



The Renegade Rip

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

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BC hosts a pro soccer game

Thousands of fans at BC for the pro game

By Mohamed Bafakih
Online/Sports Editor

Winding down the 60-year celebration of Memorial Stadium, the venue has had its fair share of many different events.

Professional soccer, however, had been long overdue.

Fortunately for the field renovations and International Soccer Challenge organizing the matches, professional soccer made its return to Memorial Stadium after 10 years on Nov. 14.

In the press conference, held on Oct. 5 regarding the announcement, International Soccer Challenge president and organizer Ranbir Shergill simply specified that "It is going to be unbelievable". Sure enough, his statement proved to be accurate.

The two-match grand spectacle featured United Soccer League's Los Angeles Galaxy II and the USL's 2014 champions Sacramento Republic FC as the preliminary match in which L.A. cruised to a 5-1 victory. Following it was the main event between Liga MX's Toluca Diablos Rojos and Gallos Blancos of Queretaro.

Liga MX is the highest regarded soccer league in Mexico, and the atmosphere 2,000 miles away from their respective home grounds proved that both teams had a large fan base patiently awaiting their arrival.

Approximately 8,000 presale tickets were sold and another 4,000 made their way to the gates prior to kickoff, and whether it was fans from Hollister, Calif., or Los Angeles, the die-hards made their presence felt at Memorial Stadium.

There was a sea of red representing 10-time Liga MX cham-



pions Toluca – almost similar to what Memorial Stadium used to look like when football drew massive crowds – but Bakersfield being Queretaro's sister city, they also had a decent showing.

Los Angeles native and current Queretaro midfielder Jonathan Bornstein found this as an unusual opportunity to return close to his hometown and play in a much different environment.

"It's always a pleasure to play in front of new fans and people who don't get to see us play in front of them live every day," Bornstein said following the Nov. 13 team practice. "Especially for me personally to come to Bakersfield – not too far from Los Angeles where I was born – so all my family is coming up and I'm super excited to see them."

Families commuted from many different cities throughout Please see **SOCCER**, Page 5



Above: 12,000 fans gather at Memorial Stadium for a professional soccer game on Nov. 14. Left: Omar Riveron (23) of Toluca FC tries to win possession of a loose ball against Wilson Tiago (29) of Queretaro FC.

PHOTOS BY
MASON J.
ROCKFELLOW
THE RIP

Faculty at BC under review

KCCD hires investigator to review case

By Javier Valdes
Copy Editor

Bakersfield College faculty members believe that they have become a target for the Kern Community College District. On Oct. 1, a BC faculty member filed a formal complaint against BC English professor Kate Pluta, BC women's basketball coach Paula Dahl, and a BC administrator, all which are now under investigation by the KCCD.

Interim dean of student success Janet Fulks confirmed that the faculty members in question were not notified until Oct. 28 about the complaint, in which Dahl and Pluta were initially called in to report to the district office, as witnesses to speak to a KCCD hired investigator. They were not given warning or information about what or whom the complaint involved.

It wasn't until the union requested a copy of the complaint that Dahl and Pluta realized that they were not being called in as witnesses, but as the accused in the complaint.

Fulks said that after Dahl and Pluta realized that they were being accused, they requested to reschedule the meeting with the district in hopes that they could contact a lawyer for representation. The district denied to reschedule.

Although The Rip could not obtain the exact content of the complaint, Fulks was able to confirm the reason as to why the faculty members were being investigated. "They were told they were being investigated for violating district policies in using KCCD resources to send email, and hosting social media on the district/college website during the Team Sonya campaign," said Fulks.

On Nov. 2, Dahl and Pluta separately met with an investigator hired by the KCCD to question and investigate the faculty members. During the meeting, the accused were asked nine questions, prepared by the district, which mostly related to T-shirts that were sold to show support for BC president Sonya Christian during her recent contract battle with the KCCD.

The accused were asked whether they sold T-shirts or used BC email to sell T-shirts, as well as where funds to purchase the t-shirts were acquired.

In a letter to the Bakersfield Californian, Bakersfield College planetarium director Nick Strobel wrote that questions asked to the accused BC faculty members also included, "possible campus discussions of the president's contract and her evaluation—questions not even remotely pertaining to the content of the complaint."

The way in which the KCCD has handled the investigation of the formal complaint has led BC faculty members to believe that the accused faculty members are

Please see **KCCD**, Page 5

Teacher ranked 5th nationally

By Chris Miller
Reporter

Jonathan Hernandez, a professor at Fresno State University and Bakersfield College's Delano Campus, was recently ranked number five in the country in the official Top 25 national rankings for Rate My Professors.

Rate My Professors is a website affiliated with MTVU where students can rate and review their professors and the ranking system is based solely off of student feedback.

Hernandez was ranked number five in the country, making him the highest-rated professor in California.

Hernandez was born in Selma and attended Reedley College. He later transferred to Fresno State for his undergraduate and graduate degree in Communication.

Hernandez was first notified of his high ranking via email by MTVU's Digital Coordinator back in late July, but he was unable to speak about it to anyone



PHOTO COURTESY OF JONATHAN HERNANDEZ

BC Delano Campus professor Jonathan Hernandez is ranked as the number five professor in the country.

until the official Top 25 rankings were made public. Despite being unable to tell anyone about it for a while, he was still humbled by the experience.

"It is extremely humbling to know that my students think of me so highly, and I am wholeheartedly grateful for each and every one of them," he said. "From Bakersfield to Fresno, I am completely blessed to have the best students each semester."

Hernandez thinks of his students as family and because of this, he levels with them and often talks about his own experi-

ences as a student and makes a real attempt to connect to each student. He often calls his students "the best students in the world."

"You can ask any student of mine, and they will tell you that I am an open book," he said. "I am not afraid to talk about my past failures as a student, for the reason that I do not want my students to make the same mistakes that I once did. I express how challenging college and graduate school were for me personally, but through hard work and a lot Please see **RANKED**, Page 5

Smoking policy at BC moves forward

By AK Pachla
Reporter

The Student Advancement Committee, assembled by the Student Government Association, held a regular meeting on Nov. 10 to discuss the topic of Bakersfield College's erstwhile campus-wide smoking ban. The topic of smoking on campus has also been brought up in a recent Academic Senate meeting.

At present, the only policy enforced on campus is the one provided by California law. The law says smoking is not permitted indoors in public places, nor within 20 feet of any operable doors, windows, or vents, open or not. This rule applies both to firelit tobacco products and electronic vaporizers.

The non-smoking initiative at BC has something of a history. During the 2012-2013 academic year, the matter was put to a vote by the student body, which chose an outright ban by a wide margin. To date, no further implementation or enforce-

ment action has been taken against smokers on campus, except for what is mandated by state law.

During the Nov. 10 meeting, the matter itself was tabled by committee chair Sen. Fitzgerald Graves, who committed to pursuing further information on the resolution. Present at the meeting were SGA President Clayton Fowler; senators Alfredo Sanchez, Jose Chavez, and Daniel Galvez; as well as Raquel Vega, SGA public relations director; and SGA director of finance Epifania Mendoza. Nicky Damania, director of student life, also sat in for a few minutes.

Discussion on the matter continued for about 10 minutes, with the assembled senators bringing up diverse concerns such as security and sanitation around designated smoking areas, and enforcement of the policy among college employees, who have certain superceding rights of their own.

The findings of the Aca- Please see **SMOKING**, Page 5

BC supporter leaves legacy

By Marcus Castro
Editor in Chief

Marjorie Lindsey, a long-time generous supporter of Bakersfield College, recently passed away, but she didn't do so without leaving her legacy at BC.

Marjorie passed away on Oct. 24 at the age of 98.

"She is a very lovely southern gentlewoman. Very soft spoken. Always beautifully groomed in pastels and is very well-educated. She's been our angel," said archives director Jerry Ludeke.

Marjorie and her husband, Bud Lindsey, donated their time and money to BC and the Bakersfield community.

They put up money for scholarships for students and much

more for BC. They have supported places such as California Living Museum and The Boys and Girls Club in the Bakersfield community.

"The Lindseys were always very low key in their giving; it was not about them but rather about the non-profit causes to which they so generously contributed," said Ludeke.

In the '70s, Marjorie was part of a group of women who would take Clayton Rippey's painting classes. This was around the time when John Collins was the president of BC.

During this time, Coca-Cola was the only company that had soft drinks on campus, but the Lindseys held distributorship for Pepsi. Bud suggested to Collins

that they should put the campus concessions out to bid, so Collins did so. Pepsi ended up winning the bid, and this was the start of the Lindseys' support of BC. BC and the Archives wanted to honor the Lindseys with something at BC.

Ludeke explained that most of the time people are honored after they have died, but the Lindseys were honored before they had passed.

They were honored by the naming of Lindsey Grove, where there are two benches in front of the library.

The Archives installed a plaque in the Lindsey Grove. Marjorie did not want the plaque to be about her and her husband, so she decided to put something

that didn't relate to them.

The plaque reads, "Dedicated to all Bakersfield College faculty and staff who since 1913 have given the gift of education to the people of Kern County, to the thousands of students who give meaning and purpose to everything that takes place on this campus, and to all who have given their time and talents to help BC flourish."

Ludeke explained that Marjorie's generosity was just a part of who she was.

When asked if Marjorie ever discussed her reasoning for being generous to BC, Ludeke said, "She was very strong in her Christian faith, and she felt that those to whom much have been given much was expected."

Top Ten

Black Friday shopping tips.

10. Be aware that the lowest-priced deals are not always the best.

Doorbuster specials draw people in with visions of savings, but they might not offer the best product for their needs. This is especially true for big-ticket items such as TVs. Products like those, particularly derivative models created specifically for Black Friday events, might have lower specs or fewer features than standard products from the same manufacturer.

9. Avoid pricey accessories

You've just scored an awesome 65-inch TV at an all-time low price, so don't blow your savings by splurging on pricey accessories or extended warranties. This is where retailers make their money. Hence the hard sell. If you know you'll need an HDMI cable, buy it in advance from an online retailer such as monoprice.com or bluejeanscable.com. That way you won't be pressed into overpaying at the store.

8. Check all store policies in advance

It's always good to know a store's price-match and return policies. Target recently expanded its policy, and both Best Buy and Walmart will price-match to varying degrees. Other stores, however, might suspend their price-match guarantees during the Black Friday weekend, so read the fine print. When you check the return and exchange policies for Black Friday sales, make sure the store won't charge a restocking fee for any item you bring back.

7. Create a budget—and stick to it.

Black Friday sales, especially the doorbuster specials available in limited quantities, are designed to get you into the store so retailers can sell you something else. Decide ahead of time how much you want to spend on your Black Friday shopping spree, and do your best to resist impulse buying, especially if you're not sure how good a specific deal is.

6. Load your phone with apps

Be sure to download the apps mentioned below in order for you to get the best deal. Most of these apps have a bar-code scanner that can be used to scan prices and see which priced items would be the better bargain. Text messages are also a great way to get coupons.

5. Be social-media savvy

Facebook pages and Twitter feeds of your favorite retailers are a great way to find out about deals and promotions. Those retailers will often reward customers who "like" them or follow them with special alerts to Black Friday discounts and incentives.

4. Be Loyal

Stores often have loyalty programs that offer sales and promotions to their members first, and then let them earn rewards on what they buy. Sign up for Black Friday shopping alerts about coming promotions, coupons, and discounts. In some cases, you can even learn if products you want are in stock or eligible for a buy-online/pick-up-at-store option that saves you on shipping charges.

3. Compare Prices

Don't settle for an item when you can get it cheaper somewhere else. Sites such as PriceGrabber.com, PriceWatch.com, ShopAdvisor.com, ShopSavvy, and Shopping.com can lead you to a better deal elsewhere, so they're well worth a look.

2. Don't focus on Friday alone

Black Friday has morphed from being a one day shopping holiday to an entire month of savings. Most stores have deals leading up to Black Friday. Don't fret, there will be other opportunities to save money other than Black Friday.

1. Be Prepared.

Study ads – print and online – the weekend before Thanksgiving. You can find leaked ads at bfads.net, blackfriday.info, DealNews.com, gottadeal.com, and theblackfriday.com.

Source: Consumer Reports

BC brings music to the veterans

By Carissa Diaz
Reporter

The Bakersfield College Orchestra and Concert Band presented Concert Americana! on Nov. 11 at the PAC indoor theater to celebrate American history on Veterans Day.

Concert Americana! included special guests Gary W. Hill, director of bands at Arizona State University, and Jangle Barrera, Principal Flute of the Southern California Philharmonic. Hill helped conduct the Orchestra during the performance of the "American Flute Salute" while Barrera played the flute. This was one of many songs that were played to begin the tribute to the veterans.

After being thanked by BC Orchestra conductor Lisa Buringrud, Hill said, "You are really lucky to have dedicated teachers at Bakersfield College."

As the concert continued, Buringrud asked for all the veterans

to rise while the orchestra played their last song of the night to honor them.

There were a few veterans in the audience that participated in the special moment.

The Brass Quintet, a musical ensemble of five members, also performed at the concert. Conductor Tim Heasley stated that the quintet had just began working together a few weeks prior to the concert and is now starting to perform more.

The Concert Band ended with a tribute to each of the U.S Armed Forces with songs that saluted the military services such as "The Caisson Song" and "Anchors Aweigh."

This concert allowed the orchestra and concert band to show appreciation for all of the veterans, while also giving families an opportunity to enjoy the special guests and music.

Heasley said, "It's amazing to have special guests and the band together on one stage."



CINTHIA LOERA / THE RIP

The Bakersfield College concert band performs during Concert Americana! on Nov. 11, which was held in the BC indoor theater in honor of Veterans Day.



CINTHIA LOERA / THE RIP

Above: Bakersfield College orchestra director Lisa Buringrud (center) poses with special guests Gary W. Hill (left) and Jangle Barrera (right) after their performance at Concert Americana! on Nov. 11, which was held in the BC indoor theater.

Bottom left: Bakersfield College orchestra director Lisa Buringrud (left) performs with the BC orchestra alongside special guests Gary W. Hill (center) and Jangle Barrera (right) during Concert Americana! On Nov. 11, which was held in the BC indoor theater in honor of Veterans Day.



Starbucks' new red cup sparks controversy

By Rhiannon Stroberg
Features Editor

A nationwide controversy took place on social media sites after the popular coffee chain Starbucks released their highly anticipated holiday red cup, which was literally an ombre tinted red cup rather than the traditional Christmas themed cups.

Bakersfield College students expressed their opinions about the trending online topic.

"I don't go to Starbucks, so I don't care," said nursing major Ijeoma Ojukwu, 33. "I make my coffee at home."

Human biology major, Aleena Paiz, 18, said, "I think it's just a red cup. It's just Starbucks' way of its Christmas cup. I don't go to Starbucks very often, so the cup thing doesn't matter; people over-think things. It is what it is, but it's their opinion. No one should care about it, though."

"I think it shouldn't matter," child development major Ashley Mariscal, 20, said. "It's just a cup. There's more important problems in the world that should be addressed rather than a stupid red cup."

The majority of the backlash occurred after social media personality Joshua Feuerstein, a self-described "Christian



Starbucks' holiday cups, which were previously decorated with popular festive designs, have been replaced with simple red cups, causing some people to feel offended.

sus," posted a video, which went viral, about how Starbucks was removing Christ and Christmas from their traditional holiday cups, imposing that Starbucks is contributing to waging a war on American Christians.

Feuerstein was also responsible for declaring that a "Christian

holocaust" began once Kentucky clerk Kim Davis was arrested for refusing to sign a gay marriage license.

Feuerstein encouraged people to indicate to Starbucks employees that their name was Merry Christmas to see if the employees would adhere to their requests. Feuerstein told people to post their results to social media sites under "#MerryChristmas-Starbucks."

Bakersfield resident Kimberly Coon, 22, stated that after watching Feuerstein's video, she was curious to see if Starbucks would refuse to write her name as Merry Christmas as the video stated.

"I personally don't have a problem with their new holiday cup, I'm pretty obsessed with the color this year," said Coon. "But they actually didn't do it. He [the barista] just rolled his eyes and wrote 'Mary'."

Coon believes that the whole cup situation is being blown up for no reason, and that she doesn't have a personal vendetta against Starbucks because, after all, "It's just a cup," she said.

Several people who believed that the uproar was unnecessary and ridiculous didn't hold back from their opinions by posting their response under "#ItsJustaCup."

The red cup controversy was such a big trending topic on social media that presidential candidate Donald Trump weighed in by saying, "I have one of the most successful Starbucks in Trump Tower. Maybe we should boycott Starbucks? I don't know. Seriously, I don't care. That's the end of that lease, but who cares?"

Trump went on to say, "If I become president, we're all going to be saying Merry Christmas again, that I can tell you. That I can tell you."

Regardless of what Trump said, Coon doesn't plan on boycotting Starbucks anytime soon.

"I love Starbucks," she said. "They are against many things, like our troops among other things I support, but at the end of the day, I still love their drinks."

A Starbucks representative addressed the issue by saying, "In response to the video, our core values as a company is to create a culture of belonging, inclusion and diversity."

Each year during the holidays we aim to bring our customers an experience that inspires the spirit of the season and we will continue to embrace and welcome customers from all backgrounds and religions in our stores around the world."

Funds hold back full Wi-Fi coverage

By Marcus Castro
Editor in Chief

Wi-Fi access and connection on the Bakersfield College campus is a topic that many students have opinions about, but there is more to Wi-Fi on the BC campus than they know.

Some students prefer not to use the college's Wi-Fi.

"I don't use it because it is very weak," said BC student Raul Rodriguez, 18.

Other students use the colleges Wi-Fi because they like to take advantage of the things offered to them.

"I think it's cool. I mean it's free, so I'm not complaining," said BC student

Ismael Ramirez, 19.

When it comes to BC creating better connection and more Wi-Fi access on campus, there's more to it than the average student may know.

Information services director Todd Coston explained that one of his goals is to create more Wi-Fi access around campus, but he said that there are certain things that slow down the process.

"Everyone just assumes that we have full Wi-Fi coverage on this campus. We don't. We know we don't. The reason we don't is it always comes back to money," said Coston.

Coston explained that one of the biggest issues is that many of the buildings

on campus are made of concrete. So when a Wi-Fi access point is installed in one room of the building, it has a hard time getting connection through the concrete walls.

The concrete walls, as Coston explained, make it difficult to install Wi-Fi access points as well. The reason is that the wiring has to go through the walls. He said that it is very expensive to core through the concrete walls to install the Wi-Fi, and that there isn't enough money to do that in every building on campus.

With the increase in students on campus this semester, there are more students using the Wi-Fi.

Coston said, "At any given point, we can have over 10,000 devices connected to our network."

Even though there is room for many devices to be on the college's Wi-Fi, the problem is that not all areas of BC have good connection.

Coston said that the areas lacking Wi-Fi are the Language Arts building, FACE building, and Horticulture Lab building.

Once again, the reason why there is not Wi-Fi in these areas is because the lack of funds to get it installed.

Coston said that some of the ways that certain buildings get Wi-Fi installed is through grants for that specific loca-

tion. "We leverage grants as much as we can, so for example, Science and Engineering they have Wi-Fi pretty much throughout the building, and it's reasonably robust Wi-Fi because the grant was able to help us pay for the coring through the walls," said Coston.

Coston explained that the Wi-Fi is improving in small increments as funding allows it to. He said that he hopes for the funding in the near future to increase, so that he can work on the Wi-Fi connection and access quicker than he can now.

Coston said, "I'd love to have Wi-Fi everywhere in tons of capacity."

BC clubs collect teddy bears for the Condors' teddy bear toss game

By Marcus Castro
Editor in Chief

Clubs at Bakersfield College are participating in the gathering of teddy bears for the Condors' teddy bear

toss game where the bears will be tossed onto the ice rink.

The clubs that are participating in the collecting of teddy bears are the GSA Club, Veterans Club, Agriculture Club, Chemistry Club, Outdoors Club, Tutoring Club, and the Student Nursing Club.

Chad Hidalgo, director of student organizations for the BCSGA, said, "It's a project that I introduced to the clubs, and whichever clubs showed interest, they came to a meeting and started planning on their own."

Hidalgo explained that there will be a raffle Nov. 23 for the people who turned in teddy

bears. One raffle ticket will be given out for each bear that is turned in. The prize that will be given is a ticket to the Condors' hockey game where the bears will be tossed.

"It's a project that I introduced to the clubs and whichever clubs showed interest, they came to the a meeting and started planning on their own."

—Chad Hidalgo, Director of Student Organization, BCSGA

Hidalgo mentioned that they are accepting donations at a \$2 minimum along with the teddy bears to support the United Way charity.

When asked what the overall goal is, Hidalgo said, "I have 3,000 [teddy bears] in my head as just a dream goal."

The plan, as Hidalgo explained, was originally set as a competition for the clubs, but they started working together instead

of competing.

The Condors game where all the bears will be tossed will be on Nov. 28, where the Condors take on the Stockton Heat at Rabobank Arena.

Memorial run for fallen officers



JACOB TOVAR / THE RIP

Runners take off at the 33rd annual Bakersfield Police Department Memorial Run at Riverwalk Park on Nov. 13.

By Felicity Tomisaka
Reporter

Saturday, Nov. 13th was the 33rd annual Kern County Memorial Police Walk from 8 a.m. to noon, located at the River Walk.

The Bakersfield Police Department celebrated their 100th anniversary by giving out participant medals to everyone who participated in the 5k or 10k.

Andrea Pflugh first got involved by volunteering for the Bakersfield Police Department and by also being part of the event staff that started the Canine Howlin' at the Moon run 14 years ago.

From there, she started helping with the memorial run and has stayed with it ever since.

When asked why she stayed, Pflugh said, "Because it's a good cause. The cause for this event is we pay for the entire education, college education of the surviving children of police officers killed in the line of duty."

She also said, "This represents us supporting our law enforcement family when officers are killed in the line of duty, that family doesn't just disappear, they become a part of the Bakersfield Police Department family forever. We want to honor the officer that was killed by making sure his children thrive and become successful adults."

David Nelson was the first Bakersfield Police Department officer to be killed in the line of duty in over 30 years.

About 600 runners were registered for the event. The Bakersfield Police Department handed out about 87 medals in total.

Presenting the medals to the top three finishers depending on sex, age, and whether you participated in the 5k or the 10k run.

Pflugh also mentioned that they wouldn't know how much money has been raised and that all of the money goes into a savings account in case of an unfortunate situation that they may need it someday.

For more information on how you can get involved, contact Andrea Pflugh at (661) 326-3519.



JACOB TOVAR / THE RIP

BC graduate and former cross country and track runner Fermin Torres comes in on top at the Bakersfield Police Department Memorial Run.

Organ donations help save numerous lives

By Cinthia Loera
Reporter

When being faced with the question of whether one wants to become an organ donor, not everybody can easily make the decision right on the spot. Some may question whether they want that pink dot on their California ID due to the fact that they may not know much about the process of organ donation.

According to Donate Life California, the official non-profit state-authorized organ and tissue donor registry, the donation is free of charge and will not affect a person's funeral arrangements or medical care. On their website, www.donateLIFEcalifornia.org, they stated, "One person can save eight lives and enhance 50 others through organ, eye and tissue donation."

Anybody regardless of their age can register to donate at a DMV but one must be 13 years of age or older to register online. If a donor is underage, the family still has to give consent to the donation at their time of death.

The Donate Life California website also reassures donors that their medical attention will not be affected by their donor status. After a person has died, two doctors not involved in any way with organ or tissue donation must declare that the person is deceased. "It is only after every attempt has been made to save a patient's life and death has been declared that the donation process begins."

Direct and living donations can be made in order to assure a specific person receives your organ or tissue donation. Direct donation can only be done at the time of the donation (after death) and is supported by Advanced Health Care Directive. Living donations on the other hand are organ donations that are given by living people. These donations are limited to only one kidney and a liver section.

One thing that may not be known by many is that in May 2015, it was announced by the Department of Health and Human Services that the organs of HIV donors would be accepted and used for an HIV candidate participating in a clinical research.

This development can possibly move toward allowing all HIV donors to not be denied and become allowed to give organ/tissue donations to other HIV patients in need.

Undocumented immigrants are also among those that cannot be denied a transplant due to their immigration status.

About 123,000 people are on the national organ transplant waiting list and out of those, 22,000 are in California. But 150 people on average are added to that list each day. Although there are 12.7 million organ, eye, and tissue donors in California, only 40% of those that are eligible to donate are actually registered to do so.

For more information about organ and tissue donation, you can visit www.donateLIFEcalifornia.org.

First Friday brings together artistic minds

By Giovanni Lopez
Reporter

Bakersfield First Friday is an event that takes place the first Friday of every month. It's the Bakersfield street art show consisting of artists for art, music, food, fashion, and more.

These aren't people who come from big brands and companies, but talented art makers who want

to demonstrate their passion to others.

Local artist Ruben said, "I love coming to First Friday; you get to see people who love to create, who to love to entertain. As a musician and fellow artist, it's great to see people show their skills."

With First Friday, there is a place where people can see the creativity of the minds of others.

You don't really know what to expect.

There was music playing in the streets, live music and DJs.

You walk into the local art museum and see a saxophone player jamming out to the music to fill his blood with the beat and rhythm.

Outside, there was a photographer selling his photos, a painter showing his paintings, and scul-

ptors selling their pottery.

For a city like Bakersfield that is not known mostly for its art, it's great to see a place where there are no right or wrong, but only a place to be with creative people.

First Friday is one of those local events that will keep your head spinning with excitement from all the colors and entertainment.

BC book discussions offer valuable ideas

By Javier Valdes
Copy Editor

Bakersfield College administration and faculty have come together to create a multiple-part book discussion that focuses on Bailey, Jaguars, and Jenkins' book, *Redesigning America's Community Colleges: A Clearer Path to Student Success*.

The book discussions were divided into six separate panels, each focusing on a different chapter from the book, in order to sit down and discuss each chapter separately to get a better idea of how BC can increase student success rates.

On Nov. 13, a panel of faculty, administration, and students discussed chapter four of the book during the book discussion that took place at a Business-building classroom.

Panelists included academic development chair Dr. Kimberly

Bligh, interim dean of instruction Cornelio Rodriguez, BC assistant football coach Reggie Bolton, and students Junior Menchaca and Jennifer Crissman.

During the discussion, the panel focused on helping under-prepared students, speaking of personal experiences as faculty working with these students, as well as hearing student perspectives on the pros and cons of having accelerated courses at the BC campus.

Menchaca spoke about his experience after returning to BC and the importance of accelerated courses.

"When I went through the program, it showed me that all these things...just needed to be refreshed...a lot of it is just a refresher, and that's why I think accelerated programs are so important," Menchaca said.

Currently BC offers accelerated math and reading/writing

courses, which are meant to compress and merge courses. The usual 16-week course is reduced to eight weeks and merges classes to where the first eight weeks of instruction students focus on one course, and the last eight weeks focus on the next required course. These accelerated courses make it possible for students to complete what would usually take two semesters and condense it into one.

BC has had discussions on different chapters of the book throughout the fall semester.

Bligh stated that BC president Sonya Christian wanted to have panel discussions where faculty, administrators, and students would come together to discuss how faculty could improve and get an idea of what was going on in the classrooms.

"Bringing together staff, student, faculty, and administrators into a room on a Friday morn-



JAVIER VALDES / THE RIP

Bakersfield College returning students Jennifer Crissman (left) and Junior Menchaca reflect on the panel presentation after the book discussion that took place Nov. 13 in a Business-building classroom.

ing and having time to just share and reflect," said Bligh. "It takes away from the everyday run of the mill meetings where we have to get things done, where this gave us time to sit back, relax, and listen to one another. We just really need more opportunities to have these conversations."

BC mathematics learning center faculty member Rachel Vickrey also expressed the importance of coming together as faculty.

"I think it's really valuable for faculty and administrators. When we read books together and talk about these books and reflect on

our experience, that is very valuable," said Vickrey.

The book discussions chapter panels have concluded, but student panels and further discussions are scheduled throughout the remainder of the semester. Check out the BC website for further information.

BC Jazz Ensemble presents contemporary works



MASON J. ROCKFELLOW / THE RIP

Bakersfield College student Jorge Santos plays solo during the Jazz Ensemble Fall Concert of 2015.

By Crystal Valdez
Reporter

The Bakersfield College Jazz Ensemble presented classic and contemporary works at the Jazz Ensemble Fall Concert of 2015.

The concert took place at the SPArC Indoor Theater on Nov. 9 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Donations of \$5-\$8 were requested.

BC Jazz Ensemble director Kris Tiner introduced the event, saying, "We've got a nice program for you tonight. I've been directing this event for the last 11 years, and it's always a pleasure to show what we've been working on. We call it a panoramic history of jazz starting almost at the beginning with some swing music...and move through the modern jazz period, and by the end of the night we'll be well on our way to the funk excursions of the 1970s and 80s."

The ensemble opened with performances of works such as "U.M.M.G." by Billy Strayhorn and "Isfahan" by Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn, and closed with performances of "Self-portrait in Three Colors" by Charles Mingus and "Wiggle Waggle" (written for a Fat Albert TV special) by Herbie Hancock. A total of nine songs were performed

with a 15-minute intermission after the fifth.

Among the musicians, a select few were featured multiple times through performance solos.

Brett Clausen was featured on the alto saxophone, Omar Murillo was featured on trombone, and Jorge Santos was featured through five trumpet solos.

The audience consisted of roughly 100 people, and its most positive reaction was after the ensemble's performance of "Salt Peanuts" by Dizzy Gillespie and Kenny Clarke. Tiner urged the audience to sing along with the ensemble as they sang the "simple" lyrics, "Salt peanuts, salt peanuts."

"These guys have worked really hard. The fall is always unpredictable. We're just getting it together and hoping we get a rhythm going before concert time. These guys have really ramped it up a notch," Tiner said about his ensemble and about the concert.

Tiner is planning on performing a Miles Davis project in April 2016 for the Jazz Ensemble Spring Concert.



MASON J. ROCKFELLOW / THE RIP

BC student John Calo is featured on tenor saxophone at the fall concert in the SPArC Indoor Theater on Nov. 9.

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Pantry steps it up

By AK Pachla
Reporter

The Renegade Pantry at Bakersfield College has been serving the student community with food assistance since 2009. From their location between the bookstore and Campus Center, staff, faculty and student volunteers hold monthly distributions, helping students at both the Panorama and Delano campuses.

In its six years of operation, the Renegade Pantry has helped hundreds of students facing food insecurity. Expansions to the program include the addition of Daily Bread, a program to make mid-morning snacks available to all students, provided through cooperation with Panera Bread.

But the pantry has only just begun to fulfill its mission to help those students forced to maintain too tight of budgets in these uncertain economic times.

Recently, the Renegade Pantry has sealed a deal with the Bakersfield Gleaners to offer fresh fruits and vegetables every Thursday as a part of Daily Bread.

The pantry is also planning to run a free clothing shop once a month for students to exchange or offload excess or unwanted clothing.

This will be in addition to the already existing part of the program that helps students who need formal business attire to put their best foot forward at interviews and on the job.

"Due to Homecoming, we got a lot of (clothing) donations," said pantry coordinator David Guinto, "so now we want to get it together and set up a distribution date for students to come and look... and to make donations."

This part of the program is still in the planning stages, but will be available soon. When the clothing distribution starts, it will also take place at the Renegade Pantry location.

The next deadline date for food assistance from the pantry is Dec. 4. The distribution date is Dec. 10.

Students interested in receiving a food pack may either sign up in the Office of Student Life in Campus Center 4, or visit the pantry's page on the BC website (www.BakersfieldCollege.edu/campus/pantry).

Students, families, and other people in the community who would like to help out with the pantry's mission may donate clothing, food, or money either in person at the pantry or in the Office of Student Life, or visit the Bakersfield College Foundation page on the BC website and selecting "Renegade Pantry" from the dropdown list of available beneficiaries.

Any and all help is appreciated. "Volunteers help out a lot," says Guinto. He said sometimes it's a struggle to try and keep up with the need, but with the support of the Renegade community, "it's going pretty good so far."

Fire station by BC gets remodeled

By Carissa Diaz
Reporter

Students have been curious about the construction going on at Fire Station 8, located on the corner of Mt. Vernon Avenue and University Avenue across the street from Bakersfield College.

According to the Bakersfield Public Works Department's Navdip S. Grewal, the station is being moved to a temporary location while the remodeling takes place at Fire Station 8.

The fire station has to meet certain codes, and by remodeling, the requirements will be met.

When asked if the construction has affected any residents, Grewal said, "I haven't heard any complaints so far. We have superintendents on the job, so they'll be the first ones to know if there are."

They are hopeful that the



JACOB TOVAR / THE RIP

Fire Station 8, across the street from Bakersfield College on University Avenue, is undergoing construction.

construction will make a great change for the station and community. Grewal said, "I think it will because it was built in the

'50s. Once it's done it will be a much improved station and up to current code."

The remodeling will last seven

months and is expected to be complete in May 2016.

The station is temporarily closed until the remodeling is

complete.

They have relocated all staff to a new location, which is on 4400 Panorama Drive.

SOCCER: Pro game draws in fans at BC

Continued from Page 1

California to witness this match and although Toluca defeated Queretaro 3-1, which included a highlight bicycle kick by Toluca's Omar Arellano, the experience for both teams' fans will leave lasting memories.

The evening before the game, an autograph session with selected players from both teams was held at Xtreme Soccer sporting goods store giving fans a chance to interact with some of their favorite players who they may have never seen before, or quite possibly may never see again.

"The autograph session went really well," Bornstein said. "We had a lot of fans show up so it was nice to see that."

The game itself was highly competitive as the International Soccer Challenge trophy was at stake.

Toluca jumped out to an early 1-0 lead in the sixth minute following a goal from Colombian Fernando Uribe.

Queretaro answered with a goal of its own at the 29-minute mark as Emanuel Villa's penalty kick evened the game at 1 apiece.

Right before half time, Toluca's Edy Brambila was handed a red card leaving Diablos Rojos with nine men for the remainder of the game.

Despite being one man short, it didn't stop Toluca from finding the net as they added two more goals in the second half, igniting their fans throughout the stands.

The Diablos Rojos were crowned champions, and perhaps another champion will be crowned once again in Bakersfield as International Soccer Challenge's indicates a possible return during summer of 2016.



MASON J. ROCKFELLOW / THE RIP

Liborio Sanchez (22) of Toluca FC punches the ball away from the goal as Toluca went on to win 3-1.

RANKED: Teacher at the top

Continued from Page 1

of heart that anything is possible. I believe that me sharing this info creates an equal ground for everyone in my classroom. They feel a connection."

This experience has changed Hernandez's life and motivates him to continue his efforts and help push students in the right direction.

"If God allows me to be around 30 years from now, and I am still able to give my all in the higher educational field, this national recognition that my students were able to bless me with this year is something that no one can ever take away," he said. "And, because of this, I am more driven in the classroom than ever before."

Hernandez works at both Fresno State and BC's Delano campus. Because of this, he has to drive up and down Highway 99 often.

However, the lengthy car drives motivate him even further because he enjoys working at both campuses.

"It is an honor to be at two colleges that

I genuinely love," he said. "I work for two of the best presidents in the country, in my opinion, Dr. Sonya Christian and Dr. Joseph Castro."

Hernandez recently started the one and only communications club, WECOMM CLUB, in the Delano campus.

"I personally believe that student success should not only be implemented in the classroom, but outside the classroom as well," he said. "Therefore, it was a no-brainer for us to start this at Bakersfield College (Delano Site) starting this semester. It is no secret that the Delano campus needed something to form a stronger bond with the main campus, and we feel very strongly that WECOMM is what is going to bridge the gap."

Hernandez attributes his success and experiences to his students and family.

"I would like to thank my family of educators who motivate me to be the best version of myself every day. And, last but not least, I would like to thank 'the best students in the world' (past and present), for making all of this possible," he said.

KCCD: District investigates

Continued from Page 1

being targeted by the KCCD in retaliation to those who supported Christian during her contract battle with the district.

Since the complaint came to light to BC faculty members, the We Are BC Facebook page, that was used to continuously support the BC president when her contract was in question, has been taken down.

On Nov. 12, the KCCD held a special meeting where the only item on the agenda stated, "Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Reassignment."

It is not clear whether the board discussed the complaint against Dahl and Pluta during the closed session, as they did not comment on the specifics of the item on the agenda.

During the special meeting's public comment, BC English professor Kathy Freeman addressed the board to make it known that the Community College

Association union had filed a grievance against the KCCD. According to Fulks, the reason for the grievance centered on procedure and not following policy.

BC faculty members felt that the district failed to follow procedure and policy, as noted in the KCCD faculty contract, in regards to the complaint in question. The KCCD faculty contract states that complaints made against faculty members shall confer with the faculty member within 10 working days, which the district failed to follow in regards to the accused faculty.

The faculty contract also states that "the faculty member shall be notified that (1) a complaint has been made (2) he or she is entitled to representation by the bargaining agent," both which BC faculty members feel the district failed to follow.

The fate of the accused faculty members is unknown, as the KCCD continues discussions on the matter.

SMOKING: Smoking policy is making progress at Bakersfield College

Continued from Page 1

demic Senate on the tobacco free initiative were similar. Cindy Collier, dean of Nursing/Allied Health, and Ray Persell, the new director of Student Health and Wellness, presented the topic, recommending to creating a smoke-free campus in line with the student body vote from two

years ago. Collier explained that the matter was still under review by the Kern Community College District and confirmed that there are no consequences for policy violations at this time, as Public Safety is not authorized to ticket individuals for campus infractions beyond parking.

The proposed addition to the

KCCD Board Policy Manual defines "smoking" as "inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, or pipe, or any other lighted or heated tobacco or plant product," and includes any device that produces an aerosol in place of smoke. The proposal also includes several items that are not

tobacco, such as cloves and cannabis, under the heading of "tobacco product". The smoking ban, as proposed, would begin next semester.

Graves said he is committed to seeing the wishes of the student body implemented on campus but acknowledges the obstacles to enforcing a campuswide

smoking ban.

"My main argument is that if the student body voted that it's smoke-free, then we should be enforcing it," he said.

Students who would like more information on the tobacco-free campus initiative or to address concerns regarding its wording and implementation are invited

to visit the Office of Student Life in Campus Center 4 and speak to a member of Student Government. Of possible opposition to the previous vote, Graves puts the responsibility back onto the student body. "Students who are here and desire to have a designated area should start a petition and bring it forth," he said.

Makeup Review

ABH makeup is worth the price

By Cinthia Loera
Reporter

The art of eyebrows being on fleek has become a big trend in the makeup community and most people interested in perfecting it have no idea where to even begin.

The most difficult yet most rewarding part of my makeup routine has always been filling in my eyebrows. It has become a technique that many wish to perfect and some believe in order to achieve the perfect brow, certain brands of makeup are necessary.

Anastasia Beverly Hills is one of the most notorious makeup brands known for its eyebrow products and the big question is: Are these products worth their price?

My eyebrow routine has always been such a huge deal to me due to the fact that I personally feel as though my brow shape can change my entire appearance. I'm not proud to admit that I can take up to thirty minutes perfecting my eyebrows, but it really is that serious to me, especially if I'm making an effort to wear a full face of makeup.

With that being said, I have used my fair share of eyebrow products throughout the years in order to find one that was perfect for me. I would fill in my eyebrows with brow powder for years, and I only bought drug-store brands because I never felt as though high end products were any different, but as I began making a little more money, I figured I'd give them a shot. That's how I figured out exactly which products were worthy of their popularity.

The very first ABH product I bought was the DIPBROW Pomade, which has a creamy gel-like consistency and is extremely pigmented. It contains 0.14 ounces of product and retails for \$18.

When I had first started using my pomade, I would wear it every single day and couldn't believe how full my eyebrows looked. But I began to realize that my eyebrows looked really dark and intense, in fact they looked so intense that they overpowered my face and became the only thing anybody could notice when they looked at me.

I found that with the pomade it was always really easy for me to get heavy handed, often leaving me looking like I had filled them in with Sharpie. I have no problem with having bold eyebrows and that's usually the way I go when filling them in, but the dipbrow seems to be more suitable for circumstances where a lot of heavy makeup is being worn. It definitely requires a lot of practice in order to figure out how much product is enough to give its user their desired color payoff.

Another product by ABH is their Perfect Brow Pencil, which is just a standard eyebrow pencil

with a spoolie brush attached to the end of it. This pencil has .034 ounces of product and retails for \$21.

Now I hadn't even considered buying this product until my mom actually bought it and asked me to do her eyebrows with it. After feeling how smoothly this pencil was gliding onto her brows and making them look naturally perfect, I instantly fell in love with it.

It created the perfect arch with so much ease and the convenience of the attached spoolie brush was perfect for blending away the product on the inner corner of the eyebrows.

I had to try it for myself and the day I did was the last day I touched my DIPBROW Pomade. This pencil was a huge time saver and made my eyebrows look a lot more natural yet still allowed me to create the thick eyebrows I was fond of.

As I said before, the longest part of my entire makeup routine has always been my eyebrows, and when using the dipbrow I found that you have to use a very finely tipped angle brush to get the arch just right, which takes a lot of patience.

When using the Perfect Brow Pencil, you have more control over the product, especially due to the fact that you can sharpen the pencil to your liking in order to get a thinner or thicker eyebrow look. This makes it a lot faster to get the job done. The spoolie brush also plays a big factor in making the final product look a lot more natural than the pomade can.

After using both products repeatedly I can say that they're both good quality makeup items and can absolutely be worth their prices, depending on what the customer personally wants.

So if you're somebody that tends to like statement eyebrows, wear full coverage makeup and usually rocks a bold lip color, I suggest you give the DIPBROW Pomade a try before the pencil.

But if you prefer a more natural look yet still want the option of occasionally being able to achieve a bold eyebrow look, the pencil is a more flexible product that can do both and is worth the slightly expensive price attached to it.

Everybody does their makeup differently and everybody certainly has their own preference when doing their eyebrows, which is what I think the Anastasia Beverly Hills brand kept in mind when making their products in order to have them capable of catering to a wide range of people.

Whether you're barely starting to experiment with your eyebrows or you're looking for a better product to take your brow game to the next level, I think this brand will have something for you.

★★★★★



ALBERT VARGAS "NIMAK" / THE RIP

Annual flu shots: are they completely necessary?

By Mason J. Rockfellow
Photo Editor

By Victoria Miller
Opinions Editor

Many people argue whether a flu shot is worth getting. Some say it doesn't work, and a lot of people, such as myself, say it does work.

From my experiences with flu shots, it seems to get the job done. Even though you usually get a mild cold or illness a few weeks after getting the flu shot, it has prevented me from getting the flu.

When I was young, I wasn't able to get flu shots because of my allergy to eggs, because the most common manufacturing process of the vaccines uses eggs.

Before I grew out of my egg allergy, I was almost certain to get the flu if it was prevalent in my area. Once I was able to get flu shots around the age of 12, I didn't get the flu for about 11 years.

I still believe the reason I got the flu 11 years later was because that year I decided I wasn't going to get a flu shot since I had been lazy and didn't make an appointment with my doctor.

It had been so long since I had gotten the flu that I thought it was just a bad cold and I would get over it in a few days. I was wrong. After letting a few days go by, I realized I wasn't getting any better and decided to go in to the doctor. Sure enough, I had the flu that everyone was getting at the time, and let me tell you, it was terrible.

The day I went into the doctor, they said I had a dangerous high temperature and should have gone to the doctor way before I decided to go.

This means I was walking around at school and in public with the flu while highly contagious. Due to that incident, I decided to get a flu shot the following year. I did get a cold a few weeks later, but I didn't get the flu that year.

This brings me to my next reason for getting a flu shot. You shouldn't just get a flu shot for your own benefit but for everyone's benefit. If you don't get the flu shot and do end up getting the flu, then you're also exposing everyone around you to the flu as well.

With my experiences, I think that the flu shot is definitely worth getting when flu season comes around. It may not seem that important when the commercials and advertisements for flu shots start cycling through the media, but in reality it is probably a good idea to get one.

If you don't get a flu shot, you may get lucky and not get the flu, but most likely you will get the flu and you're going to have a terrible week or two of feeling like hell, frequently going from cold to hot and getting the chills, and the possibility a lot of coughing.

If I were you I would head down to your doctor's office or one of places giving out flu shots for cheap or possibly free.

It's that time of year again; flu season is upon us and we are once again bombarded with reminders to get our annual vaccination.

Everywhere we go, we have friends, family, corporations and organizations drilling the idea into us that getting a flu shot is a matter of life or death. Americans are scared out of their minds about getting the virus, while companies make billions of dollars manufacturing vaccinations.

Americans like feeling in control and getting vaccinated makes them feel more in control. Unfortunately, getting sick is something we can't control. It's something that happens naturally and can happen regardless of the preventative steps taken to avoid its happening.

I believe flu shots are mostly a false security. That is one of the reasons why I don't bother to get one. Flu shots offer false security because they are marketed as if the shot is a guarantee against getting the flu, even though they are more than likely ineffective.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention said that the 2014-2015 vaccine was only 19 percent effective. With those odds, the flu shot is definitely not a guarantee against getting the virus.

Every year it is decided by scientists what strains are the most harmful and likely to affect large numbers of people. These are the strains that are put into vaccines, which your immune

system will build up immunity to. However, there are so many strains of the flu that your body is still vulnerable to. The vaccine would be completely useless in situation where you caught one of those other viruses, instead of the few that your body had built up immunity to.

Another reason why I won't get a flu shot is because of the possible negative reactions.

Although you can't actually get the flu from the flu shot (the virus that is in the vaccine is dead) you can still get flu-like symptoms, and there are definitely other potential risks. People have had allergic reactions to flu vaccines and have suffered dangerous side effects.

According to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website, there's a chance of developing Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) after receiving a flu vaccination. This is a particularly disturbing disorder, where the immune system damages their nerve cells, causing muscle weakness and possible paralysis. This disorder can be fatal.

In some flu shots, there is a preservative called Thimerosal, which contains mercury. Mercury is toxic to the human body. I'd like to avoid injecting myself with toxins.

I've gotten the flu plenty of times. It is pretty terrible. But getting the occasional virus is a natural occurrence and builds up your immune system toward that virus.

There are plenty of other ways to prevent getting a flu virus. Wash your hands, avoid sick people, and practice behaviors that promote a healthy immune system.



ALBERT VARGAS "NIMAK" / THE RIP

PRO

CON

Standing while riding is no big deal

By Crystal Valdez
Reporter

Public transportation in Bakersfield has been the subject of countless complaints made by residents for years and recently by Bakersfield College students. If we don't have a car and we can't find a ride to school, our last resort is often to take the GET Bus. For some of us that's apparently not enough. Additionally and oddly enough, students often complain that buses are overcrowded, especially in the mornings on their way to school.

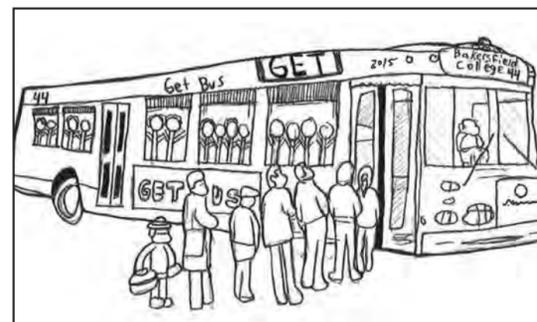
As I was distributing The Renegade Rip's fourth issue, a fellow student approached me with a story idea. This student asked me to look into the dangers of riding the bus in town. According to this student, many people are required to stand and the city should look to an expansion in its public transportation system.

For those of you who are fortunate enough to have no idea what the inside of a bus looks like, there are bars placed at the top of a bus' ceiling for bus riders to grip in order to avoid falling over and injuring themselves as the bus makes its routine, frequent stops. Since buses are usually expected to be overcrowded, especially at certain times of day, seats are filled until the last two or three stops, so buses typically don't get crowded enough for people to have to stand until they arrive at BC. The reality of it is that what BC students experience on the bus on their way

to school is nothing compared to what residents in other cities experience on a daily basis at all hours.

I've paid frequent long-term visits to larger and much busier cities in California (Los Angeles, Berkeley, and San Francisco), and it's safe to say that their public transportation is superior and more complex compared to ours. However, a key idea to take into consideration is that those cities are larger and busier, resulting from a larger population. 10.1 million people live in LA, roughly 954,210 people live in San Francisco and Berkeley combined. Only 347,843 people live in Bakersfield. Different demographics require different resources. We have a GET bus system, but we don't have an LA Metro Rail or Bay Area Rapid Transit system (subways) simply because we don't need one. Thus, the call for a GET bus system expansion is unnecessary and would probably cost the city a lot of money.

The traffic we experience is scarce in comparison to that of cosmopolitan cities. Residents of those cities would roll their eyes at anyone who complains about driving through rush hour here in Bakersfield. Streets are so crammed with cars in cities like LA and San Francisco that residents often prefer walking from point A to point B. Those who don't like to travel on foot ride their bikes, take the bus, or take the subway. BC students who can't handle taking the bus because standing for five or ten



ALBERT VARGAS "NIMAK" / THE RIP

minutes is difficult to handle should look to this example. However, I think we know that's not going to happen.

I rode the GET bus to BC every Monday through Thursday for my entire first semester until I finally got my license. My stop was the second one on route 60, so I never had difficulty finding a seat. I always had my headphones and a book with me because I would spend an hour on the bus since I live on the Southwest side of town.

I was always comfortable, and I never saw any issues. I never noticed anyone else experience any issues aside from an incident in which a woman shared stories from her experience in prison, and she informed everyone on the bus on the reason why they no longer serve hot dogs in her old state penitentiary.

Bus riders sitting on the handicap seats never seemed to mind giving up their seats for the blind man or the woman on

the wheelchair. I was always a recluse on the bus, but others wouldn't hesitate to spark conversation with the stranger sitting next to them.

I never had to stand on a bus in Bakersfield, but I've had to stand on every form of public transportation in LA and the Bay Area, and I'm almost positive that standing in a bus that goes 40mph is less terrifying than standing in a subway that goes 70mph.

There are people standing on buses here in town, but only for a little while. So many people stand in buses of LA and the Bay Area that I'm surprised there is enough bar space for everyone to share.

We're sheltered. Yes, there's room for improvement, but we're actually pretty lucky. If you're fortunate enough to have a college education, standing on the bus for a while shouldn't be too much of a burden. Some public transportation is better than none.

Series Review

Ansari's new comedy is a hit

By Victoria Miller
Opinions Editor

Netflix released its newest original series, "Master of None," on Nov. 6, which critics and viewers have responded with deserved praise.

Aziz Ansari, a comedian known for his role in "Parks and Recreation" as Tom Haverford, is co-creator of the series and stars as the main character, Dev. Dev is the kind of guy that has a childlike sense of humor and seems to have a mostly carefree life.

Arnold, played by Eric Wareheim from "The Tim and Eric Show," is one of Dev's main buddies. Arnold is the awkward friend who makes random comments and frequently gives absurd advice. Wareheim is perfect for this role, as Arnold's character is essentially an overgrown man-child. Wareheim's sense of humor is of the "so stupid it's funny" variety, so it seems he has to do little more than be himself to portray Arnold.

The series starts off with the first episode "Plan B." It begins with Dev accompanying this girl he just met and hooked up with to the drug store to purchase a Plan B pill. This opens up the episode to a long exploration into the pros and cons of having children.

The episode covers many different perspectives on the subject. Some viewpoints discussed are those of Dev and Arnold, 30-year-old men who think children are

gross and annoying, to that of their friend Kyle (David Charles Ebert), who explains special moments with his son are more significant than any night out with his friends.

There's humor and a type of realism to each perspective that viewers can relate to. The episode doesn't leave out one side of the story.

Episode one's theme, although funny and interesting, in comparison to episode two's, is pretty general. Episode two, "Parents," explores what it's like to be the first generation in a family that has immigrated to the U.S.

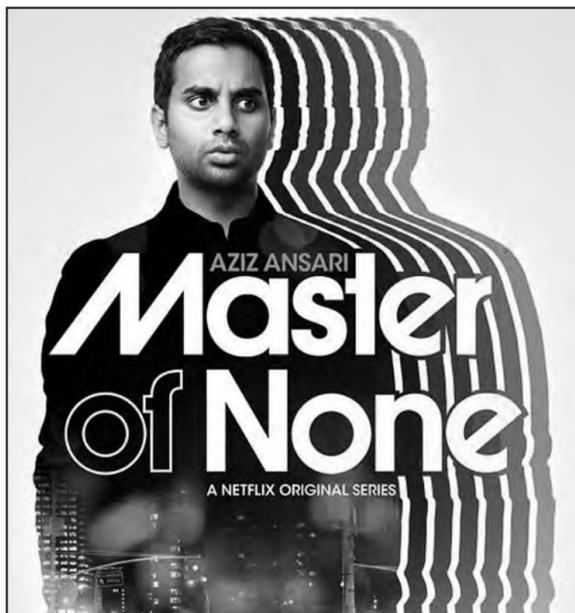
"Parents" introduces a new character, Brian, played by co-creator Alan Yang. I'm personally not a fan of Yang's acting. It doesn't seem "real" enough. However, it didn't ruin the episode, and I was still able to focus on the story being told.

Brian is of Asian ethnicity and complains how his parents barely show affection toward him.

Dev, who is of Indian ethnicity, touches on how his father can't understand his desire to become an actor.

Dev and Brian decide to take their parents out to dinner to connect and learn more about them. Their parents tell stories on the hardships of coming from poverty and making it as immigrants in America.

Dev's parents (who are played by Ansari's actual parents) ex-



GOOGLE IMAGES

plain how Dev's father worked at a zipper factory to save money for medical school. Brian's father tells a story about how he and his family had to eat his pet chicken for dinner during hard times.

After dinner, Dev and Brian have a new respect and appreciation for their parents.

This second episode gives a unique, inside look on minorities in America and the hardships their families had to face to enjoy a better life. It touches on both the

humorous and serious sides of the situation, making it interesting all around for viewers.

After watching the first two episodes of "Master of None," I'm convinced it will be a great series. Fortunately, this is a Netflix series, so all of season one is available at once. I'm definitely looking forward to binge-watching the rest of the season and seeing what else this series has to offer.

★★★★☆

Video Game Review

Fatal Frame, exorcist with a camera

By Chris Miller
Reporter

Fatal Frame: Maiden of Black Water isn't just one of the best entries in the Fatal Frame franchise, and it's also the creepiest and most challenging horror game of the year.

Fatal Frame: Maiden of Black Water is the fifth game in the Fatal Frame series and is exclusive for the Nintendo WiiU.

For those unfamiliar with what a Fatal Frame game is, it's a psychological horror game where the player uses an in-game camera called the Camera Obscura to take pictures of and exorcise ghosts. The concept might sound funny to those unfamiliar with the franchise, but the series has become famous for its picture-taking combat and has even influenced many knock-offs and copycat games over the years.

It's not just the combat that makes the Fatal Frame games so famous. Fatal Frame is also famous for its creepy atmosphere, interesting and likable characters, and excellent, but complicated, story-telling.

Maiden of Black Water not only holds up to the high standards set by its predecessors; it's the creepiest entry yet.

Mount Hikami, the game's setting, has many varied areas to explore and each area is littered with

a myriad of hostile ghosts that literally pop out of nowhere.

On top of the obviously scripted ghost encounters there for plot purposes, enemies will also appear unexpectedly throughout the game. These random ghost encounters are what really keep the player on his or her toes. Rooms that the player cleared previously and return to will sometimes have a completely different and random ghost that appears and attacks. This sense of never knowing when a ghost will show up make each experience different and encourages multiple playthroughs.

Fatal Frame games are challenging and Maiden of Black Water is no walk in the park. There are a plethora of different enemy ghosts to battle and each have their own unique attack patterns and difficulty.

Maiden of Black Water also has the highest amount of different enemies to face than any of its predecessors. The final boss is especially challenging and unique.

To add to this challenge is a brand new game mechanic where the player will get covered more and more in this black water that increases the amount of damage taken from enemy hits. Luckily, there are items to "cleanse" the in-game character of this black water, but it's a nice addition to the old gameplay formula and helps keep the player alert.

Water is the major theme for Maiden of Black Water. This theme doesn't just translate into the gameplay but the story as well.

The story is experienced through three brand new Fatal Frame Characters, Yuri Kozukata, Ren Hojo, and Miu Hinasaki. Fans of the previous games may be excited to know that Miu Hinasaki is the daughter of the very first game's protagonist, Miku Hinasaki. Each character is playable at varied points throughout the game and have slight gameplay differences with their Camera Obscuras.

In true Fatal Frame fashion, the fate of each character depends on the player's actions throughout the game. The characters' individual fates vary from a happily-ever-after ending to a depressing fate where they may end up dying, or worse. As always, the story and endings are as dark, yet heartwarming as previous installments.

The controls take a little getting used to. The default controls has the player holding up the WiiU gamepad to control the Camera Obscura and twisting it around to make the in-game camera turn as well. Thankfully, there's an option to use the joysticks on the gamepad instead.

The sounds and music are eerie and help establish that creepy atmospheric mood Fatal Frame is so well-known for. Tsuki Amano,

as expected, performs a brand new exclusive song during the credits.

The graphics are decent for WiiU standards, but some of the character's facial expressions look lazily designed and not very convincing at times. But enemy designs are super creepy and top-notch.

Other than a few frame rate drops when too many entities are on screen and a control scheme that takes a bit of time getting used to, there's not a whole lot more Maiden of Black Water does wrong.

Maiden of Black Water has lots of replayability and reasons for players to come back and play the game again. Completionists especially will have fun going through the levels and trying to collect all of the items and ghost pictures they've missed in their initial playthrough.

The fact Ayane, a character from the fighting game Dead or Alive, has her own unlockable side missions after beating the main game is awesome and adds to the variety of content found in the game.

Fatal Frame: Maiden of Black Water is an amazing horror experience for both Fatal Frame veterans and newcomers alike. Never before has virtual picture taking been so addicting.

★★★★☆

RENEGADE MINDS

"If you could choose to be any famous person for a week, who would it be?"

Compiled by:
Mason J.
Rockfellow
Photo Editor



Matthew Whittington, 19, History: "I would want to be Andy Hull, the front-man for Manchester Orchestra."



Desteny Vasquez, 18, Liberal Studies: "Mia Hamm, my mom almost named me Mia, and I like to play soccer."



Calloway Morphis, 18, Business: "James Franco, he's a funny guy...He seems like he lives a pretty good life."



Ian Cochran, 32, Engineering: "Morgan Freeman, because he can make anything sound good."



Valerie Cordero, 27, Child Development: "Helena Bonham Carter, because she's weird and embraces it."

Renegade Events

Music

November 25: Juan Gabriel. Rabobank Arena, 9p.m.

December 5: Andre Nickatina. B-Ryders, 8 p.m.

Lectures/Discussions

November 19: Nexus Student Alumni hosts guest speaker Bob Meadows, VP/Manager of Mission Bank. Dessert provided. Fireside Room, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Workshops/Fairs

November 18: Counseling workshop, SEP. SS151, 6 to 7:30 p.m. and CAS workshop, meet the metric system. MS-6, 12 to 1 p.m.

November 19: CAS workshop, writing strong thesis statements. LA-218, 4 to 5 p.m.

November 22: 8th annual Bakersfield Comic Con. Comic book and fantasy convention. 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Kern County fairgrounds, admission \$7, children 8 years or younger free. \$2 off admission with the donation of 2 canned goods or 1 unopened toothbrush.

November 23: CAS workshop, stay involved. MS-6, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

November 23: CSUB Onsite Admissions. Fireside room, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

November 24: Counseling workshop, Probation. SS151 10 to 11:30 a.m. and CAS workshops, test taking tips. LA-202, 1 to 2 p.m. and preventing plagiarism. LA-202, 3 to 4 p.m.

November 25: Counseling workshop, UC application and personal statement. SS151, 12 to 1 p.m.

November 30: Counseling workshop, UC application review. SS151, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. and CAS workshops, test taking tips. MS-6, 11 to 12 p.m. and writing strong thesis statements. LA218, 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

December 1: CAS workshop, preventing plagiarism. LA-202, 1 to 2 p.m.

December 3: CAS workshop, metric conversions. MS-6, 2 to 3 p.m.

Miscellaneous

November 19: Dawn of the Space Age showing at the Planetarium. \$8 adults, \$6 seniors and children 5-12 years old. 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. For details visit bakersfieldcollege.edu/planetarium

November 20: Wecomm Communication Club presents Wecomedy Vol. 4 featuring Darren Carter and Carlos Oscar. Doors open at 7, show starts at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$5 in advance, \$8 at the door. Free giveaways. Robert F. Kennedy High School Auditorium, 1401 Hiatt Ave. Delano, CA 93215. For more information, call 661-720-2000.

November 28: kids get in free at CALM wildlife preserve. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

December 2: It's a Wonderful Life play production. SPARC indoor theater. 8 p.m.

December 3: Season of Light showing at the Planetarium. \$8 adults, \$6 seniors and children 5-12 years old. 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. For details visit bakersfieldcollege.edu/planetarium

December 10: Season of Light showing at the Planetarium. \$8 adults, \$6 seniors and children 5-12 years old. 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. For details visit bakersfieldcollege.edu/planetarium



Winner of the 2003 and 2008 JACC Pacesetter Award

First place in 2011, third place in 2013 and 2014 for CNPA General Excellence

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The Renegade Rip

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Football finishes off 2-8



MASON J. ROCKFELLOW / THE RIP

Defensive lineman Shaq Garrett causes Pasadena's Jett Even to fumble the ball. BC forced four fumbles in the 51-7 victory.

By Mohamed Bafakih
Online/Sports Editor

Generating points was a key problem for Bakersfield College prior to the bye week as the Renegades averaged 15.2 points through the first eight games of the 2015 football season.

In the last two regular season games for the Renegades, however, it took an upward leap.

Evidently, the bye week contributed to players regaining their health and composure, but the sense of urgency and willingness to end the season on a high note was clear.

From putting up 51 points in the final home game of the season on Nov. 7 in a 51-7 win over Pasadena, to nearly avoiding Ventura from claiming a share of the National Northern Conference title on Nov. 14, the old saying of "too little, too late" came into play.

Bakersfield was riding the same ship as Moorpark, which BC even beat in Week 7 in one of its two wins of the season, but Moorpark (5-5 overall, 4-2 NNC) managed to nearly clinch a bowl game berth after finishing off the season on a four-game winning streak.

Pasadena oppositely remained winless throughout conference and a date with the Renegades was their only shot of nabbing a win.

BC executed early and often on drives and capitalized on every opportunity with or without



JOE BERGMAN / THE RIP

Curtis McGregor turns the corner for one of his three TDs.

the ball.

"It was without a doubt our most complete effort. The guys did a really nice job playing together as a group," head coach Jeff Chudy said following the blowout victory over the Lancers.

For the group of sophomores, the sendoff was just right.

Led by the running backs, sophomore Curtis McGregor rushed for 185 yard and three touchdowns on 15 carries, while freshman Cory Frison had 109 net yards and two touchdowns.

Defensively, BC forced a lot of pressure, which resulted with Pasadena fumbling four times and throwing three interceptions.

Even special teams came up big as sophomore Dominic Frisch added an 84-yard touchdown return following a blocked field goal.

BC went into the locker room with a 37-7 halftime lead and never looked back, setting up a season finale showdown between the Renegades and the Ventura Pirates.

Last season, it was BC getting the edge over Ventura in the season finale, but this rivalry grew due to Ventura having six Bakersfield natives on the team.

Quarterback Noah Holle got his first start of the season looking for the team's first road win of the season, and wasn't afraid to attack the worst pass defense

in the state.

He completed 27 of 38 passes and threw for 329 yards and four touchdowns.

"I didn't have the best week of practice, but coming into this game I had nearly four years of being a backup and mentally preparing every week like I was the starter," Holle said.

David Ross accounted for one of the touchdowns to tie it up at 28-all (Ross finished with 147 yards on seven catches), as Faizon Knight added two more and another one by Frison.

Meanwhile for Ventura, it was their running game that kept them ahead.

One of those Bakersfield products for the Pirates, DJ Martin, opened up the game with a 47-yard touchdown run on the first play. It was Martin's lone touchdown, but he would finish with 175 yards on the ground.

Martin's running mate Chris Beeson continued the impressive ground attack for Ventura as he added three touchdowns on 28 rushes for 210 yards.

The tight contest saw both teams tied up at 28 with about five minutes remaining in the third quarter.

Ventura (7-3, 5-1 NNC) would nail three consecutive unanswered field goals by Jake Lanski to hold off BC (2-8, 2-4 NNC), 37-28.



Above: Middle blocker Mckenna Baameur (11) blocks the dink coming from Citrus' Samantha Jape (19).

Left: Outside Hitter Daryan Heathcott (19) gets the ball over Citrus' Lauren Valenciana (10) on Nov. 13.

PHOTOS BY
MASON J.
ROCKFELLOW
THE RIP

Volleyball gets even with Citrus

By Carl E. Littleberry Jr.
Reporter

Bakersfield College's volleyball team continued its late season run through the Western State Conference, beating West L.A. College on Nov. 11 and Citrus College at home on Nov. 13. The wins were the seventh and eighth wins for the Renegades in conference play and sixth win in a row for the team, giving them a record of 15-10 overall and 8-3 in conference.

BC was matched up against West L.A. for its first match of the week, easily sweeping the Wildcats in straight sets 3-0 with scores of 25-23, 25-9 and 25-15. The win gave the Renegades the complete sweep of West L.A. after also beating the Wildcats in straight sets on Oct. 16.

"We already knew this team so we were comfortable with our game plan. All we needed to do was continue to execute," said BC coach Carl Ferreira.

BC did just that, easily overpowering West L.A. in what Ferreira would call a "roster game."

"This was a game where we got to empty the whole bench and everyone got to play. It was a roster game, and those are always good for team morale," said Ferreira.

The leading scorers in the match for BC were sophomore hitter Daryan Heathcott with 12 kills and one ace for 13 points in total.

However, the team didn't need much from their leading scorer as the BC defense never allowed West L.A. to score more than 15 points after the first set.

Going into BC's second match

of the week with Citrus College, Ferreira wanted his team to understand the importance of their rematch with Citrus, which beat the Renegades earlier in the season. Instilling his motto of, "Being a championship team means we play as a team and stick to our standards of performances," Ferreira reminded his team of how every game matters this late in the season.

BC delivered on their coach's words, coming out strong in the first set by winning with a score of 25-11. "We came out in rhythm and kept it going throughout the match. We've been in a rhythm all season and this was a huge win for us," said Ferreira. The rhythm carried on into the next two sets as BC won 25-12 in the second and 25-14 in the third outscoring Citrus by 38 points in the match.

The wins moved the BC team into a tie for second with Santa Monica (14-10 overall, 8-3 Western State Conference South) with only one match remaining for both teams on the season. With the season winding down, Ferreira feels his team has improved enough to make a run in the postseason.

"We're in, but we're not in right now," he said. "I'm not going to define our season on wins and losses. It's about going 21 for 21, which means that I'm trying to impact those 21 girls I have on my team first. Wins come second."

The team returns home for its regular season finale against College of the Canyons on Nov. 18 at 6 p.m. before learning their fate for the playoffs that are scheduled to begin on Nov. 24.

Renegades drop last three games

By Alex Rivera
Reporter

The Bakersfield College women's soccer team, after beating Antelope Valley 4-0 on Nov. 3, finished the season on a three-game losing streak and were outscored 10-1 over the three games.

On Nov. 6, College of the Canyons traveled to Memorial Stadium to take on BC. The Renegades lost 5-1 and allowed all five goals in the first half.

Sabrina Spink scored a goal in the second half for BC, which had eight shots total.

The Renegades finished the season 7-10-3 overall and 5-6-2 in the Western State Conference - South Division. BC placed fifth out of eight teams in the conference and did not qualify for the playoffs. Canyons finished first in the division with an 11-0-3 record.

The Renegades traveled to take on Citrus College on Nov. 10. With the recent struggles on defense, coach Scott Dameron decided to put top scorer Spink back in the goalie box.

Spink allowed the first goal of the match in the 17th minute as Nicole Graham put Citrus up top 1-0. Spink was in the goalie



JOE BERGMAN / THE RIP

Sabrina Spink slides for the save while teammate Alexis Goyeneche blocks opponent.

box for 61 minutes of the match allowing only one goal out of seven attempts.

Dameron decided to pull her out of the box and put her back in as forward. Spink was able to help move and facilitate the

ball, but she was only able to set up her teammates a shot on goal one time.

Citrus scored twice during that time for a 3-0 victory.

The Renegades hosted the final game of the season against

Santa Monica on Nov. 13 and lost 2-0. BC used three goalies during the game.

In the second half they put Spink back in the goalie box, and she was able to save every shot.

Five conference champs for BC wrestling

By Marcus Castro
Editor in Chief

After a two-week break, the Bakersfield College wrestling team hosted the SCWA Conference Tournament where BC had five conference champions in their weight class.

"It's always good when you win matches. It was good, we had five champions," said head coach Brett Clark.

Norman Abas (125-pounder, 3-0 record for the tournament), Torrey Casper (133, 2-0), Jacob Maas (165, 2-0), Zack Mitchell (184, 2-0) and Jose Robledo (197, 2-0) were the five conference champions for BC.

BC, as a team, placed third out of five colleges with a team score of 197.5. West Hills College took the tournament and the conference championship with 253.5 points. Cuesta College came in second place with a team score of 209.

BC co-head coach Marcos Austin said, "We're peaking at the right time, and we're doing the right things."

Two most valuable wrestler

awards were given out, one for the lower weight class (125-157) and another for the upper weight class (165-285).

BC's Abas received the award for the lower-weight class most valuable wrestler, and BC's Maas received the award for the upper-weight class most valuable wrestler.

Pedro Sarabia (125) of BC finished in third with a record of 3-1, and Andrew Binger (174) of BC also finished in third with a record of 3-1.

BC had four fourth-place finishers with Silvestre Alfaro (141, 1-2), Armando Saldana (157, 2-2), Christian Espinoza (184, 1-2), and Jason Dibble (285, 2-2).

With five conference champions and six top four placers in conference, BC looks to prepare for the Southern Regional Championships at The Brawl tournament at East L.A. College on Nov. 21.

The Southern Regional Championships will be held at Mt. San Antonio College on Dec. 5 where wrestlers will look to push toward the state championship.



MARCUS CASTRO / THE RIP

BC's 133-pounder Torrey Casper went 2-0 at the conference tournament at BC which claimed him the conference title.

Cold start for women's basketball

By Carl E. Littleberry Jr.
Reporter

Bakersfield College's women's basketball team opened their season with four games scheduled from Nov. 6 through Nov. 14. After losing all four games, BC sits at 0-4 on the season as they gear-up to defend their league title after going 23-5 and winning the Western State Conference - South.

"It's early and the girls don't know what they don't know," said coach Paula Dahl who states having a young team and a lack of practice time as keys for the early season struggles.

On the season, the team is struggling to find its rhythm on both offense and defense as the team is shooting 30 percent overall on the season and 27 percent behind the three-point line.

The defense itself is a work in progress as Dahl is learning her players' tendencies and working through different defenses.

"We are throwing out multiple defenses, we usually just run man. However right now we don't have the consistency as a team, so we run a lot of 1-3-1 zone and 2-2-1 press," said Dahl.

BC opened up the season at home on Nov. 6 against Irvine Valley losing to the Lasers 63-44. The leading scorer for the Renegades was sophomore guard Kennedy Nelson who finished the day shooting 5-of-15 from the floor overall and 2-for-7 from the three-point line. Falling behind early after in the first the team would never lead in a game where they committed 25 turnovers.

Turnovers have been an ongoing problem for BC in the early season as they rank nearly dead last in the state at 78, committing 27 per game.

"We are just trying to play together as a team considering this is our first time practicing together with all our players since the preseason," said Dahl.

The team would continue its struggles to score in their next three games, as the team hasn't managed to shoot at least 40 percent in a game this season.

In the Riverside tournament against Glendale on Nov. 14, BC played its most competitive



JOE BERGMAN / THE RIP

BC's leading scorer Kennedy Nielson (30) struggled shooting in the loss to Riverside.

game of the season losing 54-53. The loss highlighted the teams' lack of offensive firepower as they only managed to score two points in the first quarter to Glendale's nine.

However, Dahl saw positives in the loss, as BC shot 56 percent from the floor after the first half and even led the game late into the fourth quarter, losing on a

game winning lay-up by Glendale.

"I'm not worried about the team right now. We are young, and I feel like we played better team ball in the second half of the Glendale game.

Basically the girls are just making high school mistakes because most of my girls are new players, so they are still learn-

ing how we play together," said Dahl.

BC will go for its first win as they host West Hills-Lemoore on Nov. 17, and Dahl is just looking for progress from her young team. "We are really starting to execute and learn jobs and positions. I'm just looking for them to play together and hard when we play on Wednesday."

Scoring not an issue for men's hoops squad

By Mohamed Bafakih
Online/Sports Editor

Three different players led the team in scoring in the first three games of the Bakersfield College men's basketball season.

Last season it was either Deandre Dickson or Jameik Riviere who led the team in scoring in 27 of BC's 29 games.

Perhaps that's a sign of things to come for head coach Rich Hughes and company, as BC took third place in the Fullerton Tournament this past weekend.

The Renegades once again opened the season against L.A. Trade Tech. After a triple overtime loss last year, BC found itself up 43 points at one point, eventually cruising to a 101-67 victory on the opening night of the Fullerton Tournament on Nov. 12.

Freshman Shane Christie scored a team-high 18 points on 8-for-10 shooting.

Christie's performance seemed startling for a few, but Hughes knows his capabilities. "He's a talent," Hughes said of Christie. He's going to be a good one for us."

Eclipsing the 100-point mark in the first game of the season was really startling for BC, something they hadn't done in over two seasons.

BC had seven players scoring in double figures, including all five starters.

Sophomore guards Jameik Riviere and Lawrence Moore both played over 30 minutes as Riviere scored 15 points to go along with six assists and four steals. Moore added 14 points on 5-for-8 shooting.

Hughes mentioned how be-

cause of all the weapons the team provides, the scouting report may focus on just one player or two players, but it opens it up for everybody else.

The following night, BC faced Chaffey who wound up losing to tournament-host Fullerton in the championship game after defeating BC.

Riviere scored a game-high 30 points on 12-of-19 shooting against Chaffey in a game that had 11 lead changes.

BC led at half 41-30, but in the second half the Panthers outscored the Renegades 49-38 en route to an 80-78 victory.

"We didn't trap as much and struggled with the zone," Hughes said.

BC faced San Diego Mesa in the third place game on Nov. 14.

Sophomore transfer Nick Velasquez caught fire for Bakersfield. Velasquez hit 6-of-10 shots from behind the arc and finished with a team-high 22 points in the 80-55 win.

Dickson nearly got his first double-double of the season as he scored 15 points and grabbed nine rebounds.

Defensively, BC held Mesa to just 34 percent shooting from the field (14-for-41).

The Renegades (2-1) and their 12th-highest points per game average of 86.3 will travel to L.A. Pierce on Nov. 20 prior to their home debut in the Thanksgiving Tournament beginning on Nov. 27. Pierce cut BC's playoff run short last season with a 95-92 first round overtime win.

Moving forward, Hughes' main emphasis is still to have his team hold their opponents in the 60s range.

Both cross-country teams qualify for the state meet in Fresno on Nov. 21

By Felicity Tomisaka
Reporter

The Bakersfield College cross-country teams participated in the Southern California Regional Championships in San Diego on Nov. 6 where both teams qualified for state.

The BC women placed 14th out of 27 teams. BC's Sydney Roman led the team by placing 77th with a time of 21 minutes 8.3 seconds for 5-kilometers (3.1

miles).

"It was what I expected it to be, really tough and competing with other girls that would box you in," Roman said. "I didn't expect to make it individually as one in the top 100. I wouldn't expect making it as a team, but we did and it was awesome. I was scared I would die out so I was already preparing before I started racing. The day before I would think about what to do and what not to do. I was telling

myself not to go out too fast and to stay with a group or fall behind you. I would tell myself in my head to stay calm, keep my breathing even, not too fast or too slow."

Roman plans on using this technique to help her in the state race at Fresno. The next Renegade following close behind her at the regional was Emily Freeman, who took 78th with a time of 21:10.7. Teammate Alyssa-Lynn Paul took 91st with a time

of 21:28.6 to give the team three participants who finished in the top 100 out of 186 participants. The winner of the race was Aminat Olowora from Southwestern with a time of 17:02.0.

The BC men finished 17th out of 27 teams with Jacob Franco placing 61st with a time of 22:13.9 for four miles.

"I felt ready for the race and just ran it smart," Franco said. "I mainly just paced off my teammates and the other runners, and

I just listened to the coaches and they said, 'every person you pass counts as points,' and that's what I did. The first time I ran this course I ran out fast and died out. This time I felt ready for the next race. My speed is improving and getting better, so I'm prepared."

BC's Christopher Moreno placed 77th in 22:25.3 and teammate Richard Timmermans took 118th with a time of 22:59.0. The winner of the race was Michael Teran from San Bernardino

Valley with a time of 20:31.2.

BC coach Pam Kelley said, "Men and women both qualify for state and it's been a while since we've had both teams qualify. The strength of the team I think was the fact that we've had good grouping, and we have good depth because our top runners did not have their best races and everybody else was able to come up and pick up the slack."

The state race in Fresno is set for Nov. 21 at Woodward Park.

A DAY TO HONOR VETERANS

The Vet Fest at BC was a blast

By Crystal Valdez
Reporter

The Bakersfield College Veterans Club hosted its third annual Vet Fest on Nov. 5 in order to commemorate those who served, honor those who are serving, as well as to provide resources for veterans and other students on campus.

The event took place in front of Student Services from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. It started and ended with the boom of a cannon.

Everyone was asked to rise for the presentation of colors by the Associated Veterans of Kern County Honor Guard, and BC Chamber singer Caley Mayhall sang the national anthem at the start of the event.

There were a variety of vendors and information booths.

Representatives from the U.S. Army and the U.S. Navy were present in the event to recruit as well as to provide information. The Bakersfield Vet Center, Wounded Heroes Fund, and the California Veterans Foundation were three of the many veteran services programs at the event. Representatives from University of LaVerne and Grand Canyon University were also present.

Students were encouraged to visit vendors and information booths. Small forms were given to students to have signed off from anyone working each individual booth, and students who had every space filled were given free lunch in the area from 11:30 p.m. to 1 p.m.

The BC Veterans Club used this as an initiative to get students more involved.

Veterans Club Secretary and U.S. Army veteran Gwendolyn Turner said, "The veteran's club is open to anyone at BC, not just veterans. We strive to further education and help other vets who don't know what's available for them and the problems they might have healthwise. As a group we get together and help the community too."

English major and US Navy veteran Andrew Perales, displayed some of his artwork to donate and to raise some extra money for the club.

"This is the one I was doing sort of as a montage to different eras of war. There's a lot of detail, it's not done yet though. When it is done I'm going to donate to the Wounded Heroes fund," Perales said about one of his art pieces. He added that he was not able to finish the piece in time for Vet Fest because of midterms.

Perales also had charcoal sketches of Vietnam era photographs for sale.

"They show the other sides of war. The picture that you see, it's a 19-year-old kid, but he looks like he's 40. He was just so exhausted from the war," Perales said about one of his sketches.

"It's a hobby that I do. Since I was a little kid I drew, as I became an adult and became a little more serious, I started giving them away as gifts. People finally convinced me to start selling. I enjoy the feedback that people

"We strive to further education and help other vets who don't know what's available for them and the problems they might have healthwise."
—Gwendolyn Turner, U.S. Army Veteran



PHOTOS BY JACOB TOVAR / THE RIP

Above: U.S. Navy veteran John A. Medvigy (right) assists the president of BC's Veterans Club Benjamin Lindquist to fire the cannon. Below: Flags go up to prepare for the singing of the national anthem during Vet Fest at BC.

give me," Perales added.

Perales also gave a statement about the event. He stated, "Not only do we find veterans that just came out of the service. We try to find other veterans, older veterans that think they can't go back to school because of their age and because they think they can't use their GI Bill. We try to tell them about FAFSA and things like that so they know. We try to educate them about what's out there."

According to Turner, Vet Fest 2015 had a larger turnout than that of 2014, but Veterans Club president and U.S. Army veteran Benjamin Lindquist said that he hopes next year's Vet Fest will turn out even stronger. He emphasized student involvement, stating that the event is held not only for veterans, but for BC students. Lindquist is planning on adding more vendors, as well as a bounce house and a rock-climbing wall for Vet Fest 2016.



Veterans Day event honors local veterans

By Crystal Valdez
Reporter

The Veterans Day celebratory activities began this year in Bakersfield at the 7th annual Salute to Our Local Heroes event.

The event took place on Nov. 7 at the Kern County Fairgrounds from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and served as a tribute to the local men and women who served and are currently serving in every branch of the U.S. military. Veterans entered the event for free, and other guests paid \$10 upon entrance.

There were various representatives from local veteran services and organizations present at the event to answer questions and to provide resources, including Bakersfield College's own Veterans Club and Veterans Services.

BC Veterans Club president and US Army veteran Benjamin Lindquist said, "Mainly we want

to make sure that we can reach out to veterans who haven't thought about using their educational benefits. Even if they don't want to use them, their children can use them."

Lindquist went on to talk about veteran priority registration. Because of the club's booth at the event, a woman found out she was able to use her disabled husband's educational benefits to go to school.

Nursing major Vicky Frias, 25, said, "I thought it was pretty cool. At BC it's really hard to get into classes, and last year I just couldn't do it because I have a family, and I have to take care of my husband, so it's kind of hard. When I found out I get priority registration, it was like a weight lifted off my shoulders because I found out I'm able to get the on-line classes that I need."

Many were at the event to

gain information about resources available. Others were there to honor brotherhood and comradeship.

Army veteran Alex Duraz, 26, was at the event representing the Vet Center work-study program.

"When I first got back, I was isolated. I was drinking, and I had a brother reach out to me. He got me linked up with the Vet Center's work study program and it's great. I'm going to the University of Phoenix...I'm here trying to get involved and stay involved and be around a bunch of brothers. When I'm down, they'll pick me up. That's what we do for each other; we're all in that brotherhood. We speak the same language, and we're there for each other," said Duraz. It was his first year at the Salute to Our Heroes event, and he said it would not be his last.

There was a group of veterans who were honored at the event for the commemorative 53-mile hike. The hike was done in honor of local soldiers who have died in action in Iraq and Afghanistan. Bakersfield College student, Veterans Club member, and US Navy veteran David Dullum carried a backpack full of dog tags that represent each of those fallen soldiers throughout the hike. The group of men were given a standing ovation by those present at the event's auditorium.

Salute to Our Heroes' committee president Wendy Porter said about the event, "We're here to say thank you to all of our veterans and active duty, and to allow the public to say thank you as well. This is our biggest turnout ever."



MOHAMED BAFAKIH / THE RIP

Local veterans are introduced after completing a two-day, 53-mile hike in honor of those who lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan.



MOHAMED BAFAKIH / THE RIP

President of the BC Veterans Club and U.S. Army Veteran Benjamin Lindquist (left) informs Pedro Gutierrez of the opportunities of returning to school after serving.

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