave, The Floaters, The Notations, Aalon, The Fuzz, Sunny Ozuna, Barbara Lewis. Ticket Prices \$28.50, \$33.50, \$38.50, \$49.50

#### February 17

CAS (Critical Academic Skills) Workshop. "College Survival Skills" @ 3-4 p.m. Instructor C. Schaefer. Located at SS building in room 151.

#### February 18

CAS (Critical Academic Skills) Workshop. "Organize" @ 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Instructor E. Miller. Located at SS building in room 151.

#### February 19

"Cosmic Castaway" @ 7:30 p.m. Located at William M. Thomas Planetarium in the Math/ Science building room 112. Tickets on sale now at BC ticket office in Business Services. Will not be available at the door. Prices \$8 Adults/ \$6 Seniors & Children ages 5-12 only.

## New/old resolutions for students in a new year

By Marcus Castro  
Reporter

Here at Bakersfield College, students have made some normal and extravagant New Year's resolutions, while others avoid them completely.

School related resolutions are often made at the new year. "My resolution is just getting through the semester," said Christian Zuniga, 18.

Mom and dad may not approve of some of these resolutions. Maria Barragan, 18, said her resolution was, "To get as many tattoos

as I can without my parents knowing."

Some are more daring than others and make resolutions that others tend to stay away from. Jovan Carrillo, 19, said that his resolution is to go skydiving this year.

Carrillo's friend Diego Martinez, 20, said, "I want to go scuba diving in the blue hole in Belize."

Many people make the same or similar resolutions. There are also people that do not make resolutions at all.

23 percent of the people interviewed had a resolution to start working out or to work out more often.

16 percent of the people interviewed had resolutions that involved quitting smoking cigarettes or lessening the amount of cigarettes they consume.

Kelsie Nelson said, "My resolution was to quit smoking cigarettes but I've already broke that resolution."

32 percent of the people interviewed did not make resolutions at all.

When the people that didn't have any resolutions were asked why they didn't make any the answer was either because they couldn't think of one or they didn't believe in making them.

## Valentine's Day is around the bend



Above: Lovebirds Aaron Guerrero, 18, and Catherine Soto, 18, eat their lunch while waiting for their class to start. The couple plans to spend time together and have a quiet dinner. Below: Gladys Miranda, 19, and Cesar Almaraz, 19, are seen holding hands while on their way to class on campus.

PHOTOS BY JAVIER VALDES / THE RIP

By Crystal Valdez  
Reporter

Valentine's Day is quickly approaching, and couples at Bakersfield College are preparing, or not, for this love-filled, sometimes corny, holiday.

Engineering major Aaron Guerrero, 18, and nursing student Catherine Soto, 18, have been together for about two years. They said that the longer they are together, the less expensive their dates become because their comfort continues to grow.

"We're probably just going to hang out and have dinner," said Soto. They affirmed the idea that the date itself does not matter as long as they are together on that special day.

Some couples were never big spenders to begin with.

Computer science major Connor Osborn, 19, and history major Marcena McDonald, 20, have been together for one year. The first Valentine's Day they spent together was not like anyone would expect.

"We like to keep things fairly simple. We couldn't tell anyone we were dating yet, so we just sat in the [car] in the garage and exchanged gifts," McDonald shared.

"I'm much more heartsie-fartsie when it comes to gifts. So I cut up little papers with cute

quotes, tied them together, and put them in a jar. He gave me an iPod," McDonald added.

Now that their relationship is public, their plans for this upcoming Valentine's Day are different than the first but no less special. Osborn and McDonald plan to go hiking somewhere near Frazier Park for Valentine's Day this year.

"It's super cheap. All we're really going to spend money on are gifts and food," Osborn shared.

Many couples are unable to see each other often so their plans for Valentine's Days are not quite set in stone.

Engineering major Jesus Mendoza, 19, lives in Bakersfield, but his girlfriend Daisy lives out of town in Los Baños. Mendoza plans to take his girlfriend to the Fresno Zoo for Valentine's Day.

Their dates tend to be consistently expensive for reasons Mendoza shared.

"We've been together for almost a year, but we don't see each other often, and when we do, we like to make up for lost time."

Mendoza said the distance is tough to deal with, but work and school make it more tolerable. He plans to give Daisy a single rose and a promise ring for Valentine's Day.

Like Mendoza, business major Jesus Vargas, 23, and psycholo-



gy major Luz Cortez, 20, are not able to spend everyday together because they live in separate towns.

Vargas and Cortez have been together for three years and they hope to see each other this year because they have not been able to spend every Valentine's Day together due to distance.

"We haven't really made plans because we're not sure, but we really do hope we're able to

spend it together as a couple," said Cortez.

Some couples that see each other on a daily basis tend to go with the flow of their relationship and plan as they go along.

History major Eric Musselman, 19, and music major Janelle Licalarde, 21, have been together for over a year. Their relationship is very laid back, and they see each other more often than not.

Last year on Valentine's Day, the couple went "park hopping" with a pint of ice cream, enjoyed their treat, and talked for hours.

"We're more of a plan as we go along type of couple. All we really want is to have a nice day to ourselves. It doesn't need to be luxurious, as long as we're together," Musselman stated.

"And there has to be food," added Licalarde.

Who can argue with that?

## Have a horror-filled Valentine's Day at Talladega Frights

By Tyler Goucher  
Reporter

Scared that your girlfriend might kill you if you don't make plans for Valentine's Day? Why not scare her right into your arms instead. Talladega Frights, the Central Valley's biggest haunted attraction, which is located inside the Kern County Museum, is hosting their second annual

My Bloody Valentine event this Valentine's Day weekend.

Among the various haunted attractions, there will also be several contests and a dance party hosted by a professional DJ.

One of the contests that have been mentioned on Talladega Fright's Facebook page is a costume contest with the theme of "Your Favorite Slasher."

Contestants have the chance to win a Valentine's Day package

that will include dinner for two and a movie.

Romeo, from The Romeo Show, of Hot 94.1, will also be hosting a contest that will award lucky listeners the chance to spend Valentine's Day with special transportation and VIP access to the My Bloody Valentine event.

This year, approximately 80 new and returning cast members will be contributing to make your

Valentine's Day experience one you will never forget. Co-owner Dana Martin mentioned that this will be the last special event that Talladega Frights will be hosting until the Halloween season, so the turnout is expected to be grand.

Although the event is tailored around a "couples" holiday, there are more than enough reasons for single people and/or groups of friends to attend.

According to Martin, "whether or not you have a date on Valentine's Day, this gives everyone something to look forward to."

This Valentine's Day weekend, Talladega Frights welcomes everyone to have a frightening good time at its second annual special event, My Bloody Valentine. Cost per person, each night, will be \$20. Special discounts may be available at [www.talladegafrights.com](http://www.talladegafrights.com)

## Keeping your original culture in the melting pot of America

By Victoria Miller  
Reporter

It's easy for people to forget where they come from and for some, continuing old family traditions is a way to stay in touch with their culture.

Alma Garcia, 39, understands what it's like to keep her culture alive and strong in her home.

"I arrived from Guadalajara, Mexico, in the U.S when I was 15, in 1989," she said.

Traditional dishes like tama-

les, tacos, chili, and pan dulce are often prepared and enjoyed by her family. Also, Garcia's family, including her children, speak Spanish.

Besides language and food, Garcia's family also celebrates holidays that are of her culture. "There's Day of the Dead on Halloween to remember family that have passed over. Three King's day on Jan. 6 is another holiday we celebrate."

Garcia's career has also been influenced by her cultural upbringing.

"Coming from a humble family, it was always my dream to be the first to finish high school and have an actual career."

Luis Peralta, 22, is an automotive technology major at Bakersfield College.

Peralta's family is from Monterrey, Mexico and he is the first out of his family to attend college.

Besides traditional Mexican dishes, Peralta says he and his family enjoy drinking Tequila- with an agave worm

in it. "After the whole bottle is drunk, you eat the worm and you chew it."

Christmas and New Years are celebrated a little differently in Peralta's home.

Instead of celebrating Christmas on Christmas day, Peralta's family celebrates Christmas eve and it's the opposite way around with New Years. "We celebrate New Years on the first, instead of celebrating on New Years Eve like some people. I know of many other Mexican family's

that do as well."

Culture is incredibly important and necessary in peoples lives. Culture gives people a sense of identity and a feeling of belonging.

There's meaning in every family tradition, and it's valuable. If we all lost the knowledge of our cultures, there would be no individuality and we would have no pride in where we came from.

Keeping your culture alive in your home isn't just a fun thing to do, but it's also smart.

Column

## When your car gives up

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

I was 18 when I moved away to a big city without any friends or family. Needless to say, I messed up catastrophically more than a few times.

Reoccurring statements included, "I have five bucks till Friday" or, "Oh yeah, I can totally come to your party, pull an all-nighter and go to class at 6 a.m. the next day" or my personal favorite "Whoa, those \$90 jeans are so cool and I need them, I can totally live off Top Ramen and Arizona tea for a month!"

First of all, no one needs \$90 jeans. No one. Spend that money on a nice blazer you can wear to an interview.

But the better option is to listen to what your parents probably told you. Put that money in a savings account or in a shoebox you keep under your bed.

Also, there are few things you need in this life: AAA is one of them. For \$48 a year, you get roadside assistance and three free tows.

And there really are only a few extra things you need to get by in life. I believe you need that one funny friend, veggies, a pocket-knife, perfect temperature showers, a passport, books, a comfy bed, good music, red wine or a nice beer (totally your choice) and AAA or a tool kit.

I might be bias, though, because AAA essentially saved me faster than Superman saving Lois Lane.

There was a time that I had run my vehicle into the ground. I refused to get the oil changed because I didn't think it was a necessity.

Well, imagine this, a scared and naive 18-year-old on the side of the 405 freeway, which is one of the busiest freeways in Los Angeles, with a smoking car and no one within a three-hour radius to come help.

So what do you do when you're amid the hustle and bustle of a busy L.A. freeway, no one will stop to help you and you have no car experience?

Well, when I stopped playing victim I decided I needed to use my critical thinking skills, I reached for my phone and went to AAA's website. I signed up right then and called five minutes later. The operator answers and says "Hello, what's your policy number? And how can we help you today?" I gave her my policy number and said, "I'm stuck on the side of the 405 freeway, and I need to have someone tow me."

I crossed my fingers and prayed she wouldn't say, "Um, sorry you just signed up five minutes ago, we can't do that."

A couple of moments go by and I hear her cheerfully say "All right, I have someone coming for you right now! Would you like a mechanic to come as well?"

I rode in the tow truck, and they took my car back to my house and fixed it for virtually no money out of my pocket.

It always takes learning the hard way to know what you need to do to be prepared. That very next week I got things to fix my car, water, food and a first aid kit and threw it all in my trunk.

On Amazon.com you can get a 72-piece AAA "Roadside Assistance" kit, which includes a heavy-duty booster cable, aluminum flashlight, 45-piece First Aid kit and 72 tools.

All of this can be yours for a cool \$38.25 and free shipping on Amazon.com. Another life tip: you can get a free Amazon.com Prime membership if you use your student email address.

Staff Editorial

## Parking disaster at BC

The spring semester is finally upon us and that gives all college students the chance for a fresh start, but a new semester also brings with it the added dread of having to navigate around campus trying to find a parking spot in an already hectic campus.

Before someone can actually attend class, they must first drive around the gauntlet of students and then fight off the road rage of other student drivers.

Looking for a parking spot during the first few weeks of school is reminiscent of watching sharks during a feeding frenzy. It's as if all the rules and courtesy get thrown out the window as thousands of students fight for that premium parking spot.

A simple stroll through the campus parking lot or the surrounding area and anyone can see what type of madness is out there.

On one side of the campus, student drivers are making dangerous U-turns in busy intersections trying to return to a parking spot they just spotted only to arrive and see that the spot has already been taken.

Then there are other drivers that stop in the middle of an intersection as they wait for a spot to open up; all this while a line of traffic builds behind them congesting an already busy street.

But it gets worse, there are those students who must've given up after a lengthy search and end up parking in front of a fire hydrant or even just on the corner of a street that is not meant for parking. Both of these are violations that can lead to some hefty fines.

The worst violation of all are the student drivers who park in a red zone, just because your front bumper is not in that red zone doesn't make it OK to park there.

Instead of parking in prohibited areas, just drive a block further and park somewhere that's legal, an extra couple minutes added to your walk isn't going to hurt you.

But this type of madness isn't strictly confined to the surrounding areas around Bakersfield College. Some dangers can also be seen in the school parking lot as well.

There are those drivers that speed through the parking lot as if they were trying to win a NASCAR race only to slam on the breaks just before hitting a group of students trying to get to class. There is a reason that there are speed bumps in most of the parking lots.

Some student drivers simply choose to ignore signs that strictly prohibit parking in certain areas and still park there anyway. One popular place for those drivers arriving late is trying to squeeze as much time as possible out of the 45 minute parking or simply trying to blend in the staff parking lot hoping not to get a ticket.

The first few weeks of school are already a stressful time for college students and now we all have to worry about the dangers that lie in the parking lot and surrounding areas. It shouldn't have to feel as if students are trying to cross a freeway before walking to class.

We should all be more courteous and careful while navigating around the parking lots, then maybe we could begin our school day with a thank you wave instead of being flipped the bird.

# DUI checkpoint alerts

## DUI checkpoint alerts cause trouble

By Crystal Valdez  
Reporter

DUI checkpoints are one thing. DUI checkpoint alerts are something completely different.

The term "DUI checkpoint alerts" refers to the posts you see on social media networks that warn users about the location of these checkpoints. While you may think you are doing your friends or followers a favor, realize that you are not. Those alerts do more harm than good. As inconvenient as they may seem, they have our best interest in mind.

Someone who has not spent the night drinking sees DUI checkpoints as an inconvenience because they have not done anything wrong. Someone who has spent the night drinking sees them as an inconvenience because they do not want any trouble.

Yes, the checkpoints can be a nuisance, but they exist for a crucial reason. They exist for the same reason as airport security. While you may not have done anything wrong, someone else might have. If you are that someone, I rest my case.

Letting your friends know when and where DUI checkpoints are located is not a heroic act, it's a foolish one.

Yes, as humans we know it is best to avoid wastes of time and situations that may lead to trouble. Social media users who post these alerts often think they are doing their friends a favor by warning them about checkpoint locations. However, instead of leading them away from trouble, users often risk a higher chance of leading their friends, even strangers, into trouble through these alerts.

These alerts spread like wildfire. They are not only visible to those who follow you on social media sites; checkpoint alerts are often shared, retweeted, and reprogrammed for everyone to see.

DUI checkpoint alerts on social media often depict checkpoints as something negative; and that is not the case. The goal of these checkpoints is not to arrest people, but rather to keep potential harm off the streets. By letting people know what areas to avoid, users are allowing drunk drivers to remain on the road and potentially cause accidents that often result in tragedy.

Alcohol is one of the leading causes for traffic-related accidents. When an accident occurs because a drunk driver read the checkpoint alert took enough precaution to avoid the area, but no precaution to remain sober, the user who posted the alert is indirectly responsible.

Constitutional controversy may arise to the fact that the public has a right to know. However, the public also has the right to a sense of security. DUI checkpoint alerts impose a sense of fear and should no longer be available to the public eye.

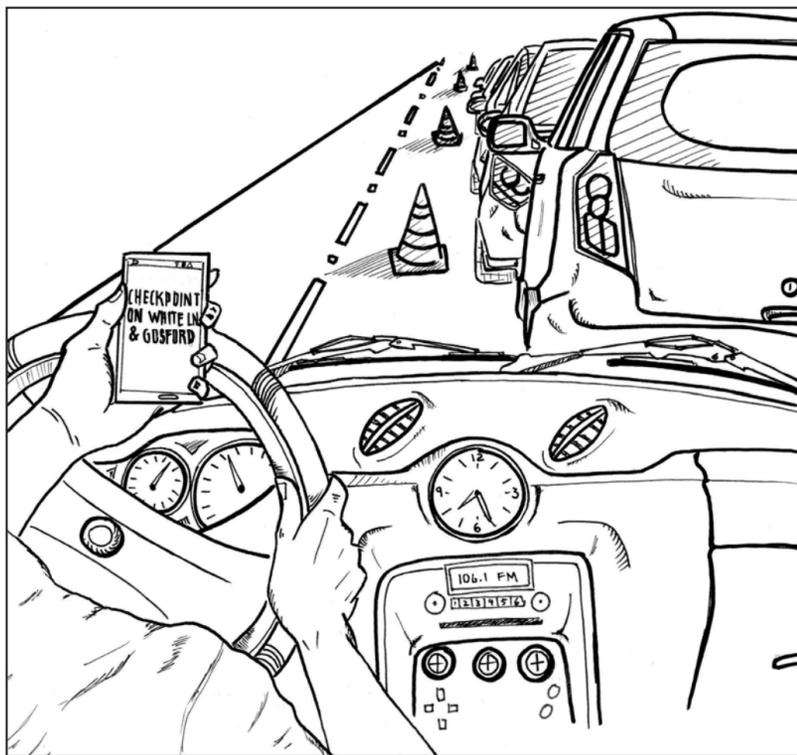


ILLUSTRATION BY HUGO JAUREGUI / THE RIP

## Citizens should get checkpoint alerts

By Victoria Miller  
Reporter

Drinking and driving is a serious problem and sobriety checkpoints can be a useful tool for law enforcement to respond. However, the issue with sobriety checkpoints is when police stop motorists randomly, with no reasonable suspicion of a specific individual, it clashes with the Fourth Amendment to the constitution.

A U.S. Supreme Court case upheld that sobriety checkpoints are constitutional because the violation of citizens privacy is slight compared to the damage from drunk driving, but the Supreme Court recognized there had to be a balance between citizens sacrificing their right to privacy for protection and citizens at risk because of our country's abhorrent drinking and driving problem.

The most recent guidelines for how sobriety checkpoints should be conducted by police departments, given by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, states that alerting the public of the checkpoint information is essential. "To obtain maximum deterrent benefit in terms of its general deterrent effect, low-staffing

sobriety checkpoints should be publicized aggressively."

If police departments are directed to aggressively publicize checkpoints, my question is, how can sobriety checkpoint alerts on social media and phone applications be immoral?

The "deterrent effect" is when people decide against driving intoxicated all together because they are aware of the checkpoints and police on duty.

This angle is better than hoping to surprise drunk drivers because it reminds drivers that police will be active, looking for intoxicated drivers and it will deter some from drinking and driving.

Another important reason why sobriety checkpoints should be publicized is because people have the right to know.

As taxpayers we need to know where our money is going, and if it's contributing to checkpoints. We should be able to know about these things. This means knowing when and where any kind of roadblock is located.

There are many reasons why someone wouldn't want to drive through a sobriety checkpoint, especially a law abiding citizen.

If they want to avoid the checkpoint, it doesn't mean they are supportive of drinking and driving. These people who use checkpoint alerts shouldn't be discredited, they are only exercising their rights.

Until official sources, like the police department, begin to publicize sobriety checkpoints aggressively, citizens will be forced to depend on other citizens for information on our public roads and resources.

CON

PRO

# Personal acceptance of your body image

By Brooke Howard  
Features Editor

From a young age we are given an outline of what makes us great. Little girls are called things like adorable, pretty, beautiful and sweet and little boys are referred to as handsome, big and strong.

If you take a look at some toys that children play with, such as the Barbie doll or a GI Joe action figure, you can see why these ideals set in at a later age.

If Barbie were life-sized, she'd be 5'9" and 105 pounds. She would have a BMI of 16.24 and fit the weight criteria for anorexia.

She would also have a Body Mass Index of 16 percent, which would lead to hospitalization.

And if the GI Joe action figure were life-sized he would have biceps almost as big as his waist and be more muscular than most competitive body-builders.

Well, what constitutes beauty nowadays: these Barbie and GI Joe proportions? The media? You will often hear people say, "Well we appreciate a woman's beauty." We appreciate a woman's beauty. What does that even mean?

That means we appreciate the effort she puts in to taking care of herself. Just as someone should appreciate a woman's intelligence when she puts effort into academia or appreciate a man's integrity when he has strong moral principles.

But being beautiful is not the end-all-be-all key to life. It does

not fix all of your problems and you don't have it incredibly easy just because you are esthetically pleasing.

Instead, the people who are comfortable in their own skin are the people who have it easy. They know how to talk to people and enjoy things in life that don't come with trying to impress people with your luscious long hair or the ideal body weight.

I believe in being healthy. A type of healthy that makes you happy with yourself. A full-acceptance inside and out of your self-image and body image. You know what you need to work on and you accept it and you love yourself regardless of the things you need to work on.

Why is it important to love yourself? It's a simple question

with many answers. My main answer is it will affect your relationships, romantic or not.

Feelings of jealousy, insecurity and constantly comparing yourself are norms when you don't love who you are. Sometimes you put others down to make yourself feel better. Sometimes you scroll through Facebook and get overwhelming pangs of jealousy when you see that friend from high school who somehow managed to maintain that adolescent zero-fat-percentage body.

Well, news flash. Who knows if zero-fat-percentage Billy is happy or not. Just because people share their highlight reel with you does not mean they, or their lives, are perfect.

Listen. You can pick, pluck and diet yourself into oblivion.

Or you can come to the realization that there is nothing we can do to alter our genetic makeup - whether we're short, tall, built like a string bean or a linebacker; whether we have poop-brown eyes and freckles or we have the body of a god. Diversity is what makes each of us individuals and instead of fearing our differences, we need to celebrate others and ourselves.

Guys - romanticize yourselves. You don't need those GI Joe muscles or six-pack abs to get the girl. Just keep rocking the shit out of that sweater. Girls - that mole you hate? Those few extra pounds you wish you didn't have? You best believe there are multiple people in this world who love those quarks about you.

## The Renegade Rip

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Letters should not exceed 300 words, must be accompanied by a signature and the letter writer's identity must be verified.

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If an organization submits a letter as a group, it must be signed by only one person, either the leader of the organization or the letter writer. Anonymous letters will not be published.

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Column

## Show rock concerts some love

Vanessa A Munoz | Nessa's music rant

For a town that credits itself to being the rock band Korn's headquarters, there isn't much to this town other than country music going on in its music scene.

When I first moved to Bakersfield in the '90s, I couldn't turn a channel on the radio stations without hearing about a rock band headlining at the Bakersfield Convention Center. Now I have to look for some underground band that's semi-decent playing a gig at Jerry's Pizza or B Ryder's sports bar. What I want to know is what happened to the Bakersfield rock scene?

So far I have encountered an abundance of country music concerts and a crazed obsession with these rap concerts that seem to turn into a gang initiation.

As for country, I completely understand the love that Bakersfield has for these artists and their music from Billy Mize to Merle Haggard. They helped put Bakersfield on the map. The image Bakersfield now has for itself is all country when it comes to our city. People around the nation recognize our city as a country town filled with farms, of course but were still on the map.

Of course if you live here you'll know that we have our share of gangs, violence, and killings, which brings me to my next subject.

Why the hell do we keep allowing rap concerts if the people that attend them do not know how to act?

Every year there are numerous rap concerts in Bakersfield obviously because it has now become the new trend to idolize these rappers so much that you want to be them. From what they wear to what they drink and even what they smoke. They're idolized so much that people kill each other because these rappers make it seem fool-proof and respected. I know rock concerts have their flaws from deadly mosh-pit stomping to drug use but those can be found at any rap concert as well. So what's the discrimination about when it comes to rock concerts? Rappers are now using rock instrumentals as well as old school melody from classic rock bands and artist, yet the acceptance of rock music in general is not as common as rap music.

The love that this city has for its musicians is noticeable. This city indulges in arts, film, and music but the problem is it's selective. How can we grow when the choices that are given to us are chosen for us?

I'm all for diversity and change. Bakersfield has grown into a multicultural community filled with different lifestyles, so I feel all cultures should be made accounted for and not just the obvious country and rap.

I feel the selective media this city has will not allow the underground scene to grow any further. So notably someone has to step up and say, "Let there be progress and change."

I'm sure there is more to the loss of the rock scene than just its fan base. Yet I'm also sure the attention certain venues get is also a factor when it comes to the concert selection this city has.

Then again with what is being considered rock music, according to the rock stations, I don't blame venues for not wanting to headline new rock bands in Bakersfield.

So talk about withdrawals. When it comes to music, this city seems to lack on its headliners.



AMBER HAYDEN / THE RIP

Students wait in line inside the Bakersfield College bookstore on campus during the first week of the school semester.

## Cheaper way to buy books

By Amber Hayden  
Online Editor

With school back in full swing, students like myself have to wait in the endless line in the bookstore to purchase books.

It is becoming a longer wait in line just to get a couple of books, and then the prices seem to be increasing with each semester. But now it seems there has been several alternative ways in either renting the book or buying it for the semester.

Not only are students taking the incentive to sell their books personally via postings in the Campus Center or on Craigslist, you can find them on Amazon as well. These usually

are used and not always in the best of conditions when you get them.

Now in some of my own searching, I found alternate ways of finding the books we need for classes as well as even comparing prices for them.

Google Chrome has a new plugin that compares prices from our bookstore here on campus with different sites such as Amazon and Chegg. This is a great tool but if you don't have Google Chrome on your personal laptop or desktop computer, the plugin does you no good.

Other ways I found were through different websites such as eCampus and Slugbooks.

On eCampus you are able to rent and buy

books just like you can at the bookstore on campus, but they are cheaper than the bookstore is to do either.

With Slugbooks you can purchase, rent, and sell your books on their website, which for students is a plus.

So the question remains. Is it still worth the waiting in line at the bookstore to get your books or look to an alternative way?

Personally, the less time I have to wait in line to get my books, as well as getting them cheaper is a plus.

College students can always use a cheaper way to purchase their books considering how expensive everything has become for us.

### Record Review

## Belle and Sebastian's new album features '70s sound

By Elizabeth Castillo  
Editor in Chief

"Nobody's Empire," the first track of Belle and Sebastian's latest album, "Girls in Peacetime Want to Dance" sets the tone for the entire record: thoughtful lyrics set to a disco rhythm. While Stuart Murdoch usually writes his songs from an unrelated character's point of view, the first song is deeply autobiographical as Murdoch sings about how "life's too much" and his struggle with chronic fatigue syndrome.

The next song heads back to a character's point of view, the character in this album being Allie, whose story is told in one of the shortest songs on the album. While some of the tracks on this album extend well beyond five minutes, the album never feels tedious

and doesn't exhaust listeners. Some of the disco vibes on the album are a bit excessive. The album's single, "The Party Line" is too '70s but is a valiant effort. The danceable beat featured throughout the album illustrates the band's collaboration with Ben H. Allen, who also produced records for Cee Lo Green and Animal Collective.

The sleeper hit on this record is "Perfect Couples." The song has amusing lyrics and a good blend of groovy vibes without being ridiculously over-powering. "The Everlasting Muse" at times feels misplaced on this album but is nonetheless a charming and enjoyable track. "Play for Today" features vocals from Dee Dee Penny of Dum Dum Girls and her vocals work well with Murdoch's. "Enter Sylvia Plath" is the album's most danceable track despite being titled after a



GOOGLE IMAGES

writer known for her depression. The album's final track, "Today (This Army's for Peace)," drifts back to the dreamier days of the band and takes listeners to the more psychedelic side of the '70s.

Belle and Sebastian provide listeners with a hefty dose of disco in their latest album. While some songs don't quite hit the groovy notes the band is after, others blend high-quality lyricism with a disco vibe that provide listeners with a refreshing take on pop.

★★★★☆

### Restaurant Review

## PizzaRev allows customers to create their own pizza

By Trina Goree  
Reporter

The newest pizza chain to open in Bakersfield is PizzaRev, which was a hit and miss in my experience.

I loved that I was able to take part in crafting my own pizza. The ability to design a pizza with whatever food cravings of the day was extremely satisfying to a foodie like me.

The idea of crafting your own pizza also gave me, and would give the not so adventurous person the option to try items you otherwise would not. Although I am a foodie, I had yet to experience trying one of the item toppings that is not popular with pizza, anchovies. Thanks to the unique experience PizzaRev offers to patrons one can try a topping that will not ruin your entire pizza but will limit your hit or miss to just one slice.

Back to anchovies they were not as off putting as I had imagined but on the same hand it is probably not something that will be making the cut on my next pizza.

I also loved the healthy and alternative items PizzaRev had for individuals who choose to live a healthier lifestyle or have allergies that are beyond their control. No matter your eating preferences no one is discriminated against at the restaurant.

I loved the atmosphere the restaurant offered. The décor gives the illusion of being in a mom and pop, hole in the wall, pearl of a restaurant when you actually are in a franchised establishment. PizzaRev also offers the patron the opportunity to dine outside in a lovely setup that includes a fire pit.

I did not like that both restaurants are located in the same side of town making it a trek for anyone on the opposite side of town.

I also disliked the fact that for \$8.25 a side of ranch was not complimentary. Ranch will run you an additional .50 cents per serving. You also have to pay separately for a beverage. Let's talk dessert.

Although I heard the Oreo dessert pizza is fantastic I hated the cake truffles. I had both the Triple Chocolate Truffle and Red Velvet Truffle; both tasted awful. They were pasty and without flavor. When I think chocolate I think rich and decadent and these were not. Cake truffles, it was more like cake trash.

Yes, emotions were mixed, very much so. BC students are welcomed to be their own judge and jury in deciding whether or not PizzaRev is for them.

The two PizzaRev restaurants are located on 10500 Stockdale Highway and 5419 Gosford Road.

★★★★☆

## President Obama proposes making first two years of community college free

By Hugo Jauregui  
Reporter

On Jan. 20, President Obama delivered his sixth and final State of the Union address in which he reviewed several topics such as: how the economy has steadily improved since the recession following the mortgage crisis in 2009, how unemployment has drastically gone down, and also how solar energy and other renewable resources are help-

ing create new jobs and at the same time protect the planet, and more.

But the topic that drew my attention the most was the announcement that Obama made about a new proposition to make community college free for, as he put it, "anyone who is willing to work for it."

The proposed plan would make the first two years of community college free, that would be a tremendous help to the

thousands of students across the country and here at Bakersfield College.

More and more students are dropping out of college because of the high cost of tuition but financial aid does help a lot.

It's a process many students out of high school are willing to pass on and just rather find full-time work to make money instead of attending college.

Getting rid of that barrier for the first two years of college

would serve as a great incentive for students to seek higher education.

That is if Obama goes through with this plan. As of Jan. 21, the president's approval ratings have gone up to 67 percent, up by 20 percent in just a day following the speech. Let's hope this isn't another political gimmick to keep his approval ratings up until he has to hand over the torch to the next in line, helping him go out on a good note.

## Added GenEd a horror

By Trina Goree  
Reporter

Bittersweet emotions regarding the fast approaching graduation will be the topic of discussion for weeks to come.

With the start of the spring semester and last semester's finals over, Graduation 2015 hopefuls have learned whether they will be among the thousands of BC students to achieve commencement this academic year.

Graduation 2015 will be a triumphant victory for those of us, Bakersfield College students, who have gotten over the hurdle of prerequisites.

Although it is understood that certain classes require prerequisites, which are in place to ensure that students have entry-level skills, these classes most often seem to be the cause for students having to extend their time here at BC.

BC students, along with myself, have had to switch transfer dates to accommodate for this issue. The added classes that are mandatory according to the BC matriculation process can add up to two years for ones expected graduation date. These added classes are a result of the dreaded assessment test that all incoming BC students must take.

Most students taking the test are high school seniors. These students for the majority do not comprehend the importance that this test will have on the rest of their college path. This said; scores are mediocre at best and often low. Students end up starting much lower than their actual capability.

You are probably thinking this is an easy fix, but you would be wrong. The process tends to be tedious and time consuming to an already stretched student. Also, students are usually ignorant to the process to correct leaving their graduation date years.

For transferring students, the main focus and obstacle is reaching the math level for graduation. To reach the transfer level math needed to graduate with an AA/AS with the option to transfer students must meet four lower levels of competency requirements: Acclv 77, Math B50, Math B60, and the mammoth Math B70.

Another key discipline which can prolong graduation, English, has a series of competency requirement levels totaling five, including Engl B1A. The competency requirements do not end with math and english. There are four other areas that can lengthen the graduation date.

I am not blaming the extending of graduation of many BC students solely on prerequisites and competency requirements; there are many other factors that come in to play resulting time after time in extended graduation dates.

Okay, maybe a little — oh — and did I mention I am not bitter.

All jokes and venting aside, on behalf of all of us heartbroken and crushed students who will be continuing their stay here at BC with an extended graduation date, I want to wish all those who will take the walk during Graduation 2015 the best and an early congratulations on a job well done.

I hope this proposal, like others doesn't get swept under the rug and takes years and years to approve, because many people would greatly benefit from this. Young adults wouldn't have to take out large loans to pay for their education, and kids coming out of high school would have a clearer path towards having a career, as well as renewed confidence in the education system, which lots of people have given up on.

## Column Athletes need our support

**MOHAMED BAFAKIH** | Going beneath the shield

Besides being home to over 17,000 students, Bakersfield College is also represented by over 300 total student-athletes. Despite those numbers, we can't even draw a decent-sized crowd to come watch our athletes – who sacrifice many personal and physical displeasures through strenuous periods of times long before the start of the season – finally showcase their abilities that go unnoticed by colleagues.

I would like to take a step back and reflect on the poor fan support of students and the community leading up to this point.

BC is the center to some of the finest sports facilities at the community college level in the state. And of course with the popularity and amount of local products that represent Kern County football with an average of 2,721 fans per game (according to cccaasports.org), where Memorial Stadium was filled for most of the games and helped BC rally back and win their last three games at home (including the Western State Bowl victory over Chaffey). Let's not forget, though – Memorial Stadium seats roughly 20,000 and this is a program that once ran in approximately 12,000 rowdy Renegades per game heading into the 1990s.

Other sports such as wrestling, volleyball, women's soccer, and even cross country in the fall have produced some quality athletes whose performances went unrecognized.

Wrestling finished eighth in the state as a team and qualified five guys into the State Championship (including first-place winner and All-American Jack Murphy), but when it came time for BC to host tournaments, only one side of the bleachers should have been pulled out. Volleyball and women's soccer were sports that lacked plenty of fans as well. Gentlemen in particular, what else could you guys possibly have planned besides supporting your school and these athletes that work hard? Both sports, along with many others, reflect the community as most of them have been nurtured within the region and recruited to stay and play for BC.

I truly think some spirit around the Hill will turn it from Harvard to Arizona State. Heck, if a Curtain of Distraction needs to be unveiled, I'm all in to be a part of it – especially after both the men's and women's teams dropped consecutive must-win games at home on Jan. 17 and Jan. 21 to sub-.500 teams.

I'm not expecting a Division I caliber student-section or sell-out crowds at our sporting events, I believe a little more enthusiasm for our student-athletes can go a very long way and contribute to their performances and outcome.

Men and women's basketball have only four remaining games at home that can possibly be determining factors to keep their playoff hopes alive. Despite the limited amount of Kern County flavor on the men's end, we have the third-leading rebounder and 11th-leading scorer in the state in Deandre Dickson as well as Queens' own Jameik Riviere – perhaps one of the most flashy and underrated guards in the state. On the women's side, this is quite arguably the biggest success story of the year in Renegade Athletics.

With spring rolling in, what better way to spend your time than catching your hardworking colleagues put in work like you do in the classroom – which is only half of their job, if not a third of their job.

# Depth a role for women's team

By Mohamed Bafakih  
Sports Editor

Sitting in the middle of a three-way tie for second place in the Western State Conference – South Division, the Renegades women's basketball team (16-4 overall, 5-3 WSC) is working to continue moving up despite dropping two spots to 13 in the Feb. 2 cccaasports.org South Region rankings poll.

The women's team, just like the men's, have also hit a rough patch as they look to build on a recent 73-66 victory over L.A. Valley (10-13, 3-5) towards the remainder of the season.

Bakersfield changed their starting lineup a bit against the Monarchs as Rosebrooke Hunt and Yoemma Esparza were replaced by McKaiela Tyler and Khiylah Dean, who scored 12 and nine points apiece.

Nearly all starters were in double-figures and nearly outscored the entire Monarchs team (66-61).

"We just want to keep everything as competitive as we possibly can, and I think you're going to see lineups switching up a lot... the switch-up allowed everybody to have a great game," head coach Paula Dahl said.

Although the Renegades have been road warriors with a 4-1

conference road record, they are just 1-2 here at home, but BC will host West L.A. on Feb. 4 at 7 p.m. and Citrus on Feb. 7 at 5 p.m. inside Gil Bishop Gymnasium.

"Our next six games, four of them are at home," Dahl said. "I'll address that with the team what we need to do to be prepared to take care of business at home and shut out any external factors that may be having an impact on us."

## WOMEN'S SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time
2/4	West L.A.	7 p.m.
2/7	Citrus	5 p.m.
2/11	at S. Monica	7 p.m.
2/14	at Glendale	5 p.m.
2/18	Canyons	7 p.m.
2/21	Ant. Valley	5 p.m.

## WSC STANDINGS

Team	Overall, WSC
1. Santa Monica	16-6, 7-1
2. Bakersfield	16-4, 5-3
3. Ant. Valley	12-10, 5-3
4. Glendale	10-12, 5-3
5. Canyons	13-10, 3-5
6. Citrus	10-11, 3-5
7. L.A. Valley	10-13, 3-5
8. West L.A.	5-14, 1-7



AMBER HAYDEN / THE RIP

Sophomore Nakia Page (24) fades away over Glendale's Natalie Gutierrez (24). Page finished with 23 points and nine rebounds. BC plays West LA and Citrus here this week.



AMBER HAYDEN / THE RIP

Bakersfield guard, 5-8 Jameik Riviere (1), elevates over 6-7 Glendale forward Dillon Biggs (45) for an and-one. Riviere finished with a season-high 29 points despite the loss.

# Playoffs still alive for men

By Mohamed Bafakih  
Sports Editor

It was a rather rough patch in the last half of January for head coach Rich Hughes and the Bakersfield College men's basketball team (13-9 overall, 3-5 Western State Conference – South).

With sophomore Alex Daniels missing five games in January due to a knee injury, along with the team's leading scorer and state's fourth leading rebounder Deandre Dickson missing one game (ankle), it resulted in a stunning 78-69 loss to Glendale (3-16, 2-6 WSC) on Jan. 21.

However, freshman point guard Jameik Riviere has reached his prime in January, averaging 20.5 points per game.

Despite Riviere's scoring and playmaking, the Renegades haven't really found an answer offensively outside of Dickson and Riviere.

"We need that third or fourth guy to get in that 10-12 [points per game] range," head coach Rich Hughes said.

Nevertheless, it's a new month and the team is healthier and looking for a new streak to build on after a 73-55 win over L.A. Valley. Dickson finished with 23 points and 12 rebounds, while Riviere added 20 points along with Isaiah Rogers scoring 10.

"Anytime you have to play at L.A. Valley, it's just a tough environment," assistant head coach Aaron Chávez said. "We knew eventually we'd turn it on and toward the second half we just went on a little run on them... Deandre [Dickson] hit a big three and after he hit that shot we

## MEN'S SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time
2/4	West L.A.	5 p.m.
2/7	Citrus	3 p.m.
2/11	at S. Monica	5 p.m.
2/14	at Glendale	3 p.m.
2/18	Canyons	5 p.m.
2/21	Ant. Valley	3 p.m.

## WSC STANDINGS

Date	Overall, WSC
1. Ant. Valley	20-4, 8-0
2. Citrus	13-7, 6-2
3. West L.A.	13-6, 4-4
4. S. Monica	9-11, 4-4
5. Bakersfield	13-9, 3-5
6. Canyons	11-10, 3-5
7. L.A. Valley	8-13, 2-6
8. Glendale	3-16, 2-6

could see Valley's body language wasn't there."

Bakersfield plays host to two games this week. First game will be vs. West L.A. (13-6, 4-4 WSC) on Feb. 4, who Bakersfield lost to in the previous meeting 74-67 behind Brandon Hood's 29 points. The Renegades will also face Citrus (13-7, 6-2 WSC) on Feb. 7, who Bakersfield went into "The Owl's Nest" and beat in the last meeting 68-61 – snapping an eight-year drought on their floor.

BC will need to be dialed in on all cylinders and control their own destiny to make a push for the playoffs.

"Both games are huge... every game at this point is critical for us to make the playoffs," Chávez added.

# Both swim teams prepare for WSC pentathlon at LA Valley

By Mohamed Bafakih  
Sports Editor

After a season full of splashes with numerous broken records and a Western State Conference championship on the women's end, with the men coming in at third, the BC swim season is quickly approaching, which will take its first dive at the WSC Pentathlon on Feb. 13 at L.A. Valley College.

"For the most part, they're ready for the season and ready to get out there and start compet-

ing in some meets," third-year head coach and last year's WSC Coach of the Year recipient Matt Moon said.

For the men, this was an all freshmen group last season, so it'll return some key faces with a bit higher expectations despite placing third in the conference championship meet last April.

However, the loss of one of those returners, Andrew Hargis, will be a blow for the men's swim team.

Hargis, a Centennial High product, set three individual BC

records, was part of three school relay records, and a WSC record in the 500-yard freestyle (which he won by a 12-second difference) all in his freshman season.

Hargis is battling an ongoing back injury and it's unclear how long he'll be out.

On replacing Hargis, Moon said: "Someone like that [Hargis] that's so versatile, no one's going to really be able to replace him directly, but we definitely have some freshman that are really stepping it up and we have a returner, team captain Cristian

Serrato, who has been swimming really well so I'm looking for him to step up."

Moon also mentioned sophomore sprinter Mike Fink to be a major contributor, as well as a pair of freshmen twins from Centennial, in Lyle and Nick Drake to fill in for some relay spots.

Flip-turning to the women's side, this is a group that isn't as deep as the 2014 WSC Championship team with even a few latecomers adding on, but Moon is optimistic.

"The girls have something

to prove from last year," Moon said.

The women's team lost Shelby Bayne who has moved on to swim at Concordia University and Clarissa Gardella at Colorado State-Pueblo, but whether it's state-qualifier Lexi Zimmerman (breastroker/IM), sophomore Paige Richardson (distance specialist), or freshman Sara Klang (butterfly, mid-distance), expectations are running high on both sides throughout the waters at the William A. Wheeler Aquatics Center.

## BC men's golf to tee off

By Marcus Castro  
Reporter

The Bakersfield College men's golf team has high hopes for the 2015 season, and with the addition of certain players they are expecting to shine.

The team has been preparing for the season and part of the preparation was the Bakersfield Scrimmage. The scrimmage hosted international players from Great Britain, France, and Sweden.

Jeremy Choi won the scrimmage and was the only one to shoot under par. He is predicted to be the star of the team this season as he has been in the past.

"He is a very talented young man," said coach Bob Paillet. "He has a real good chance of moving on and playing at a four year school."

Choi isn't the only standout on the team.

Paillet said, "We've got a good nucleus of good players. They just have to believe in themselves and go out there and put it in the hole."

Jerran Walter is a freshman this year that moved here from Oregon and is expected to do well.

"He's learning the courses, he likes the game, and he's going to be a good player," said Paillet.

P.J. Carmichael played for the team a couple years ago. He decided to return to school and is back on the team. Paillet explained that Carmichael is a good player and has a lot of game.

There were two good players on the team that are no longer eligible to play due to grades. They could have had a positive effect on the team but the team was forced to move on and prepare for the season without them.

As the season picks up, the team is expected to do fairly well. They have high hopes going into every tournament and will walk in there with the mindset of doing their best.

The most recent tournament was the Stanford Invitational on Feb. 2. Choi was awarded second place, with a score of 72, helping his team earn ninth out of 14 teams.



ELIAS C. AHUMADA / THE RIP

BC pitcher, Trinidad Lee, pitches against Cuesta College on Jan. 30. The Renegades would win the game 19-18.

## Softball starts off 3-0

By Mason J. Rockfellow  
Reporter

New Bakersfield College softball head coach and former Cal State Bakersfield softball player, Christie Hill, has led the BC Renegades to a three-game winning streak.

First game of the season came against Fresno City College on Jan. 29, who beat BC last year, 17-0, but Hill said that the students aren't too worried about it.

"They have pretty much put it in the past and are focused on this season more than anything," said Hill.

This year BC got their revenge and came out on top beating Fresno City College 9-4.

On Jan. 30, BC played a doubleheader against Cuesta with BC winning both. The first game with a final score of 7-4, and ending with a three-hour, seven-inning game to follow with a score of 19-18.

One thing that coach Hill believed last season's team lacked was defense. The first two weeks of January, the Renegades worked on their defensive game in prac-

tice.

"All around as a team, we are better defensively," said Hill.

Hill says that her players are excited for the season and that the team moral is high.

"My players get along and are always together," said Hill.

This season coach Hill says that you will see her team play hard for seven innings, with a die-trying attitude, and possibly show some goofiness out there on the field.

Three freshman players have returned to the softball field after taking a break from the sport. Jessica Valasquez has been out for two years and is returning to the field playing infield and pitcher.

Victoria Appling and Brittany Puetz have been out for the past year, with Appling playing the infield and outfield, while Puetz playing outfield and catcher. "They are making their softball comebacks," said Hill.

As far as captains go they have not been determined. "When I played ball we never really had captains, who ever stepped up and was a leader, was the leader," said Hill.

BC's second game against Cuesta was won after Cuesta threw a wild pitch in the seventh inning allowing Alex Avila, who was on third, to steal home for the win.

Prior to the comeback, BC was trailing by four runs in the first inning when Trinidad Lee hit a triple to bring in three RBIs and put the Renegades back in the game. With BC making five errors in the second inning, this allowed Cuesta to score eight runs and take a 12-4 lead. Lee came up to bat with bases loaded once more and hit one over the fence for a home-run bringing in four runs in the third inning, helping close the lead that Cuesta gained in the second inning.

This is coach Hill's first season with the Renegades and so far Hill has showed that she does have what it takes to coach these softball players.

"It's nice to give back to the community that gave a lot to me," said Hill.

The BC Renegades will face Ventura College in Ventura on Feb. 3, Reedley and Santiago Canyon here at BC on Feb. 2, Santa Barbara in Santa Barbara on Feb. 10, and the College of Sequoias Tournament in Visalia against Ohlone and COS.

## BC tennis ready for opener

By Daniel Ojeda  
Contributing Editor

The Bakersfield College tennis seasons are almost in full swing and first-year head coach Nicolas Jacobs is ready to lead both Renegade squads.

"We want to compete in conference. I want to make sure every practice and every game these players are giving me 110 percent," said Jacobs.

It was a struggle for both the men's and women's tennis teams last season, and Jacobs has been ramping up practices in order to better build their endurance and to ensure that the team can achieve early success.

After starting off practices with running drills the teams jumped into fast play to mimic the type of conditions the players would have during a league match.

"Work harder and the results will show," said Jacobs.

With a lot of freshmen on both tennis teams, Jacobs has been using these practices to build depth throughout both tennis teams rather than just relying on one star player.

Having depth on both tennis teams from player one to the last player matters more to Jacobs than having one star player succeeding individually. Succeeding as a team is also one of the biggest goals for Jacobs.

"I'm making sure I get to know everyone. We're trying to come together as a team, that's my goal and were slowly coming together," said Jacobs.

Having to run both the men's and women's tennis teams might seem like a daunting task but, for Jacobs, he's ready for the challenge and the start of the season.

"I've coached throughout the years and it's not really new to me. Even with the aspects of college and all the budgeting, I feel fine and ready to go," said Jacobs.

Jacobs and his tennis teams will get an opportunity to show off their improved play and teamwork as the men's tennis team hits the road to take on Mt. Sac on Feb. 5 and the women's team takes on College of the Sequoias on Feb. 6 at the BC tennis courts.

## Expectations high as BC baseball starts 2-1

By Mohamed Bafakih  
Sports Editor

The smell of tri-tip in the air, the sound of sunflower seeds and peanuts cracking, the bright lights on the southwest side of campus shining all meant one thing - Bakersfield College baseball has officially begun.

In a four-day round-robin tournament beginning on Jan. 29, Bakersfield played host to Allan Hancock, College of the Sequoias, El Camino College, Moorpark, and Porterville at Gerry Collis Field in the annual Light Brigade Tournament.

The Renegades went 2-1 for the weekend which left head coach Tim Painton pretty pleased.

"If you asked me going into this thing if I would've been happy being 2-1, I probably would've told you yes," Painton said.

The Renegades' opened up against preseason 20th-ranked El Camino College in the nightcap of a tripleheader on Jan. 30, which ended in walk-off fashion in extras after rallying from behind. Freshman outfielder Hanz Harker helped add a run to tie it up in the eighth at 1-1, and the score remained the same until the bottom of the 11th.

With two outs, sophomore outfielder Kaidan Meadows drilled the pitch into centerfield for an RBI single to seal it on

opening night, 2-1.

The following night came BC's next win against preseason 13th-ranked Allan Hancock, a team Bakersfield lost to 10-2 in the same tournament last season, where the Renegades once again just gave up one run as they cruised to a 3-1 victory.

Following a hot start by starting pitcher Allan Winans, reliever Ryan Guajardo, and Joe Bresson closing vs. El Camino, the second night was almost a carbon copy as the rotation continued to keep it going behind Connor Smith and Christian Sinnott with the defense staying consistent.

On those two wins against preseason-ranked opponents, Painton said, "Preseason rankings are popularity polls. It means nothing to me... but we played three good ball clubs. I set the schedule up to prepare us."

BC fell just short of a weekend sweep Feb. 1 in an early afternoon matchup against Moorpark, losing 5-4.

"We didn't handle the baseball in a couple situations," Painton mentioned. "I don't think we played poorly, I just don't think we did enough to win a ballgame."

Renegades baseball will be on the road for the next six games before returning to Gerry Collis on Feb. 19-21 for a series against Golden West.



ELIAS C. AHUMADA / THE RIP

BC outfielder, Hanz Harker, waits for the pitch against Allan Hancock College on Jan. 31, the Renegades would go on to win the game by the score of 3-1. Harker tallied two hits to go along with a stolen base and run scored.

## BC track and field impressive at AVC

By Marcus Castro  
Reporter

Bakersfield College women dominated at the Antelope Valley College All Comer Meet on Jan. 31.

There were 16 events at the meet and the BC women won 13 of them.

There were three women on the BC team who got first in more than one event.

Kaira Saunders placed first in the 100 meter dash with a time of 12.22 seconds. She also placed first in the 200 with a time of 25.39.

Lilana Portillo took first in the 100 meter hurdles with a time of 17.79 seconds. She also took first in the 400 with a time of 1 minute 11.98 seconds.

Marilyn Quintero took first in the discus event with a throw of 111 feet 1 inch. She also took first in the javelin event with a throw of 85-01.

Both A and B relay teams, for BC women, were in the top two spots in the 4x400 meter race. Relay team A took first with a time of 4 minutes 21.77 seconds, and relay team B took second with a time of 4:27.58.

There were many other BC women who placed first in other events.

Nicole Lewis placed first in the 400 meter dash with a time of 1 minute 4.27 seconds. Leah Ther-

oux placed first in the 800 meter run with a time of 2:26.47.

Jessica Campbell took first in the 1500 meter run with a time of 4:51.88. DeannaLynn Rubio placed first in the long jump event with a jump of 16 feet 9.25 inches. Sha Nya Terry took first in the shot put event with a distance of 31-10.75.

Amanda Reyes placed first in the hammer throw with a distance of 88-11.

The BC men's team did not have any athletes to win in more than one event. Despite that, the team did have quite a few winners.

The A relay team took first in the 4x400 meter relay with a time of 3 minutes 28.82 seconds. Donald Mandivil placed first in the 400 meter dash with a time of 52.20 seconds. Juan Calderon took first in the 1500 meter run with a time of 4:17.29.

Mark Ron Agbalog placed first in the 400 meter hurdles with a time of 1:00.50. Jessie Hodges placed first in the high jump with a height of 5 feet 8.75 inches. Edgar Llanes took first in the pool vault with a height of 11-05.75.

John Eddie Juan took first in the triple jump with a distance of 40 feet 3.25 inches. Kiant Baker placed first in the javelin throw with a distance of 121-02. Richard Timmermans took first in the mixed 3000-meter dash with a time of 9:54.21.



JAVIER VALDES / THE RIP

The restroom construction near the entrance of the outdoor amphitheater continues to progress and is nearing its final completion on the northeast side of Bakersfield College.

## Construction continues on campus

### Oil and gas line replacements last to do

By Crystal Valdez  
Reporter

The yellow tape and construction workers that were recently heavily located throughout the Bakersfield College campus are rarely seen as construction projects are near completion this semester.

Amber Chiang, BC public relations director, affirmed the notion that construction this semester is almost finished; most of what is left to work on is oil and gas line replacements that should not interfere heavily with student paths throughout campus.

"Complications shouldn't arise this semester. I could never say never, but closures or extremely restricted pathways are unlikely to be seen regarding the water and gas lines," Chiang reassured.

Chiang stated the pipe that

was struck mid-Fall 2014 semester that caused a campus closure was a water line that workers and staff at BC were unaware of. Now that construction workers are almost finished and have worked on almost every area of the campus, events such as those are unlikely to occur.

That aspect of construction should be finished by the end of this month.

The construction of the outdoor theater just east of the Student Services building is also nearing its end. All that is left to repair are the restrooms of that building, but completion is expected within the next couple of months. The grand opening ceremony will be held in April.

"This event has been long awaited, and it's something we all have to look forward to," said Chiang.

Students at BC breathed a sigh



JAVIER VALDES / THE RIP

Construction workers are seen working on the outdoor amphitheater located on the northeast side of the college campus.

of relief at the sight of dwindling construction on campus at the start of the semester.

English Major Shelby Brown, 20, recalls the difficulty of getting from class to class last semester.

"I had two classes last semester that would have been ten minutes away from each other without all the construction and by walking distance. It was hell running through all the tape just

to get to class. It never bothered me having a class across campus until last semester. This semester is so much better!" Brown said.

Education major Martin Torres, 18, said, "My classes had a short route between them, so it was whatever. But the day that class was cancelled all of a sudden because of the pipes really bugged me. I studied for an exam that I ended up having to take the next week anyway. Yeah, it was

frustrating."

Engineering major Jesus Mendoza, 19, feels a sense of relief now that construction is so light.

"I hated the alternate routes to get to class and I had to swerve around construction that just came out of nowhere. I would actually leave class early sometimes to make it on time to the next one. This semester feels way better," Mendoza said.

BC construction projects are

expected to remain in good condition throughout the rest of the Spring 2015 semester.

Chiang stated that construction that would interfere heavily with student life is not to be expected next Fall 2015 semester. A project to replace the elevator in the SAM building will be taking place. However, there will be some "pockets" of activity here and there, but nothing major, according to Chiang.



JAVIER VALDES / THE RIP

Left: Construction worker is seen finalizing the restroom walls by the amphitheater on campus. Right: Construction of the outdoor theater shows that it is near performance ready.