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Tough time for nursing majors

By Rhiannon Stroberg
Features Editor

Bakersfield College's nursing students have been experiencing issues getting into several of the courses required to complete the nursing program.

BC's nursing program has several classes that are mandatory for nursing students to take in order for them to complete the program. However, due to the overwhelmingly high volume of students in the program, these students in particular have been experiencing several issues getting into the necessary biology and chemistry classes.

BC nursing student Jennifer Edwards, 25, stated that she has been trying to get into Chem 11 for the past six semesters and that before she was finally able to get a spot in the Bio 32 class, she had been waiting four semesters.

"Without Chem 11, I am unable to get into the next class, Chem 16," Edwards said, "and without Bio 32, I am unable to move on to the next course, Bio 33."

Edwards also stated that her attempts to get into both Chem 16 and Bio 33 for the fall semester were unsuccessful, "and that was with me trying to register for the classes on the second day of fall registration."

Joe Saldivar, Biology Department chair, stated that a lot of the issues with getting into these highly impacted courses stem from budgetary constraints as well as a lack of faculty in that department.

Saldivar explained, "With our anatomy physiology classes, we Please see Nursing, Page 5

Wrestlers are hard-headed



JOE BERGMAN / THE RIP

BC's Norman Abas ends up in an awkward position in his match versus Austin Armendariz from Victor Valley College. Abas went on to win the match 18-3 on Sept. 11. The BC team ended up beating Victor Valley 52-3, but they lost the tournament with a team record of 1-3. See the full wrestling story on Page 8.

BC welcomes many international students

By Crystal Valdez
Reporter

Bakersfield College is home to a growing community of international students who travel from across the globe for what is considered to be a better, more prestigious education.

That is exactly what the International Student Affairs program (ISA) at BC offers.

Despite the difficulties these students may experience throughout the journey and upon their arrival, the struggles are outweighed by their academic, social, cultural, and economic contributions.

The admission criteria for international students are extensive compared to those of local students. A few of those distinctions, according to the BC website, are as follows: International students must have an F-1 visa in order to be considered for admission at BC. They must provide evidence that they are proficient in the English language in order to benefit from college level instruction, and

they must maintain a 2.0 GPA as well as be enrolled in a minimum of 12 units per semester. Once enrolled, all students must attend a two-day orientation and adhere to the common graduation/transfer requirements.

According to International Student Program Coordinator Shohreh Rahman, BC has enrolled 70 F-1 visa students who represent 26 countries this fall. The top three countries represented are Saudi Arabia, India and South Korea. The most pursued majors are business administration, engineering, biology, and nursing.

Rahman stated that the program does everything in its power to keep these students on track.

Students who find it difficult to maintain their status are at risk of having that status terminated, and in some cases they must return to their native country.

International students on an F-1 visa are also required to provide evidence that they are financially capable to bear all



CINTHIA LOERA / THE RIP

International BC students Seungju Lee, 21, from Korea, and Suhar Ali, 21, from Yemen, speak with International Students Counselor Shohreh Rahman inside her office.

costs during their attendance period at BC.

Rahman stated, "Students pay the following fees: a non-resident tuition fee of \$200 per unit, a capital outlay for facility usage of \$46 per unit, and a \$46

tuition fee per unit, resulting in a total \$292 per unit. The reason international students must pay \$246 more than the average local student is because they do not pay California state taxes."

Additional costs for interna-

tional students include an average of \$726 that result from expenses such as textbooks, health fees, and student fees. Assuming that all students carry the minimum 12 units that are

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Christian conflict remains

KCCD board to vote on contract in next meeting

By Javier Valdes
Copy Editor

The ongoing saga between Bakersfield College President Sonya Christian and the Kern Community College District continues after the KCCD board of trustees voted against the approval of Christian's contract at the Sept. 10 board meeting.



Sandra Serrano

Amid the conflict between the KCCD and Christian, Chancellor Sandra Serrano released a statement after weeks of silence on the issue following the Sept. 10 board meeting.

Serrano's response, however, didn't go without comment as BC faculty, students, and community supporters rallied together at the Bakersfield College campus to advocate for the BC president.



Sonya Christian

The BCSGA came together to show their support for Christian leading up to a Special Board Meeting on Sept. 17.

At the Special Board Meeting, the chancellor and trustees arrived to a full house of Christian's supporters.

During the open-session meeting, faculty, community leaders, and Bakersfield Mayor Harvey Hall spoke in support of Christian, urging the board to vote for the approval of Christian's contract.

After the board heard public comments, it went into closed session to further discuss the negotiations that needed to be made before they can bring it back to a vote.

After a lengthy closed-session meeting, the board came back and KCCD Board President Dennis Beebe stated, "There was no action taken during closed session, after a conference with the chancellor as negotiator the board has decided that further negotiations are unnecessary and that the contract will be placed on the board's October agenda."

Serrano stated that the board did not vote on the contract during the Sept. 17 board meeting because it was a Special Board Meeting and the KCCD can only vote on such during a regular board meeting. The contract will be voted on once again during the Oct. 6 board meeting.

Following the meeting Beebe, who had initially voted against the approval for the contract at the Sept. 10 board meeting, made it known that he would be voting for the approval of Christian's contract during the Oct. 6 board meeting.

At the Sept. 10 board meeting, the KCCD and Christian negotiated a contract that was recommended for approval and was

Please see Sonya, Page 5

Nexus aims to unite community

By Carissa Diaz
Reporter

Bakersfield College launched a new program that brings the alumni back to the community to help guide present students to become the new leaders of our community.

The new program Nexus stands for building a community together. The newest alumni program launched on campus focuses on giving current students a chance to learn from key leaders, alumni, such as Sen. Jean Fuller, Mayor Harvey Hall, and Congressman Kevin McCarthy.

The adviser of foundations, Angela Paquette stated, "We want to groom our current students into becoming both robust alumni and really strong future leaders of the community."

Many colleges have active alumni that are connected with current students and help raise money for student scholarships. Bakersfield College alumni are already active when it comes

to raising scholarship money, but the BC Foundations want to reach a higher level of including alumni in many projects.

The associates want to create a program on social aspects as well as other aspects that an alumni program normally is involved in. This would mean, for example, communicating and sharing personal experiences of their career. When Paquette was asked what message she wanted to send to the students, she said, "It takes a good degree in great training to launch a career, but I think it takes building a network and really engaging with the community to grow a career."

Nexus offers career development, networking, philanthropy, and other services.

Career development deals with educating students on their careers goals and what it is like to work in the work place. The program teams up with the alumni to host events.

By networking and showing students work opportunities, students get a chance to meet

alumni and gain knowledge on different careers that interest them.

Being a part of Nexus, students get the opportunity to become more involved in a philanthropy project that gives students a chance to give back to the community. The alumni have decided to do a student-to-student scholarship, which is student-raised money for other students to receive a scholarship.

Giving Rocks is the project that Nexus is currently working on. It is where a student makes an affordable donation, then after that donation is made, they receive a red key ring as a 'thank you' for being a part of the project. You do not need to be a part of Nexus; anyone can apply. The Nexus board votes and picks four to five winners that will receive the scholarship.

"One of the hallmarks of Kern County is that we tend to be a very giving community," Paquette stated. Paquette also added that most leaders in our

community are involved in a philanthropy project that makes them have a distinguished characteristic.

Community service is a well-known way to give back to the community. Nexus is showing students to volunteer at Bakersfield College and around town.

The group attends large-scale events around town to help clean up after the event happens.

When there are events on campus, Nexus extends their help even if it's as small as guiding people around Bakersfield College.

There are many ways that Nexus is being promoted. For example, SGA hosted the Student Involvement Festival and Club Day where Nexus began to spread the word of the new programs. The group will be placing their information table at a few football games this year, including a photo booth, backdrop and props for everyone to see what Nexus is about.

Another way Nexus is being promoted is through Career

Series where they invite guest speakers to educate the students with helpful information.

A variety of career paths are expressed during the Career Series gathering. It's a way to become familiar with other careers that may be of interest to students who are undecided on a career path. It is also helpful when it comes to gaining knowledge on building your resume and business.

Nexus was established at the beginning of the school year in 2015. Some began working on the program around the summer time, but as of now it has an amount of about 20 members and about six board members.

They plan on looking for more board members in the near future. To become a member you can contact Adviser Angela Paquette in Foundations or the President of Nexus, Tracy Hall, in the president's office.

Regular meetings are held in the Fireside room the first and third Thursday of each month from noon to 1 p.m.

New Agriculture Mechanics classes open to students at BC

By Victoria Miller
Opinions Editor

New Agriculture Mechanics classes are now available to Bakersfield College students.

According to Norman Oilar, a BC Agriculture instructor, these new classes will be beneficial to BC and its students.

"Agriculture Mechanics courses will benefit Bakersfield College as an opportunity to learn about the mechanized side of the Agricultural Industry. Bakersfield College students will have an opportunity to gain skills necessary to enter into the Food Processing area of Manufacturing, which is a growing career opportunity," he said.

Oilar says these classes will help students acquire multiple skills and knowledge, such as tools of the trades, electrical, plumbing, woodwork, fabrication, maintenance, welding & design, as well as equipment operation.

These classes will enable students to earn a degree in agriculture and possibly a certificate, says Oilar. "Initially, students can earn credit towards agriculture degrees in place. We hope to develop a local certificate in Agriculture Mechanics."

However, Oilar also mentioned that more work needs to be done on a state level to develop an Agriculture Mechanics Pathway for transfer degrees.

For more information regarding the agriculture programs available at BC, visit bakersfieldcollege.edu/agriculture.

Delano Grape Strike 50th anniversary

By Javier Valdes
Copy Editor

The Bakersfield College campus will be celebrating the Delano Grape Strike's 50th anniversary with a series of campus-wide events that illustrate the plight that sparked the farm labor movement of the 20th century.

The Sept. 23-25 events will serve as a reflective for the Delano Grape Strike, which led to the multiethnic farm laborer's union, the United Farm Workers.

The events range from a community dialogue focusing on environmental justice organizing in the 21st century, a panel presentation and discussion featuring Stephen Pitti and Raymond Rast, a book talk with Lauren Araiza on the black freedom struggle and the United Farm Workers, and a performance of Gary Soto's "In and Out of Shadows," a musical about the lives and experiences of a group of undocumented teenagers.

The anniversary celebration will conclude with a Sept. 26 all-day celebration organized by the United Farm Workers. The event will take place at the, now national historic landmark, Forty Acres complex just west of Delano.

The event will feature performances from the '65 strike, by the renowned Teatro Campesino and Danny Valdez. Those attending can also visit historic exhibits at the Forty Acres complex.

Journalists speak at first alumni Nexus event

By Carissa Diaz
Reporter

Alumni media journalists returned to Bakersfield College as guest speakers for Nexus's Career Series. Their interview gave students a chance to become familiar with a career path and gave tips on building oneself in the workplace.

On Sept. 18 Nexus hosted its first Career Series event of the year with guest Jeremy Price, President of iHeart radio Bakersfield, and Derek Jeffery, Vice President/General of KGET TV, Telemundo and CW Bakersfield.

The event was hosted at noon in the Fireside room, students gathered with their lunch and came prepared to take notes. There were desserts and choice of drinks provided for everyone. As the event started, President of Nexus Tracy Hall explained what the Nexus organization provides for the students. The alumni works with present students on career development, networking, philanthropy, and community service. The philanthropy projects include a Career Speaker Series, which bring alumni back to BC to educate the students.

The adviser, Angela Paquette, who is good friends with the alumni journalists, led the interview.

Bakersfield native, Derek Jeffery, graduated from Stockdale High School. He then attended Utah University where he was on an athletic scholarship and received his Bachelor's in Science in Broadcast Journalism. He also completed many courses at BC. In 2004 when he returned home, he began working as an unpaid weekend intern for KGET.

Jeffery decided that he needed something more so began working as a sales account executive and was then promoted at the

station to general sales manager after four years. As the years passed, he was promoted to vice president and general manager of KGET, Telemundo and CW in 2014. He is now married to an alumni Renegade with two children and has a brother who is in the Renegades Hall of Fame for athletics.

The other speaker, Jeremy Price, was also born and raised in Bakersfield, California. He graduated from Foothill High School. Price attended University of California, Los Angeles and Vanguard University of Southern California.

He started out as a general sales manager for CBS Radio-Fresno in 2006 for a year and then went on to become director of digital sales for 5 years. In 2009 he was General Sales Manager for Mega 97.9 Oldies until 2013 where he did Cumulus Media, Mega 97.9, and KWYE 101.1. He now is a Market President of iHeartMedia, which runs 5 radio stations in Bakersfield: KDFO 98.5FM, KBFP 105.3FM, KRAB 106.1FM, 800AM KBFP, and 970AM KHTY.

Jeffery spoke on his life growing up and said he knew he wanted to become a journalist. He was also very sure of wanting to be involved with television. He had a big dream to become the next big sports broadcaster, but once he received his degree he had a hard time finding his way into a journalism job. "I realized when I came home that a paper degree that you have is wonderful, but it's very, very hard to get your foot in the door," said Jeffery.

Price added that, when he attended college he wanted to become a history professor, but decided to go into business. While he sold suits he came across a radio editor and that's when he changed his mind. They both expressed how someone is never really sure of what they



Angela Paquette serves as moderator for guest speakers Jeremy Price and Derek Jeffery at the first Nexus Career series event at Bakersfield College on Sept. 17.

want to do in life and that it's fine. "If you're confused about what you want to be when you grow up, I was too," said Price.

Paquette asked the men about resume tips they would like to share with the students. They agreed that most of the time it's based on networking, who you know in the business. It's more helpful to know people because they're the ones that can put in a good word for you or show you how to go about the business.

Another big resume tip is being involved in the community. By taking time out to volunteer, you can open up many opportunities for yourself. It shows you care about people around you. After you send in a resume, it is best to call to show you're ready and if you have to keep sending in the resume.

Jeffery is involved in many associations such as Kern County Broadcaster Association Board,

the Police Activities Board, and Smile for a Lifetime Board, Bakersfield West Rotary International, and served eight years on the American Heart Association and Donate Life board. Price is involved in Bakersfield West Rotary International, The Salvation Army, Coalition for Urban Renewal Excellence, Hume Lake Christian Camps, and The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

The journalists described the value of being a Renegade is great because the students have a community to lean on. Especially being from the community, students have a greater chance of being involved. By connecting with students around you, it is a way of expanding your network. "Use local connections any way as possible," Derrick stated.

A big step students take with beginning a career is taking an

internship. Price and Jeffery gave tips on getting an internship position explaining that many students who are graduating this year apply in May, which means you're going up against many students at one time. If you apply and reach out earlier you have a greater chance of getting that spot. In terms of characteristics they look for confidence, being able to strongly communicate and impress in every way possible.

It is important to have experience; they look at it as giving time to what you want to do.

The young generation, 18-25 years of age, have a reputation of not wanting to work hard or at certain times of the day so students have to prove to managers they can. As president and managers of big company's, Price and Jeffery say they look forward to working with the young generation.

Bakersfield College hosts 61st annual Alumni Barbecue

By Carl E. Littleberry Jr.
Reporter

Bakersfield College hosted the 61st Annual Fall Alumni Barbecue on Thursday Sept. 17th in the BC Fireside room attempting to raise funds for the Athletic Department.

Focusing on fall sports some key BC sports in attendance were the football and cross-country teams, along with women's soccer and volleyball.

Showing their support for the fall teams, many alumni were in attendance for the event.

As usual, the BC Culinary Department led by head chef Eric Sebella provided the food for the evening. The menu consisted of grilled New York steaks and barbecue chicken as the main courses. The sides offered were chili beans, with tossed salad topped with special vinai-grette dressing.

For dessert the culinary departed of-

ered an assortment of Ben and Jerry's

Ice cream as one choice, and fried donuts as another.

Acting as host of the barbecue, BC Sports Information Director, Francis Mayer, opened with a short speech thanking those who came in support of the Renegades.

"I would like to thank everyone for their support of our Athletic Department. These athletes are working hard everyday and I know they appreciate what you're doing here today." After a few more words from Mayer, he relinquished the podium to BC President Sonya Christian.

Before Christian could utter a word, the entirety of the audience rose up to give her a two-minute standing ovation showing their support for the recently embattled president.

Addressing the raucous crowd, Christian spoke mainly on the effect the athletics have on students' lives also giving thanks to the coaches and staff for their efforts with the student athletes.

Finishing the speech, Christian chose to show a more personal side thanking the faculty and students for their support over her recent contract talks. "I wouldn't be here without you people right here. From parents to students, I deeply thank you.... I truly appreciate what this school has done for me in my life."

After the candid speech from Christian, Coach Dahl, the head coach of the women's basketball team, lead the crowd in a "WE ARE BC" chant leaving Christian at a loss for words as she exited the podium.

After the lengthy chanting from the crowd, Mayer returned to the podium to auction off a few goodies to the guests.

The big winner of the night was BC Athletic Director Sandi Taylor winning a 45" flat-screen television.

After the raffle, Mayer gave way to the BC drum-line and cheerleaders for separate performances.

After the performances, Becki Whitson, the BC cheerleading coach, ended



Culinary Arts major Andrea Navano prepares New York cut steaks for the BC Alumni barbecue held on Sept. 17.

with closing remarks for the audience, "Thank you everyone for coming tonight, we do this every year and it's because of the great people who come through BC every year that we can do this."

Annual Kern County Fair is back in town

By Crystal Valdez
Reporter

The Kern County Fair is making its annual comeback to Bakersfield and students at Bakersfield College are looking forward to it. There will be a medley of carnival food, rides and games, musical performances – as well as animal interactive events, and these are only a fraction of what this year's fair has to offer.

Biology major Michael Martinez, 20, stated "I already have money set aside just for fair food, so I'd say I'm mostly looking forward to the food. There are so many options to choose from. My favorites are definitely funnel cakes, and anything wrapped in bacon."

Child development major Marisela Zavala, 20, stated, "I'm going this year with my boyfriend. It's the first time we go together as a couple, and I'm super excited! We're going to the rodeo. I've never been to one before, but he loves it. It should be a lot of fun."

For many busy students on campus, the KC Fair will serve as an opportunity to have fun and spend time with friends and family.

"The fair food and the games are great and all, but I'm more excited to spend time with my family outside of the house. With both work and school, it's been difficult to make time for people who are important to me," stated

fire safety major Arcadio Garcia, 21.

Garcia emphasized the importance of spending a day at the KC Fair with those who mean a lot to him. Times have been hectic and stressful for his family, so Garcia is looking forward to watch them focus on fun for the day.

Child development major Noemi De La Torre, 19, mentioned that she is going to the KC Fair with her boyfriend this year.

"We're excited to share a funnel cake, but we're mostly excited for the concerts. We're going for Love and Theft, and Parmalee," she stated.

The KC Fair will host a variety of live music events every night at the Bud Weiser Pavilion. In addition to Love and Theft and Parmalee, The Beach Boys will perform on opening night, and R&B singer and songwriter Ashanti will perform later during the first week.

KC Fair CEO Mike Olcott is confident that the lineup this year will entertain fairgoers because "There is something for everyone. The lineup is great this year. We got a lot of great acts for everyone's age group and what everybody's interested in: country, r&b, rock, Christian, to name just a few," stated Olcott.

All concerts are free and abide by a first come first serve basis. For those who want a front row seat, punctuality is crucial.

There will also be various events at the KC Fair to entertain guests. A prominent theme this



JAVIER VALDES / THE RIP

The annual Kern County Fair will open its doors Sept. 23 where there will be a newly expanded adult carnival area.

year is animals.

Butterfly Adventures is making a comeback, as well as the Pollywood Bird Show.

There will be many animal races this year, including the Turkey Stampede, the All-Alaskan Racing Pigs, and the new Great

American Duck Race. Olcott said, "The kids love the racing pigs, and the turkeys, too."

He is also confident that these events will provoke positive reactions from children and parents alike.

Olcott additionally confirmed

that the adult carnival area has been expanded in order to prevent crowding, and the children's carnival area will welcome a new attraction.

The KC Fair will take place Sept. 23-Oct. 4. Adult admission is \$10, and senior (ages 55+)

admission is \$9. Children (ages 6-12) admission is \$5; children under 6, as well as active or retired military personnel, get in for free.

For more information about events and additional costs, visit kerncountypfair.com.

Handheld vs. home consoles

By Chris Miller
Reporter

When asked whether they prefer the higher production value offered in home-console gaming or the convenience and portability of handheld gaming, three out of five Bakersfield College gamers said they like a mixture of both.

Ian Bean, 28, has been playing videogames since 1992. He has played on many gaming consoles including the Atari, the Sega Game-Gear, PC, and every GameBoy, Nintendo home console, Xbox console, and PlayStation console ever made.

Murillo identifies himself as both a casual and hardcore gamer who often dabbles in the competitive nature of Pokémon Omega Ruby.

Murillo stated that he likes home console gaming and handheld gaming equally because he can play either with friends online or locally. He later commented that, "What really matters is the game library."

The other two BC gamers said they were die-hard home-console fans.

Timothy Giese, 20, has been gaming for 15 years. The consoles he's owned range from the Sega Dreamcast and Nintendo 64 to the GameBoy and the PlayStation Vita.

Giese identifies himself as a casual gamer who plays solely to enjoy the game.

Giese has played a variety of gaming consoles but said, "I prefer home-console gaming because there are more high-quality



CINTHIA LOERA / THE RIP

BC student Brennan Williamson plays video games on his Nintendo DS in the cafeteria.

games available."

Chris Storer, 27, has been gaming his entire life and claims to have played on every known system except for the Sega Dreamcast.

When asked whether he identifies himself as a hardcore or casual gamer he went on to say,

"About 75% of the time I'm a casual gamer, but I do partake in many tournaments for Smash 4

with Pro Lab Gaming."

Storer plays on a variety of gaming systems but prefers home console overall since the majority of the time he plays on his PlayStation 3.

BC hosts transfer event

By Cinthia Loera
Reporter

The College Transfer Fair was held in the Campus Center and the Fireside Room from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sept. 14. This event was organized to give students an opportunity to speak to a variety of university representatives and to be able to get information on the transfer process.

Students were able to have one-on-one conversations with



CINTHIA LOERA / THE RIP

Students speak to university representatives to learn more information about each school at the College Transfer Fair.

representatives and have any of their questions answered.

Some of the universities that attended included: UC Santa Cruz, Humboldt State University, CSU Bakersfield, CSU East Bay, CSU Sacramento and UC Merced, just to name a few.

When asked what they wished to accomplish by participating in the transfer fair, representatives agreed that their main goals were exposure, recruitment, and to inform students about the options each school has to offer.

UC Merced's admissions ad-

viser, Esmeralda Renteria, stated, "My goal is that your students leave with the information they need to transfer to our campus."

Renteria went on to mention that she had already encountered some BC students interested in a certain major but were misinformed and taking courses that were not needed.

According to CSUB representative, Alicia Iniguez, said, "Talking to as many universities as possible is the most important thing a student should do."

One school that stood out was Columbia College Hollywood, which is a private nonprofit film school. Senior Director of Enrollment Management Angelo Lioudakis said the college attends transfer fairs across the country as well as internationally.

"There's a lot of folks that don't realize it's [Columbia College Hollywood] not just about acting and film making," he said.

"There's actually a film business

that also requires people to have math skills, English skills, accounting skills, and so forth."

Lioudakis went on to say one of their goals in being a part of these types of transfer fairs is to educate students about getting educated. During the fair, students were seen walking table to table and taking advantage of the information that was available to them from each school.

BC student Ashley Craig believes the transfer fair can get students amped up about wanting to actually transfer as well inform them about which schools offer their major, which can help them in the decision making process.

Another student, Mariah Craig, said the biggest thing she got out of attending the fair was finding out when she is able to meet with the department head at CSUB to have her psychology major further explained.

"I wouldn't have done that without this [fair]," said Craig.

Village fest was another success

By Alex Rivera
Reporter

Local vendors, breweries, and wineries all made their way once again to the Kern County Museum for the annual Village Fest festival on Sept. 12.

Village Fest was another soldout event with tickets being limited to the first 4,500 guests at \$73 per ticket. The Kern County Museum had no choice but to send many people waiting in line home due to the venue reaching its full capacity.

The ticket prices seemed high to many local residents for only four hours, but with a purchase of a ticket, it included 5 stages for 17 bands, unlimited beer and wine, samples from 60 plus breweries and 30 plus wineries, as well as unlimited food samples from 30 local restaurants. It's no wonder many residents pile up and wait for Bakersfield's party of the year.

This year's Village Fest offered a sports tent for partygoers to watch and enjoy sporting events occurring during the festival, but while the event mainly focuses on live entertainment, beer, and food there is much more to it.

All the proceeds from Village Fest ticket sales go to the non-profit organization, C.A.R.E. (Children's Advocates Resource Endowment), whom raises money for children charities in Kern County.

The high ticket pricing didn't concern many who attended because many came with the knowledge that the money would help our local charities.

Village Fest is not only Bakersfield's biggest party we have once a year, but it is also one of the biggest fundraisers for all of our local children charities.

Topics of abortion covered in Levan Center

By Victoria Miller
Opinions Editor

The Gadfly Café hosted their first discussion this semester in the Norman Levan Center on Sept. 15, regarding the topic of abortion without access.

Led by Rene Trujillo, a philosophy professor at Bakersfield College, the discussion invited faculty, staff, students, and others in the community to share their ideas and beliefs about the controversial subject.

The discussion covered the multiple complexities within the topic of abortion, including the unequal burden of the abortion on the women versus the men, the problems that women face when access to abortion clinics are limited, and the moral questions that accompany the idea of abortion.

A variety of perspectives were expressed concerning abortion. One of the perspectives given was from Jennifer Smith, organizer of Pro-Choice Kern Coun-

ty, who said a child should be wanted and cared for.

When another attendee mentioned the idea that women who have had multiple abortions should have their tubes tied, Smith replied with facts. "You won't find a doctor to tie your tubes if you are under a certain age, and if you are married and separated, you'll need consent from your husband before the doctor will proceed."

Another idea that was ex-

pressions were limited, access to sexual education needs to be more prominent, and it was agreed by multiple attendees that Kern County is lacking in that department.

Trujillo brought up abortion-related events that have made national headlines. One of these situations was the woman in Ireland who was denied an abortion although she could not healthily carry the child, which led to both the mother and fetus's death. Trujillo mentioned in some cas-

es, pregnancy is seen as a "death sentence".

Rick Perry and Texas's legislation regarding abortion was also highly discussed. Trujillo asked the question, "Because we claim we have a right to these services, does that make government responsible to provide them to us?"

One attendee answered that if our government wants to protect their people, they need to provide a safe outlet because abortions will continue to happen, legally

or illegally.

Trujillo spoke about a quote from Judith Thomas. "Abortion is not the termination of life, but the unwillingness to provide for that life."

He said it was important not to over-theorize abortion and make it academic because it is a real, emotional thing that people experience.

The next Gadfly Café discussion will be held Oct. 13, 12:30-1:30 p.m. in the Levan Center regarding marriage equality.

5K dash and walk support MADD



RHIANNON STROBERG / THE RIP

Walkers, runners, and family members gather around the finish line to cheer on the other walkers and runners coming in at the 2nd annual Walk Like MADD event held at River Walk park on Sept. 19.

By AK Pachla
Reporter

The Park at River Walk hosted the second annual Walk Like MADD/MADD Dash 5K on Sept. 19. Community partners, law enforcement, victims and advocates gathered to share stories, raise awareness, and take action to end drinking and driving in Kern County.

The California Office of Traffic Safety, in the most recent numbers available, counted nearly 650 alcohol involved fatality or injury crashes in Kern County for 2012, including 262 pedestrians.

"We have an epidemic here," says MADD victim advocate and family survivor Carla Pearson, standing next to a windowed trailer holding a wrecked car, a mechanical casualty of drinking and driving.

"We have a problem with people who make a choice to drink and drive," said Pearson.

Pearson lost her son Adam to a repeat offender drunk driver in 2002.

The event isn't just for victims and families. Walk manager Tina Harland hasn't been personally affected by drunk driving and says it "wasn't really on my radar" until coming to work for Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

After having seen firsthand the devastation a drunk driver can inflict on a family, Harland

says she is motivated to educate others on the dangers of driving under the influence in order to prevent tragedy, both for her family and the other families of Kern County.

It is the mission of Kern County MADD to get that number as close to zero as possible. "It's not about drinking," says Harland. "It's about making a responsible choice."

It is a choice with far reaching consequences.

At the park, two empty chairs sit beside the family of Bakersfield College nursing student Christina Valadez. On Jan. 17, 2014, Vanessa Carillo, Valadez' cousin-in-law, and her unborn daughter Khloe were struck and killed by a repeat offender drunk driver.

"It's a split second that could change your life forever," explains Valadez. Saying the consequences of drunk driving extend from prosecution to personal injury and worse.

"Every day we're still grieving," Valadez tells the Rip. Her family has attended Walk Like MADD/MADD Dash 5K at River Walk for the last two years, helping to raise community awareness and put the faces and names of people to the problem.

Kern County MADD welcomes community sponsorship, as well as offering volunteer opportunities for residents who want to make a difference in the

drunk driving statistics in Bakersfield.



RHIANNON STROBERG / THE RIP

Kailynn Tackett, 2, is seen petting Macho, a miniature horse, with Officer Sonja Peery at A Life Interrupted booth set up at the 2nd annual Walk Like MADD event.

drunk driving statistics in Bakersfield.

Anyone interested in contacting MADD is encouraged to

call the Kern County Mothers Against Drunk Driving at 916-481-6233.

The event raised \$43,000.

New club brings art, theater and music together

By AK Pachla
Reporter

Art, theatre, music: a new student club at Bakersfield College, intends to make its Fall 2015 inaugural season a truly royal affair.

ATM club president Monique Hansen envisions "A Knight to Remember" as an Elizabethan-style performance, where the audience itself plays the role of Shakespearian groundlings, offering their appreciation ... along with maybe some coin ... for the performers.

Hansen describes the ATM club as "a travelling acting and improvisation group" performing at large.

"We want to be able to tie in the community," she says, but to make a future for the club, it needs the community's help. The idea behind the Shakespearean style is to encourage club sponsorship, both from the student audience and the larger Bakersfield community.

While there is currently no firm date set for the event, auditions are under way and ongoing. Singers, poets, presenters, actors and musicians alike have auditioned for a spot in the lineup, and ATM is excited to add more performers and club members.

Singer and ATM Vice President Destinee Hernandez says the club is geared for universal

artistic acceptance. Hernandez calls ATM "a chance for us to be able to be a family, to bond, and to show each other our talents, both emotionally and physically."

Hansen, a self-described "theater geek" with a background in acting and dramatic reading, has scheduled a month full of club meetings and open auditions in an effort to include as many BC artists as possible. In September alone, three open auditions have already been held; with three more on the way, and the cast list is growing steadily.

ATM will be holding open auditions from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Fireside Room (located in the Campus Center foyer)

on Sept. 23-24 and Sept. 29. Performing artists of all styles, types, and skill levels are welcome and encouraged to audition. Auditions are also available by appointment if artists have scheduling conflicts.

Students who are interested in auditioning for a spot in the "A Knight to Remember" performance lineup are invited to attend one of the scheduled open auditions. Prospective performers may contact the club via their Facebook page (search ATMatBC at www.facebook.com), or email Monique Hansen at mogarcia93306@gmail.com to schedule an audition or for more information about the club.

partment.

Sunny Mueller, specialist for The Kern County Mental Health Department, handles the Kern County Mental Health Hotline and the volunteer hotline program where they train volunteers in the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) to prepare them to recognize and provide interventions to individuals with suicidal intentions.

"We handle 2,000 calls a month on average and get 22,000 to 24,000 calls a year," Mueller stated. "Fifteen percent to 20% of those crisis calls are immediately suicidal."

Mueller said that the most challenging call was about someone who had cut a wrist in an alleyway and didn't know where they were.

"Not only did I have to calm them down," he said, "but I also had to pinpoint their location for medical attention."

There were 300 people in attendance and they raised over \$11,000 through the raffles, bracelets, and T-shirt sales.

Walk held at Beach Park to bring awareness to suicides

By Felicity Tomiska
Reporter

The first annual Stomp Out Suicide Walk was held at Beach Park on Sept. 12 from 7:30 a.m. to noon.

Ellen Eggert, board member of the Save A Life Today organization, wanted to bring awareness to everyone about the seriousness of suicide, whether it's a close friend or family member. Having lost two brothers to suicide, Eggert wanted to get involved with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

She believes that no one takes it seriously and she doesn't want anyone to go through losing someone to suicide like she did. Eggert hopes this event will continue to be a success in the future.

At the event, several resources were available such as The Bakersfield American Indian Project, CSUB's Counseling Training Clinic, U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, and the Kern County Mental Health De-

Technicians come to BC

By AK Pachla
Reporter

On Sept. 16, Lt. Jason Townsend's 6 p.m. Introduction to Evidence class welcomed Bakersfield Police crime scene technicians Jeff Cecil and Lisa Wedeking-White to talk about the process of evidence collection, share a few experiences, and demonstrate some of the tools CSTDs use to help solve crimes.

Cecil drew on his 14 years of experience as a Bakersfield Police Department crime scene technician and certified latent fingerprint examiner during the visit, showing photographs and sharing stories.

Cecil also demonstrated the electrostatic footprint collection technology currently in use by police departments all over America. Police service technician Lisa Wedeking-White accompanied Cecil.

She had been a private business owner for 15 years before deciding she wanted, "A real, grown-up job."

After training, Wedeking-White was hired as a PST for the Bakersfield Police in 2012.

After speaking to the class, she pulled out the magnetic powder and brushes for traditional fingerprint collection.

Cecil and Wedeking-White told the students that crime scene procedure is nothing like what they may have seen on television. They explained the process and stressed the importance of evidence preservation and conservation. The evidence documenting process requires technicians to spend an average of eight hours at each crime scene they process.

Crime scene technicians work on an "on-call" schedule. Wedeking-White describes her workweek as "8 a.m. on Monday to 8 a.m. on Monday." In fact, Cecil explained that Wedeking-White's phone was on at that very moment, and said if a call came in, they may have to cut their visit short.

Another sharp difference between television CSIs and real life PSTs is the distance maintained between the evidence collection process and the physical enforcement of law.

Police service technicians have virtually no contact with



LISA WEDEKING-WHITE demonstrates to students how to recover fingerprints during a crime lab demonstration.

suspects and are, by the nature of the job, removed from the actual event, sometimes by years.

This, Cecil admitted during his footprint collection demonstration, presents evidence preservation challenges as well. Evidence protection isn't the priority of first responders, and he says the easiest type of shoeprints to recover using electrostatically charged Mylar floor sheets are "The 511s (regulation uniform boots) that the police officers wear."

Cecil is quick to point out that this is incidental on the part of the officers. "They're out there trying to save lives or find suspects." Traditional fingerprint collection can also be problematic.

During her demonstration, Wedeking-White showed how lack of oil on someone's skin

might make his or her fingerprints more difficult to recover. The nature of the surface being dusted for fingerprints is less problematic. Wedeking-White demonstrated this by pulling a fingerprint off a golf ball using special transfer putty to pull the dust out of the divots.

After seeing the presentation, administration of justice major Kyle Brawley Fowler shared his career plan. Fowler chose administration of justice because of the variety of career paths such a degree can open. Fowler says the demonstrations left him with a better understanding of evidence collection and gave him advice about where and how police might be able to find evidence.

"It makes you think twice about where you put your feet or hands."

FOREIGN: BC has increased its amount of international students

Continued from Page 1

required, they each pay \$3,504 each semester plus the additional costs, which then total to an astounding \$4,230 per student per semester. The amount per each of the 70 students enrolled this fall result in an approximate grand total of \$296,100 additional income for BC this semester.

These students are required to pay all of these fees out of pocket. According to Rahman, they do not qualify for financial aid and are not allowed to work off-campus. However, they are eligible for scholarships and on-campus employment after one or two semesters are completed at BC. The biggest issue for these students is housing.

"BC does not provide housing for our students. Without social security, apartment living arrangements can be difficult. If they don't have family or friends to stay with, they often arrive at hotels or motels, which can be expensive even if it's just for the first few weeks," stated Rahman.

"We are looking for student help. Nowadays, out of state and international students are very mobile. However, our international students don't have the paperwork to facilitate the housing issue. Fellow students who could offer a room for rent would be a great help."

Rahman also discussed a new trend. While it is easier for students to arrive with family who currently reside in Bakersfield, more students are risk-takers.

They arrive alone with no family to welcome them and nowhere to stay. This is in part because of online resources.

According to Rahman: "The ISA used to only revolve around word of mouth. Students would recommend BC to their friends and family back home. Now they have more accessibility to information on our school's website and on Facebook. Students learn about us and they are interested, resulting in a substantial increase in enrollment and admission."

This increase in numbers caused a reaction. The Bakersfield College Student Government Association (BCSGA) is currently working on a housing project in order to alleviate the stress placed on these students who seek better opportunities.

As far as acculturation and assimilation, international students adapt easily.

"We are a global village. They watch the movies we watch, and they listen to the music we listen to. A more prevalent issue is language," said Rahman.

Students are typically capable of understanding English in a classroom setting. Rahman said that English comprehension depends on the country of origin. Students from countries such as England, Canada, and India are proficient in English because it is studied. Students from countries such as Saudi Arabia have a more difficult time learning to improve their bilingual skills.

There is an International Student Club on campus. However, Rahman stated that ISA students typically do not participate in extracurricular activities.

The amount of time and money spent to be admitted to BC, as well as time dedicated to studying in order to avoid status termination is constantly placed in consideration. Education is the main priority. Thus, international students are usually successful at BC.

"Our students are very intelligent. A lot of them are tutors or they do supplemental instruction. Some transfer within two or three years, some graduate within four to five years. Some do practical job training and others choose to go back home," said Rahman.

An ISA alumnus who overcame poverty and hunger to beat the odds recently contacted her. This former student is now married, a U.S. citizen, and is working on her master's degree.

"It really touched my heart. In her letter she said that none of that could have been possible without our help," she stated.

Rahman concluded, "These students are our global ambassadors. They are exchanging their values from around the world and they are contributing to the increased cultural understanding at BC. Our campus is definitely enriched by attendance of international students, and we hope to double this number by Fall 2016."

you would have to come visit me so I could sign off on a paper that petitions for you to take the course again. Now once again in other classes, attempting the class a third time is possible, but it's not that simple with these high-demand classes."

The only problem, in regards to students getting the third opportunity, is that they don't have the ability to register for the course until two weeks after open registration, which means other students have first priority.

"We have altered our curriculum so we could get more students in," Saldivar mentioned. "Previously, our courses that were a two-semester course were four- and five-unit classes. We are now currently four and four, so we can now actually get more students in there."

A bigger problem that Saldivar states that students have is not understanding that when their priority registration window opens up.

BC cuts water usage on campus

By Felicity Tomisaka
Reporter

Bakersfield College has taken steps to reduce water usage in this drought.

For three years now, BC has changed their water patterns starting with some replacements with toilets and have been making additional efforts to improve the BC water usage.

Amir Birjandi, Maintenance and Operations Director at BC, explains that he is trying to eliminate unnecessary grass areas by adding sod or bark instead.

Amber Chiang, Director of

Marketing and Public Relations here at BC, said, "The drought doesn't affect marketing, but it does change how we communicate about it and it has required that I learn about the drought and how BC wants to respond to it."

This also affects the community's perception of BC, which contradicts with the markets ap-

peal. Chiang said, "Sprinklers, for example, break every day which causes a perception problem. These things happen every day. By taking a picture of it and sending it to the media makes it a PR & marketing problem."

During the summer the staff was messaged about the change in the watering patterns and staff will hand water trees.

"We have also asked them to report any sprinklers that have been running longer than necessary and not just walk by them."

Chiang runs BC's emergency notification system and oversees the all student list, only sends emails to students if its of broad importance, and asks students to report any broken sprinklers by sending her an email so she can pass it on to maintenance and operations.

SONYA: Contract is set to be voted on

Continued from Page 1

expected to be approved. The contract, though, was ultimately rejected.

Six days later, Serrano responded with a public letter regarding the contract issue.

Throughout her lengthy response regarding allegations made on how Christian's evaluation was leaked to the press and the content of the employee evaluation, Serrano defended herself.

She stated that the document was, "For her [Christian] eyes only for reflection and correction," and where she continued to affirm that she retained sole access to the district's copy of Christian's evaluation and that the other existing copy was in

Christian's possession, denying rumors that she had leaked the evaluation to the press.

Many of Christian's supporters dismissed Serrano's public letter for allegedly contradicting what was stated in the June 2015 evaluation.

In a published Facebook note, BC professor Nick Strobel called Serrano's public letter "false" stating that, "The evaluation was NOT 'for reflection and correction.' The evaluation dated June 2015 tells Sonya to find employment elsewhere... 'reflection and correction' really?"

Serrano refers to Christian's evaluation where Serrano wrote, "Regardless of Dr. Christian's talents and accomplishments,

her leadership style is not compatible with the procedures and thus operation of a multi-college district. It is recommended that Dr. Christian seek a chief executive office in a single college district where she will have the responsibility and authority she seeks," further supporting claims that Christian's review wasn't for reflection and correction but a blunt request that she seek a different job elsewhere.

Serrano defended allegations that she had released the evaluation by stating that Christian disclosed that she had provided a copy of her evaluation to one or more of her faculty and administrators, confirming that Christian's evaluation wasn't released by the KCCD.

NURSING: Students in the nursing program struggle to get into classes

Continued from Page 1

use models and we have to use different supplies and equipment and unfortunately, those things can be expensive. For example, if we have a torso model, that's \$16,000. We also have a couple of heart models; those are a couple of thousand dollars, and we have 24 students in a class. We would love to have six models of hearts for four students. It'd be tough to have one heart model there and be like 'all right, all 24 of you come up and take a look.' That would be really tough."

According to Saldivar, another reason why the high-demand classes are always filled up is because students who haven't had success in passing the class the first time are trying to attempt these classes again. "That's why faculty tries telling the students to pass the class the first time," said Saldivar.

"Let's assume that you were in biology 32," Saldivar explained. "That's the first semester of anat-

omy physiology class. You were taking the class and for whatever reason you withdrew or received a D or an F. Now you cannot reregister for the course until grades have been posted."

Saldivar further explained by saying, "Let's assume this semester's grades will be posted on December 15. Well, registration for classes for the spring semester opens up in November. You would not get in. You would have to wait until registration opens up for the following summer semester or the fall semester."

Another issue that Saldivar mentioned is what would happen in the event that a student didn't pass the class a second time?

"If you take the class a second time and for whatever reason something happens and you either fail the class or withdraw again, the BC and state policy is that students get two opportunities to attempt the class," Saldivar explained. "If you wanted to attempt the class a third time,

"When your window opens up at 12:01 a.m. on November 15, you get yourself on that computer and start registering for these classes as soon as possible," Saldivar encouraged. "I understand in other classes, you could say, 'Oh, I'll get to it later,' but two or three days in, these classes are full, including the waitlist."

Saldivar also stated that because these are such high-demand classes, getting on the waitlist does not guarantee that you'll get a spot in the class.

In regards to the lack of faculty in the biology department, Saldivar stated that every year, each department receives something called an annual program review that gives the departments an opportunity to submit a document to administration that explains and informs them about what is needed for the department.

"We have been very fortunate with our administration because whenever we have someone retire from our department, they

[BC's administration] have been very kind by replacing them," Saldivar said. "However, we would like additional faculty, so I have been putting on that document that I think we can support and argue that we can really offer many more courses."

Saldivar also said that he could guarantee that if he offered 10 more courses, such as Bio 32, Bio 33, and Bio 60 micro, they would fill up.

"I know that, I absolutely know that," Saldivar stated. "It's just the matter of can I make the argument and will the administration support my argument, but absolutely! We would love to offer more courses!"

Several issues involving hiring more faculty members would be the fact that the department is lacking funds due to the expensive models, supplies, and equipment needed for demonstration for the nursing program.

"The problem is that we would love to bring in more faculty so

we can offer more courses," mentioned Saldivar. "It's just a matter of the number of faculty and having available funds for hiring faculty, more models, and simulated blood."

When it comes to trying to be successful in the nursing department, Saldivar encourages students by saying, "The big key is if you're in these classes, work hard, get extra help, and study your butt off because the last thing you would want to do is to fail the class and then have to somehow try to retake it. That's where we see the bottleneck of students that are trying to retake it."

Furthermore, Saldivar also tries to encourage students to register for their classes as soon as their open registration window opens and for them to also try and pass these classes the first time so they would not have to encounter this repetitive cycle of trying to find their way back into these classes.

The debate continues for professional athlete pay

PRO

CON

By Giovanni Lopez
Reporter

What is a professional athlete worth? Whatever their skills, strengths and popularity are, making athletes worth every cent they are paid.

I hate to be so blunt and honest, but it's absolutely true. They are considered the best of the best at what they do. Best at passing basketballs, best at throwing footballs, best at kicking soccer balls, anything that they touch has to be seen as the best.

Once you are considered an athlete playing at the pro level, then comes the popularity you have among the millions of people that watch you perform. How much are people willing to pay to support you?

Take Giovanni Dos Santos, starting forward for the Mexico National Soccer team. The dude is 26 years old, and he's in his prime. Also the L.A. Galaxy, a Major League Soccer team, just paid \$10.1 million for his trade to their club. Now, there are obviously other athletes that are making more, but Dos Santos is a huge example of why they are paid so much.

Dos Santos is one of the most popular players in Mexico, and what city decides to buy him? That would be Los Angeles, the largest Mexican ancestry city in the U.S., with over 30 percent of their population being of Mexican descent.

While L.A. Galaxy is already one of the most popular teams, the U.S. hasn't always had the largest turn out for professional soccer. The people of Mexico, on the other hand, are fanatics. So, you take one of their best, place them on your team, and what do you get?

You get a packed stadium, which means higher revenue. Fans are going crazy to watch Dos Santos play.

From the moment he arrived, there were hundreds waiting for him at the airport. He's selling more jerseys, more tickets, and more soccer in general.

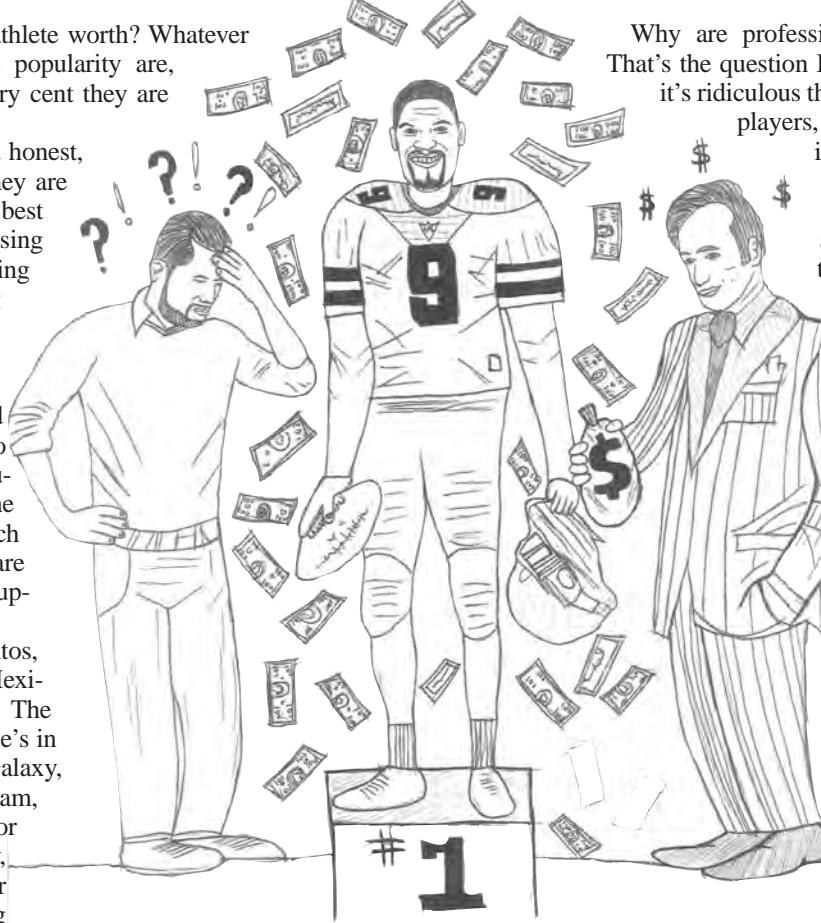
Think of it this way, if you were talented at something, and you knew people were willing to pay hundreds, thousands, millions to watch you perform your talent, would you believe that you don't deserve to receive some of that money?

Dos Santos has brought a larger consumer to MLS, that hasn't been done before. He has only been officially part of the team since July of this year, but has already had a huge impact. And yes, Galaxy also signed David Beckham a few years ago, but Dos Santos was six years younger when he signed with the team and is at the top of his game.

Actors and musicians are paid millions to perform, so why not athletes? They're also entertainers. They travel, are away from their families, and are trained to be the best. What makes a soccer player different?

Their values are a constant factor throughout their careers. It's a constant topic that makes it easier for people to criticize that they make too much. How can they make too much when they are bringing in the revenue?

The sport has to pay up. If you want to stop paying athletes so much, stop attending their games.



ALBERT VARGAS "NIMAK" / THE RIP

By Rhiannon Stroberg
Features Editor

Why are professional athletes paid so much? That's the question I'd like to be answered. I think it's ridiculous that pro athletes, such as football players, are paid handsomely considering that the sport mainly consists of a bunch of buff men in tights tackling and chasing each other around over a ball, just for them to score a touchdown.

Football to me is overrated. I don't see the appeal in it, but since it's apparently America's favorite pastime, I have no choice but to listen to the non-stop annoying hoopla that is usually generated after every game. Some of the annoyances are emphasized early in the season. The NFL recently kicked off their season with the New England Patriots vs. the Pittsburgh Steelers. Anyone who is familiar with the Patriots is aware of their quarterback Tom Brady, but do they know about the recently traded Asante Cleveland? Cleveland, a tight end from the University of Miami, went undrafted

last year and ended up with the San Francisco 49ers. On Aug. 18, Cleveland was traded to the Patriots and managed to land himself a spot on

the scout teams, which is basically a 10-man group the NFL keeps not to play in the regular season games, but to develop for the future with limited opportunities for the players to prove themselves and no real job security. In other words, they are the bottom of the NFL food chain.

The only question left is how much would someone, who ranked low enough to land them on the scout team, make? \$20,000? \$30,000? Try \$102,000. That's how much Cleveland's one-year deal with New England is for. Cleveland is basically being paid to lift weights and stand around in sweats on Sundays. That's basically the life of your typical gym-rat.

The NFL is projecting revenue of more than \$12 billion for this year, an estimated \$1 billion increase from last year, and roughly a \$1 billion increase from 2014 with the MLB and NBA following not far behind; and whether you're LeBron James, Bryce Harper, or this year's "Mr. Irrelevant," a title traditionally given to the last player selected in the NFL, you've contributed to those huge profits and you probably deserve a cut of the cake.

I'm not even going to try and guess how many millions top-tier athletes generate through endorsements deals with companies like Nike, Gatorade and Adidas.

While pro athletes' pay is absolutely ridiculous to me, it's crazier thinking how much control the NFL has over their players because of the endorsements of big-name brands. Bose, a company that specializes in audio equipment, is one of the many big-named companies that endorse the NFL. As long as Bose is endorsing the NFL, NFL players are not allowed to publicly use rival brand's headphones. For example, in 2014, 49ers' quarterback Colin Kaepernick was fined \$10,000 for wearing Beats By Dre headphones to a press conference. I think that is absolutely ridiculous. Regardless of what I think, I'm just an average Jane who's opinion to the NFL, or other pro athletes, doesn't matter.

Demand for stricter gun laws keeps Americans divided when dealing with gun ownership laws

By Victoria Miller
Opinions Editor

Gun control has been a very hot topic in recent years. With shooting's in shopping malls, movie theaters, universities and schools, many Americans are asking for laws that will implement some new form of gun control. The problem with these laws is the potential for infringing on our second amendment rights, and that is why America is torn over the question of gun control.

The most recent shooting tragedy that has Americans talking about gun control happened Aug. 26 when a reporter and cameraman were shot and killed on live television by a former coworker.

The father of the slain reporter, Andy Parker, can be seen on various media outlets, directly asking the president and the nation in general to do "something about crazy people getting guns." This is where my mind begins to fill with feelings and questions of unease.

Parker wants something done about crazy people getting guns

presumably by stricter and more extensive background checks, but what does this really mean?

In this case, the shooter passed a background check when he legally purchased the gun he used to kill this reporter and cameraman because he had no criminal record.

So what will be the defining points on what makes someone crazy?

Will this categorization of crazy only be reserved for anyone who has a clear chaotic diagnosis and outstanding incidents on their record to match?

Or does the range of this category extend to someone who occasionally sees a psycholo-

gist for signs of depression and anxiety? How about returning veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder. Should they be considered crazy and unable to protect themselves with a firearm because they have a mental disorder?

Also, are these extensive background checks even constitutional? The right to protect ourselves with firearms is one of our most basic rights. Some think it's necessary to give up our rights in order to be protected by law, but we have these rights so we can protect ourselves.

Guns are completely banned in

England. Instead of this law having the desired effect of reducing homicides and other crimes, it only increased the amount of

crimes and homicides happening with other weapons, such as knives.

Another problem with preventing a larger group of Americans from purchasing firearms is the fact that guns are available illegally as well.

Won't this only give business to gangs and cartels? If someone is so determined to get their hands on a firearm, they will eventually find a way to attain one.

In the Sandy Hook shooting (arguably the most tragic shooting case in recent times) the shooter, Adam Lanza, stole his mother's guns. Lanza's mother legally purchased these guns.

Lanza sidestepped the law, and there will always be people who sidestep the law. So these suggested laws of more intensive background checks would have no effect with similar cases.

Until the new criteria for who will qualify for gun ownership is clarified, these unnerving questions will continue to circulate in the minds of Americans scared for the existence of their rights, like myself.



ALBERT VARGAS "NIMAK" / THE RIP

Staff Editorial

Bye summer, hello fall

Finally, summer is winding down, and fall is nearing.

As the sky begins to have grayer days, the temperatures begin to fall. It'll be nice to walk out of our houses and get in our cars without that instant rush of nearly unbearable heat – the heat that is seemingly just waiting for you in your car.

The season of sweatshirts and jackets allows for more diversity when it comes to one's wardrobe choices. Being comfortable is key during fall. It's the time when you can finally wear sweats and not just for style but to stay warm and cozy.

Along with fall come the sports. It's around this time that the NFL and college football seasons are in full effect. The NBA season begins during this time, and the MLB playoffs start. Nearly every day of the week there is a sporting event that can be watched on TV.

Fall is the time when many well-known shows start their new seasons. Some shows that are returning are "The Walking Dead," "Chicago Fire," "The Blacklist," and "American Horror Story."

With the mixture of several

sports seasons and many TV shows returning this fall, the entertainment levels will be high.

The fall season brings many families together as there are holidays during this time.

Thanksgiving is a great holiday for families. This is the day that many families get to see family members that they haven't had a chance to see all year long. Chatting with your family and feasting on a great meal is always a great time.

Halloween is a time where little ones get to have an immense amount of fun getting as much candy as they possibly can. Halloween is not only for kids; there are many Halloween-themed events and parties that adults can attend as well. It can be a fun holiday for everyone.

Labor Day and Columbus Day give many people a three-day weekend. Who doesn't love a three-day weekend?

With all the things going on during fall, people shouldn't fall too short on things to do or watch.

Fall is going to be here soon no matter what, so hopefully everyone is ready for it.

Kim Davis issues stem from lawyer

By Rhiannon Stroberg
Features Editor

With the Supreme Court's passing of same-sex marriage back in June, it came as a complete shock to me when I heard that a county clerk from Kentucky, Kim Davis, was not issuing marriage licenses to gay couples. At first, my thought process questioned, "Under what authority does this woman think she has the right to deny these couples their basic right as an American to be married?"

It wasn't until later, when I further read the story that I realized she was acting under God's authority. After reading that I couldn't help but laugh.

So because she was acting under God's authority, she refused to do her job? That's ridiculous.

While it is understandable why all these religious and anti-gay

people are unhappy with the Supreme Court ruling, it is selfish and unfair to deny anyone their right as a citizen of the United States to get married because of their religious or personal views.

Lastly, Davis is not the modern day Rosa Parks. Once again, Staver made another ludicrous statement by saying, "This is the Rosa Parks on the bus. If they tell you to go to the back of the bus because your skin color doesn't match what they want, don't go to the back of the bus. This is the time for peaceful resistance, and this is the time to stand with people who are engaged in peaceful resistance."

While it may seem understandable as to why this may make sense, the situation and circumstances differ with both Parks and Davis.

Parks was just a normal African-American woman who took a stand for civil rights in the black community.

The main thing that completely bothered me regarding this situation was the ridiculous statements Mat Staver, from Davis' legal team, was making in regards to Davis' situation.

Firstly, Staver compared Davis' situation to that of Jews in Nazi Germany by saying, "What happened in Nazi Germany, what happened there first, they removed the Jews from government public employment, then they stopped patronizing them in their private businesses, then they continued to stigmatize them, then they were the 'problems,' then they killed them."

Jews in Nazi Germany didn't refuse to do their job because of their religious views.

This is extremely offensive and I honestly see no comparison whatsoever.

Is he saying that religious people are as equally oppressed as the Jews were, now that the Supreme Court ruled against their belief?

Secondly, he compared Davis' jailing to Martin Luther King Jr.'s time in Birmingham Jail. He did so by stating, "She's not going to resign, she's not going to sacrifice her conscience, so she's doing what Martin Luther King Jr. wrote about in his 'Letter from the Birmingham Jail,'" which is to pay the consequences for her decision."

While she is doing what King did, paying the consequences of her decision, anyone who thinks her stance against gay marriage is even comparable to King's stance for civil rights is an idiot. King was fighting for civil rights protections for people in the

black community. Davis, on the other hand, was fighting against the newly protected civil rights for people in the gay community. King wasn't acting on the behalf of a deity or a religion, he was acting on behalf of what he believed was morally right. What Davis sees as morally right is something she read in the Bible. Something her religion is against.

Lastly, Davis is not the modern day Rosa Parks. Once again, Staver made another ludicrous statement by saying, "This is the Rosa Parks on the bus. If they tell you to go to the back of the bus because your skin color doesn't match what they want, don't go to the back of the bus. This is the time for peaceful resistance, and this is the time to stand with people who are engaged in peaceful resistance."

While it may seem understandable as to why this may make sense, the situation and circumstances differ with both Parks and Davis.

Parks was just a normal African-American woman who took a stand for civil rights in the black community by refusing to give up her seat in the front of the bus to a white man. Davis, however, as mentioned earlier, denied people their civil rights as Americans by not giving out marriage licenses.

Parks did show peaceful resistance when she gave up her seat, while Davis, on the other hand, generated a massive uproar of hate-filled opposition from both the gay community and the gay rights supporters. Between Parks and Davis, there is absolutely no comparison. While Parks did break the law by refusing to give up her seat to a white person, she never purposely denied anyone their civil rights as an American citizen because of her religion. That alone is the main difference between Parks and Davis.

Reflecting on all these ridiculous statements Slaver keeps making, it makes me think of him as the bogus lawyer Walter White had in Breaking Bad.

These statements reflect poorly on her and are showing poor representation toward Davis in general. If I were her, I'd be looking for someone else to fill his slot.

If Kim Davis is strongly against issuing marriage licenses to gay couples, perhaps she should consider getting a new job that won't cause her to commit a federal offense.

She should also consider hiring someone who knows what they're talking about to bump out that bonehead Mat Slaver from her legal team. That would probably be the best decision for her in regards to her situation.

Food Review

Mexican grill located near BC

By Giovanni Lopez
Reporter

If you're a student on a budget and looking for a place to have some good, quality Mexican food, head over to Cinco Limones.

New restaurant Cinco Limones opened just around the block from Bakersfield College off of Mt. Vernon Avenue and Columbus Street, where the old KFC was.

The atmosphere was relaxing and inviting while the vibe was very down to earth and welcoming.

The service was fast and the food was delicious. The first thing you hear when you enter are the associates greeting you. The restaurant was clean and organized. When I went to the counter to order, while staring at the menu, I immediately wanted to order everything. But I decided on the most popular item at most Mexican restaurants...enchiladas. I got the chicken enchiladas with rice and beans on the side. I wasn't done yet when I also decided to order a shrimp burrito. When I received the food, the first thing I noticed were the enchiladas covered in a spicy



MASON J. ROCKFELLOW / THE RIP

Cinco Limones, a new Mexican grill located at the old KFC behind Rosa's, offers great tasting Mexican food for a good price.

red sauce and cheese on top. With the first bite, I was sold. The sauce wasn't too spicy, but it had just the right amount of kick that made me want to continue to devour it all. It had a homemade taste, just like my mom used to make.

Next came the rice and beans, which should always compliment the main dish. While it didn't have as much flavor as the enchiladas, they worked well together. On to the burrito, and boy did it surprise me, the shrimp burrito was packed. The

shrimp were bigger than normal, and it was filled with beans, pico de gallo, and cheese. One bite and I was in heaven. This is a great place to go relax, eat, and enjoy some great Mexican food.

★★★★★

Movie Review

'The Visit' falls short of expectations

By Cinthia Loera
Reporter

Every year as the month of October approaches, I begin to anxiously wait for the new batch of horror movies to be released. This year, the first to catch my eye was directed by the one and only M. Night Shyamalan.

After finding out that this movie was directed by the same man who directed "The Sixth Sense", "Signs" and "The Happening" (just to name a few), I became absolutely thrilled and could not wait for its opening weekend to come any sooner.

I have always been a fan of Shyamalan's ability to turn his movies into a horrifying mystery that can keep your head spinning until the very last scene, which is exactly what he attempted to accomplish with his latest film, "The Visit."

Even after seeing the constant advertisements this movie had on social media and almost every channel I watched on television, I did not expect it to be the type of movie it turned out to be.

Now, that being said, if you're a fan of this director's work I can honestly say there will probably be a 50/50 chance of you actually liking this movie.

The plot revolves around Becca and Tyler who are meeting their maternal grandparents for the first time and have decided to visit for an entire week in order to patch things up between their mother and their grandparents who haven't spoken in over 15 years.

Within the first two days of

the week, the audience is introduced to the odd personalities of each grandparent, which quickly catch the attention of both grandchildren.

As each day passes by, Becca and Tyler begin to believe that something strange has caused their Nana and Pop Pop to become emotionally unstable enough to drive them insane, causing both children to become eager to figure out exactly what is happening.

Both Becca and Tyler eventually begin to capture alarming footage of their grandparents with their cameras.

They decided to confide in their mother about their worries during their Skype calls to her, which is how they come to find out a shocking secret that causes them to wonder if their safety is at risk.

The reason I feel this movie was not as great as many of Shyamalan's infamous films was due to the large amount of comedic relief that was given by Tyler.

When I think of a movie about grandparents going insane and becoming potential murderers, I don't expect each scene's rising tension to be constantly broken throughout the entire hour and thirty-four minutes.

I'm one of those people that loves having gut wrenching anxiety throughout every suspenseful scene in a thriller film.

I hate to say that I barely had that feeling at all while I watched "The Visit", but in no way am I saying this film was a bad one.

If you love a good mystery with an interesting story line and



PHOTO FROM HD-TRAILERS.NET

a twist of horror thrown into it, you will love this film.

But if you're more into thrillers that scare the hell out of you every five minutes, this probably won't be the right choice for you.

With all that being said, I did really like this movie and

★★★★★

RENEGADE MINDS

"What are you doing to help conserve water during the drought?"

Compiled by:
Mason J.
Rockfellow
Photo Editor



Morgan Farmer,
18, undeclared:
"By being aware
of it and not
running water all
the time."



Stephanie
Plake, 22,
Bio-Chemistry:
"I try to do
big loads of
laundry and
dishes."



Marcellas
Carter, 21
Agriculture:
"My grass isn't
green at all and
I'm not growing
anything in the
backyard."



Abigail
Kenefsky, 18,
Biology: "No
longer watering
lawns, drained
our pool, and
my parents are
timing showers."



Maria
Bower, 19,
Undeclared:
"When I brush
my teeth I turn
off the sink...All
the little things
that are on TV."



Winner of the 2003 and 2008
JACC Pacesetter Award

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

The Renegade Rip is produced by Bakersfield College journalism classes, printed by Reed Print in Bakersfield, and circulated on Wednesdays during the fall and spring semesters. The newspaper is published under the auspices of the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees, but sole responsibility for its content rests with student editors. The Rip is a member of the Journalism Association of Community Colleges and the California Newspaper Publishers Association.



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EDITORIAL BOARD

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Renegade Events

News

2015 issue of The Levan Humanities Review available online (Google Levan Humanities Review). The review features Kern County authors, including several BC colleagues.

Music

September 24: Podunk Poets, The Padre Hotel, at 8p.m.

October 3: 3 Way Chevrolet Cadillac 99 music fest. 21+. Live music, craft beer and food from Bakersfield restaurants will be available. Located at CSUB, 12p.m. For more details visit 99musicfest.com

Lectures/Discussions

September 23: Discussion hosted by the Social Justice Institute and PEAK in Levan Center. "California is Different" 6 to 7:30p.m.

September 24: Screening of Latino Americans: 500 Years of History, Episode 5: Prejudice and Pride. SPARC Indoor Theater 1 to 2:30p.m.

September 24: Panel Presentation and Discussion with Stephen Pitti from Yale University and Raymond Rast from Gonzaga University in the Levan Center. 3 to 5p.m.

September 24: To March for Others: Black Freedom Struggle and the United Farm Workers. Book Talk with Lauren Araiza from Denison University in the Levan Center. 7 to 8:30p.m.

October 13: Gadfly Cafe in the Levan Center "Marriage Equality: Does- Same Sex Marriage Threaten Religious Freedom?" 12:30 to 1:30p.m.

Workshops/Fairs

September 23-October 4: Kern County Fair

October 3: Annual Rock and Rod event. Music, food, hot rods, and pin up contest. Presale tickets \$15, day of event \$20, children 8 and under free. Stramer Park, 10a.m. to 6p.m.

CAS workshops

September 23: Stay Involved J. Davies, MS-6, 11:30a.m. to 12:30p.m. and Moodle Mastery, G. Dumler, L-160, 1 to 2p.m.

September 24: Writing Strong Thesis Statements, S. Abbassi, LA-218, 4 to 5p.m.

September 28: Fighting Fragments, A. Townsend, MS-6, 11a.m. to 12p.m. and Writing Strong Thesis Statements, S. Abbassi, LA-218, 3:30 to 4:30p.m.

September 29: Note Taking, C. Schaefer, LA-202, 1 to 2p.m. and Preventing Plagiarism, T. Meier, LA-202, 3 to 4p.m.

September 30: Moodle Mastery, G. Dumler, L-160, 2 to 3p.m. and Innovate, J. Davies, LA-218, 3 to 4p.m.

October 1: Learn for Life, Rachel Vickrey, LA-218, 3 to 4p.m.

October 5: Maximizing Memory, C. Schaefer, MS-6, 11a.m. to 12p.m. and Writing Strong Thesis Statements, S. Abbassi, LA-218, 3:30-4:30p.m.

October 6: Preventing Plagiarism, T. Meier, LA-202, 2 to 3p.m. 2015

Miscellaneous

September 25: Performance by the San Francisco Youth Theater of Gary Soto's "In and Out of Shadows". SPARC Indoor Theater. 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

September 26: 50th Anniversary of Delano Grape Strike. Event is conducted by United Farm workers and will be located at 30168 Garces Hwy. (corner of Mettler Ave.), Delano, CA 93215. Food and Entertainment will be provided. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit delanograpestrike.org for more information

October 1: Earthquake showing at the Planetarium. \$8 adults, \$6 seniors and children 5-12 years old. 7:30 to 8:30p.m. For details visit bakersfieldcollege.edu/planetarium

October 1: Renegade Pantry Bake Sale. Campus Center, 10:30 to 2p.m.

October 10: Urban Forest Summit. Informational Symposium directed towards homeowners of California about the urban forest. Indoor SPARC theater, 8a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Write The Rip

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

The Rip reserves the right to edit letters, however, writers will be given the opportunity to revise lengthy or unacceptable submissions.

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

How to reach us

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The Renegade Rip

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BC's Jacob Maas (174 pounds) works to score near-fall points against his opponent from West Hills College on Sept. 11.

Wrestling team starts to scramble for some victories

By Marcus Castro
Editor in Chief

Bakersfield College's wrestling team opened their season with a home tournament where they struggled to get team wins.

The BC wrestling team ended with a team record of 1-3 at the Bakersfield College Dual Tournament. Cuesta won the tournament with a perfect team record of 4-0.

"It was a good measuring stick. It shows us what we have to do to improve," said coach Brett Clark.

To open the tournament the BC men went up against West Hills. West Hills won with a score of 32-15.

BC did have a few individual winners. Torrey Casper (133 pounds) won with a score of 9-3. Johnathan Santore-Tovar (149) won with a pin. Jacob Maas (174) won with a score of 14-7. Jose Robledo (197) won with a score of 14-7.

The next team BC faced was Victor Valley; BC took this one with a score of 52-3.

Pedro Sarabia (125) won his first match with a pin. Norman Abas (133) won with a score of 18-3. Michael Macias (141) won with a pin. Armando Saldana Jr. (174) won by tech. Jason Dibble (heavy weight) won by a pin.

Up next was Santa Ana where BC earned a loss with a score of 16-23.

Casper (133) won with a score of 7-3. Santore-Tovar (149) won by default. Maas (184) won with a score of 8-5. Josh Davis (heavy weight) won with a score of 9-0.

Last up in this tournament for BC was the state champions Cerritos. Cerritos beat BC with a score of 25-12.

Sarabia (125) won with a score of 4-3. Daniel Lopez (157) won with a score of 10-8. Maas (174)



Armando Saldana Jr. (174 pounds) is caught by a single-leg takedown against Santa Ana.

won with a score of 5-4. Robledo (197) won with a score of 10-4.

The second tournament BC participated in was at Mt. San Antonio College on Sept. 19.

BC finished second in their bracket side with a team record of 4-1 for the tournament. They faced host Mt. SAC in finals and

lost 12-23.

Casper and Maas were both 4-1 on the day, and Davis went 3-0 while Dibble went 2-0.

At this tournament, BC faced Santa Ana again. This time BC beat Santa Ana with a score of 22-15. BC also faced Victor Valley again; Victor Valley fell to

BC as the Renegades shut them out with a score of 54-0. BC beat Sierra 28-12 and East LA 38-9.

The BC wrestling team will be traveling to West Hills to compete in a tournament on Sept. 26, after that they will travel to East LA to compete in another tournament on Oct. 2.

Swim lessons at BC's aquatic center were a success for all ages

By Chris Miller
Reporter

The swim lessons event held at the Bakersfield College pool Sept. 19, was a success. There were an estimated 30 attendees.

The swim lessons took place alongside the 12-hour relay that involved the BC swim team and the Bakersfield Aquatics Club. The swimmers who participated in the 12-hour relay also taught the lessons to those who signed up.

Lyle Drake, 19, and Steve Santana, 19, were two BC swim team members who participated in the 12 hour relay and gave swim lessons to some of the children who signed up. According to them, the ages of the children who signed up for the lessons varied from 2 to 14 years old.

Patrick Zuniga, the BC assistant swim coach, said they were given lots of positive feedback about the event.

When asked whether they would do the lessons again, he laughed and said, "Yes, but next time I think we'll just do a 6-hour relay instead."



PHOTOS BY MASON J. ROCKFELLOW / THE RIP

Clark takes his roots to Greece

By Mohamed Bafakih
Multimedia/Sports Editor

Wrestling is a sport that has a rich history – and in Greece – wrestling was born with the help of the Olympics, which took place in ancient Olympia (708 B.C.) and Athens (1896), and enthusiasm for the sport has yet to decline centuries later.

For Bakersfield College head wrestling coach Brett Clark, wrestling also has a rich history within his family and his love for it is soon taking him to where the sport prospered.

Clark, 38, will be competing next month in the Veterans World Wrestling Championships in Athens, Greece.

In what started as a bonding trip last year with him and his 9-year-old son Jason, who complained about how he wanted to see his father wrestle, they decided to head out to Las Vegas where Brett competed in the National Veterans Wrestling Championships while Jason also had his own tournament.

Clark ended up losing his first match, which was Greco-Roman style (forbids attacks below the waist).

"He [Jason] watched me lose and that was the kind of thing for him to cry when he loses, I looked at him and said, 'Am I crying? It's no big deal,'" Clark said. "I got to get up and wrestle again in the next tournament."

Clark won the next match, which was freestyle against the same guy he lost to in Greco-Roman the day before.

Eventually landing the BC head coaching vacancy last year following the tournament, it gave Clark an opportunity to train with younger, more polished guys who move around well.

His wrestling buddies, better known as Team Fluffy, complimented Clark on his physical appearance stating how Clark "looks so much better this year." That proved to be the case at this year's National Veterans Wrestling Championships where Clark won every Greco-Roman match by technical fall besides one but still won, as well as placing first in freestyle.

The sport of wrestling has been around Clark's life since he was nine because his dad was a wrestler as well.

Seeing how wrestling is passing on from him to his son is what continues to push him.

"I want to win – I wouldn't be going if I didn't think I could win," he said. "I think I have a good shot to win and so does my son."

A Bakersfield native, Clark will be joined with a few other local wrestlers and a total of 60 representatives of the United States at the Veterans World Wrestling Championships.

"It's a big thing for us," Clark said on embracing this upcoming



JOE BERGMAN / THE RIP

Coach Brett Clark is one of 60 wrestlers getting to represent the United States in the Veterans Wrestling World Championships.

ing quest. "It keeps us involved in the sport – not just the coaching aspect – but the competitive aspect."

Clark went on to say, "I want to represent Bakersfield...I think we have a good history of wrestling in this community."

Although Clark is quite nervous about his uncertainty of whom he may face, it's going to be the fight that will be harder to deal with.

BC's wrestling team will have an all-day tournament at Modesto on Oct. 10 meaning Clark will get back to town late that night and he will depart to LAX around 5 a.m. Sunday morning en route to Greece – a 14-hour flight.

Clark is expecting to weigh-in at around 278 pounds. Weigh-ins will take place on Wednesday and he will wrestle on Thursday, followed by another weigh-in the next day and the Greco-Roman competition on Saturday.

Clark will miss time away from the team and most importantly, his family.

"This was questionable," Clark stated. "I had to think about it. Leaving my wife with four kids (including an addition of a newborn girl). I get a lot of support from them, fortunately."

Also raising a question was the expense that goes along with the travel and competition.

Clark is willing to spend money out of pocket due to the experience of being able to wrestle on a worldwide level, but help is always encouraged.

Clark has a GoFundMe page (www.gofundme.com/v3kd5td5s), which is near halfway of his goal of \$4,000, where donations are accepted to help Clark get to Athens without paying out of pocket.

Clark's message is simple, particularly for his son Jason to take notice: "If you work hard, you can accomplish anything."



Above: Jhoanna Ramos (left), 6, and Marley Melendez (center right), 6, are learning how to float on their backs during their swimming lesson at BC on Sept. 19 by Marisa Forse (center left), 18, environmental science major, and Imelda Ramirez (right), 17, psychology major.

Left: Jeremy Price (left), 21, biology major, and Mark Gildez (right), 19, fire tech major, give Jeremiah Ramos (center), 7, swimming lessons at BC on Sept. 19.

Statistics at a state-low for BC's offense

By Mohamed Bafakih
Multimedia/Sports Editor

It has been a rough outing for the Bakersfield College football team over the course of the last few weeks.

Plagued by turnovers and mental errors, the Renegades (0-3) are finding it difficult to get into the groove of things.

Offensively, BC is dead last in the state of 69 schools in yards per game, as they're averaging 191.3 yards of total offense.

The reasoning behind it: 146 passing yards a game and 45.3 rushing yards a game, fourth worst in the state in both categories.

The Renegades have also been outscored 104-28 in their first three games – the 28 points puts them also fourth-to-last in that category.

On the receiving end of six of those 28 points, which came in Saturday's 38-7 loss against second-ranked LBCC, freshman wide receiver Jayson Jackson is critical about the offensive performance as of late.

"Turnovers play a big part with us not being able to put points on the board," Jackson said, who finished with one catch for 39 yards and the team's only touchdown in the first quarter.

Turnovers were the difference in the game as BC's quarterbacks threw three interceptions, one from starter Tarek Yaeggi (5th on the season), and two from 6-foot-5, 195-pound freshman

Noah Holle.

Yaeggi started the game and finished the evening going 8-for-14 for 129 yards, one touchdown and one interception, but was sacked seven times.

Coming off a 13-for-26, 109-yard and three-interception performance in the 33-7 loss the previous week at Golden West, Yaeggi was replaced by Holle who came in for the second straight game to see some action.

In the Sept. 12 meeting at Golden West, Holle went 4-for-6 for 37 yards late in the game.

Holle replaced Yaeggi midway through the third quarter but this time struggled to find his rhythm.

Holle went 2-for-5 for 21 yards and threw two interceptions and head coach Jeff Chudy went to the bench again to bring in the team's third quarterback, Brandon Steele shortly after.

"The o-line is still finding themselves and getting things worked out," Holle said. "Us quarterbacks need to be more confident and take care of the ball...all three teams were good teams no doubt, but there's no excuse for how we played."

Speculations may be rising high – whether it's the offensive line, quarterback situation that is still skeptical, or the running game that has also been unreliable as they rushed for a total of negative four yards at LBCC – but the teams they've faced are undoubtedly top-tier.

Next home game: BC (0-3)
vs. Allan Hancock (2-1)
Sept. 26 at 6 p.m.



BC's offensive line takes a breather during a loss to LBCC. BC was sacked eight times and had -4 yards rushing.

All three of their respective opponents are currently 3-0 and are atop of the regional rankings with Riverside receiving the outright first-place vote in the state ranking.

There's no gimmick to how good Riverside, Golden West and Long Beach City College are. The Bakersfield College football team is in a battle with itself and with conference-rival Allan Hancock (2-1) coming to Memorial Stadium on Sept. 26 (6 p.m.), it's uncertain whether it's panic time for the Renegades, or just the tough preseason schedule to start off the season.

"Playing those teams have showed us what corrections we need to make in certain places," Jackson said. "It will be a challenge for us after coming off our third straight loss, but our coaches will prepare us for Saturday's challenge and we will be successful."

LAST THREE GAMES FOR THE RENEGADES

- * 33-14 loss vs. Riverside (9/5): Outgained by the Tigers 468-220; BC fumbled it three times; all 33 Riverside points came in the first half.
- * 33-7 loss at Golden West (9/12): BC rushed for only 62 yards; QB Tarek Yaeggi threw 3 interceptions and was sacked five times.
- * 38-7 loss at LBCC (9/19): BC was outgained 499-146; QB Tarek Yaeggi was sacked seven times; BC played 3 different QBs.



JOE BERGMAN / THE RIP
BC quarterback Tarek Yaeggi (11) scrambles and breaks free from LBCC's defensive lineman Marcus Reynolds.

Women's soccer drop to Lassen, tie with Ventura

By Alex Rivera
Reporter

Bakersfield College's women's soccer team continues to struggle in their two home game series played on Sept. 17-18.

A rested Renegade team returned to play after a 12-day break in between games versus the Lassen Cougars on Sept. 17.

The Cougars came out strong right from the blow of the whistle. After getting possession of the ball, Maria Sanchez flew by defenders to set up an assist for Emily Benton, who scored within the first two minutes of the match.

The frustration on the Renegades began to show, as the Cougars proved that the long layoff in between matches was not going to be an advantage.

The Cougars were aggressive at the beginning of the match as they scored early. Within the next 14 minutes, the Cougars struck again with the same two core key players of the game.

This time it was Benton that provided the assist as Sanchez scored and allowed the Cougars to be up 2-0 within the first 16 minutes of the game. The ensuing kickoff the Renegades stormed downfield and Victoria Pyle set up standout sophomore Sabrina Spink for the goal in the 19th minute. The Cougars scored

one more time from the help of Kiera Morgan to send the Renegades down 3-1 at halftime.

The second half was all Cougars as Morgan scored once more in the 65th minute to seal the victory with a score of 4-1.

The Renegades opened up play the next day on Sept. 18 versus the Ventura Pirates, hoping to bounce back from their devastating loss. The Renegades once again allowed a quick goal with Jennifer Orozco scoring the first goal of the match with a cross by Kat Jordan, allowing the Pirates to jump on the board early in the 24th minute.

After taking the early lead, the Pirates gave up a penalty kick setting up the Renegades' Spink to score to tie up the game 1-1 just two minutes later.

Danielle Vargas scored the go-ahead goal in the 78th minute to give the Renegades the late lead with only 12 minutes remaining.

Ventura's Katie Medina scored a goal with an assist from Orozco with only one minute remaining in the match, not giving the Renegades enough time to score.

The Renegades ended the match in a draw 2-2 falling to a record of 1-2-1.

The Renegades are hoping to come off of their losing streak Sept. 22 as they take on West Hills College (0-2-0) in Lemoore.



JOE BERGMAN / THE RIP
BC goalie Alondra Villa (25) fights for the possession of the ball while Ventura's Melissa Aldrete (6) attempted to head the ball in. The Sept. 18 matchup ended in a 2-2 draw.

BC cross country battling

By Felicity Tomisaka
Reporter

Before Bakersfield College's cross-country teams host their only meet of the season on Sept. 25, they participated in the Fresno Invitational on Sept. 11 and the Southern California Preview at Mission Bay in San Diego on Sept. 18.

In the Fresno Invitational meet, the women's team finished eighth and the men's team took ninth.

Out of 144 participants in the women's 5k race Jenica Dodge from American River College, placed first with a time of 18:22.08. The closest Renegade to her mark was Emily Freeman, who finished 41st with a time of 20:50.01.

Three of Freeman's teammates placed in the 50s. Kelly Hartfield took 51st with a time of 21:15.04, Sydney Roman took 54th with a time of 21:18.03, and Yareli Ocampo placed 59th with a time of 21:33.06.

In the men's four-mile run with 210 participants, Vahagn Isayan from Glendale placed first with a time of 20:42.09. Renegade runner Richard Timmermans placed 57th coming in with a time of 22:33.07 and teammate Christopher Moreno took 68th with a time of 22:48.00.

In the recent meet, the Southern California Preview, the women's team ranked 12 out of 24 teams.

In the women's 5k individual, BC's Hartfield placed 35th out of 200-plus with a time of 20:44.06. Freeman took 78th coming in at 21:50.04 with teammate Yareli following behind her at 79 with a time of 21:54.01. Right behind her at 80 was Sydney Roman with a time of 21:57.03.

For the men's four-mile race that included 204 participants, the renegades ranked 19th out of 30 teams.

Michael Teran from San Bernardino Valley took first individually with a time of 20:33.09. BC's Richard Timmermans took 70th place coming in at 22:47.00. Behind him a minute later was Christopher Moreno at 23:11.05, taking 95th place.

Volleyball's 10-day break plays a vital role

By Carl E. Littleberry Jr.
Reporter

Bakersfield College's volleyball team traveled to San Diego to participate in the 30th annual San Diego Mesa Invitational hosted by Mesa College on Sept. 11-12 prior to Tuesday's match-up with Moorpark (recap on therip.com). The team finished the weekend with a 1-2 record dropping them to 4-5 overall on the season.

Beginning on Sept. 11, the team faced off against KCCD

rival Cerro Coso for their only match of the day. Cerro Coso was defeated in three straight sets by BC: 14-25, 13-25, 12-25. Using a balanced attack, BC had four players with at least four kills. Leading the way were outside hitters Daryan Heathcott with 15 and Mackenzie Hernandez with 11. Hernandez seemed to see the floor well setting her teammates up with 25 assists in the match.

In day two of the tournament on Sept. 12, BC moved on to face a familiar foe in Grossmont who had just beaten the Renegades a

week earlier on BC's floor.

Although BC came out strong in the first set of the match, they were unable to finish off Grossmont losing the set, 25-23. This proved to be the closest BC came to victory eventually losing the next two sets with scores of 16-25 and 13-25.

Continuing her strong play, points leader Heathcott finished the match with 12 kills. However the rest of the offense never got going as BC struggled to score points combining for only 25 kills between the team against 41

for Grossmont.

Grossmont later went on to the finals to face LA Pierce Community College where they lost two-of-three sets.

For their final match of the weekend BC faced tournament host Mesa in the third place match.

Starting strong, Mesa took the early lead in the first two sets with scores of 25-20 and 25-19. BC rallied to even the match at 2-2 winning the next two sets 25-18 and 25-20 to force a fifth and deciding set to determine the

winner.

Showing an improved team defense after the third set – the Renegades – led by sophomore libero Lorena Ramirez (22 digs in match) stayed close with Mesa but eventually lost the fifth set with a score of 15-11 and the match.

BC (4-5), who is ranked 22nd in the state according to cca-sports.org, took a 10-day long break before resuming play at home against Moorpark College (2-4, 23rd in the state) on Sept. 22.

"When I see a veteran, I'm not just helping a client; I see my family... We work with the family because we realize that the family served as well, just in a different way."

-Nicole Allain

Vet Center welcomes community

By Marcus Castro
Editor in Chief

The Bakersfield Vet Center opened their doors to the community to honor vets on the anniversary of 9/11.

The Vet Center thought since many veterans went to war immediately after these attacks that they would honor them with an open house event to show them what the center offers.

"It's a national day of service...we open the Vet Center to people who haven't seen it," said manager Jenny Frank. "It's a community-based welcoming center."

The open house event had a tour as well as a presentation in which people that worked there described their roles at the Vet Center.

"The first thing we do is give them [veterans] a welcoming environment," said team leader Joe Acosta.

"They deserve a 110 percent of our effort to keep on going on." Acosta explained that the unique thing about this Vet Center is that they specialize in working with combat veterans. He explained

that most of the staff is actually fellow veterans themselves.

Nicole Allain, a readjustment counselor who works with veterans and the families stated, "We work with the family because we realize that the family served as well, just in a different way."

Allain also explained that the center has quite a few events that get the families of veterans involved. There is Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas events for families to come to.

"When I see a veteran, I'm not just helping a client; I see my family," said Allain.

Also a readjustment counselor, Guadalupe Sanchez explained that the center helps out with veterans who suffer from all sorts of psychological problems.

"Some people come in needing help with PTSD [Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder], so I try to teach them some coping skills," said Sanchez. "A lot of times, communication skills are good for veterans."

Sanchez stated that the center have social groups for the veterans in order for them to socialize with other people in the same position.

Justin Whipple explained his role at the center as helping veterans who are having problems, whether it's physical or mental, get back to work or go to school. He explained that he's seen veterans that have gone on to work in jobs like construction or janitorial work. Whipple also stated that he has also seen veterans go back to school, such as USC, and eventually become doctors.

Outreach Coordinator Armando Trujillo explained how he goes out to various events in Kern County to let people know about the center.

"One way or another, we try to get them in here...when they need it [the vet center], they will know where it is," said Trujillo.

Trujillo drives the new Mobile Vet Center. "It is an emergency vehicle. It has a telehealth computer system and satellite communications, so that it can be deployed anywhere in the continental United States to provide either counseling or medical services," said Sanchez.

The Bakersfield Vet Center is located at 1110 Golden State Ave., and to reach the center call (661) 323-8387.

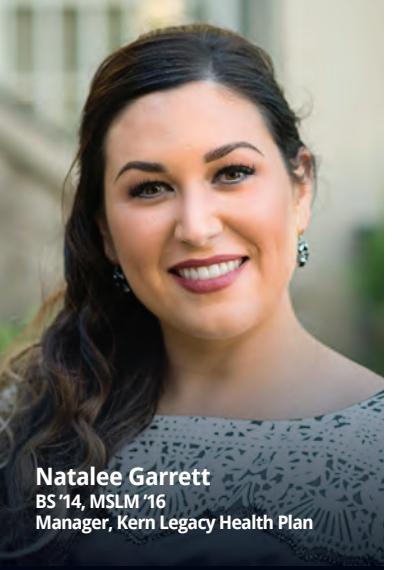


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Outreach Coordinator Armando Trujillo speaks to veterans about what he does for the Bakersfield Vet Center and informs them about the Mobile Vet Center.

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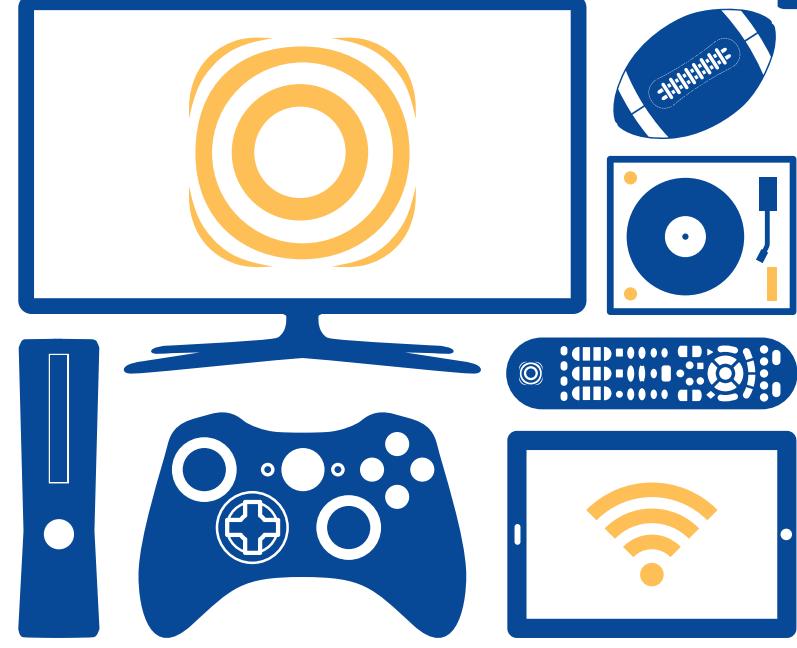
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