



# The Renegade Rip

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

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## BC admin responds to kit fox issue

By Joe Bergman  
Photo & Sports Editor

In an interview with The Rip on April 13, Anthony Culpepper, vice president of Finance and Administration at Bakersfield College, explained the administration's role in attempting last year to remove kit foxes from a hillside in Memorial Stadium.

Culpepper was responding to two stories in the April 6 edition of The Rip in which sources observed activities last

year that didn't seem appropriate for removing the kit foxes as well as an expert from the Endangered Species Rescue Program criticizing the methods used in the process.

Culpepper became aware of a situation involving the kit foxes in the stadium mid to late 2014.

"The mulch was donated by one of BC's constituencies. We have a lot of individuals who are very much interested in the Memorial Stadium, interested in the beautification of the campus," stated

Culpepper.

The initial plan was for the mulch to be spread on the hillside inside Memorial Stadium. The plan immediately ran into difficulties, because that same hillside is inhabited by several kit foxes, which are protected by both Federal and State Endangered Species Acts.

According to Culpepper, Craig Rouse, who was the former manager of Facilities, Maintenance and Operations at BC, immediately reached out to a wildlife biologist identified as Vicky Monroe

and others at The Department of Fish and Wildlife, to get direction on what should be done.

"My understanding is there was a direct discussion between Craig and Vicky, along with other people. There was a discussion about what to do, concerning spreading the mulch or not spreading, or what to do to coexist with the kit foxes," stated Culpepper.

When it comes to dealing with endangered species such as the kit fox, there are not only state laws and regulations

that must be followed, but there are also federal laws and regulations that must be followed, according to Colleen O'Brien, senior director of communications for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA).

O'Brien further explained that both California and Federal laws require that permits be obtained any time there is a likelihood an endangered species will be encountered or if their habitat will be affected.

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JACOB TOVAR / THE RIP

The BC Jazz Ensemble is setting the tone at the KCMEA Jazz Day at BC on April 14 in the SPaRC Indoor Theater. Other performances were done by junior high and high school jazz bands from throughout Kern County.

## Bakersfield College hosts its first annual KCMEA Jazz Day

By Crystal Valdez  
Features Editor

Bakersfield College hosted its first annual KCMEA Jazz Day on April 14 at the Simonsen Performing Arts Center. The event lasted from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and consisted of performances by various junior high and high school jazz bands from all over Kern County as well as performances by the BC Jazz Ensemble, and featured artist Joe LaBarbera who performed alongside the BC Faculty Jazz Ensemble.

Compositions by artists such as Thelonious Monk, Duke Ellington, Miles Davis, and Joe LaBarbera himself were heard throughout the day.

"Everything is running smoothly... We have a really tight schedule, but everyone has been so helpful," said Kris Tiner, director of the BC jazz program.

Students who participated in the event were encouraged to document their experience on social media with the hashtag #jazzdaybc. Aside from viewing performances done by other schools and by BC students and faculty, the junior high and high school students were able to attend workshops that took place after lunch. The workshops were put on by Joe LaBarbera and the musicians who formed part of the BC Faculty Jazz Ensemble.

Guitar player Josh Ottum held a workshop that focused on music technology, while bass player Pete Scaffidi held a workshop that focused on the bass. Meanwhile, Tiner held a workshop that focused on brass instruments, and LaBarbera held a workshop that focused on percussions.

"It's really great that everybody's staying around. The students are all listening and commenting and supportive of each other. It's not a competitive thing. There's no competition in art," said Tiner about the event.

Tiner plans to make KCMEA Jazz Day an annual event at BC. Ties with CSUB are possible to help the event grow in the future.

The KCMEA Jazz Day was a day filled with music education that inspired students to be creative. As Tiner stated near the end of his interview, "That's what we're trying to do ... make art and learn about art."



JACOB TOVAR / THE RIP

Trumpet player Jorge Santos performs at the KCMEA Jazz Day April 14.

## BC elects new SGA president and members

By Sara Lievanos  
Reporter

As the spring semester comes to an end at Bakersfield College, the Student Government Association announced April 14 the newly elected officials for the 2016-2017 school year.

The candidate announced as the new president of the SGA, who will take the place of current president Clayton Fowler for the 2016-2017 school year, is Matthew Frazer.

Frazer sealed his victory in a close race with 240 votes, against opponents Manuel Zavala with 221 votes, and Geena Olague with 213 votes.

With a smile on his face, Frazer took to the podium and made a brief acceptance speech to thank his supporters.

"I couldn't have done this without the ASL club and the Deaf community because they were a big advocate for me, and I really appreciate it," he said.

Frazer, a political science major in the pre-law program at BC, also took the time to thank God stating, "Last week was one of the toughest in my life, and I have to thank God for getting me through it."

As the newly elected president of the SGA, Frazer has stated that he plans to assist the students in any way needed.

Frazer hopes to "be the person who brings a voice to your ideas, and a voice for the Bakersfield College Renegades".

After the polls closed April 14, current SGA officials gathered in the Fireside Room to announce the winners.

Sen. Maddie Herndon and Parliamentarian Kyle Mann led the brief meeting, and began by assessing that BC's current population is 18,332 students and there was a total of 751 votes cast.

Although there is an evident divide between the population and the number of students who voted, Herndon noted that there was a 4.10 percent voter turnout.

Herndon said, "We had an increase from last year's election, which had a turnout of 3.11 percent." Students could vote from April 11-14.

The first candidates to be addressed were for the position of senator.

Due to there being only five candidates and 12 openings, Erik Alexander Garcia-Gregorio, Fitzgerald Graves, Nicolas Montero-Garcia, Lawrence Salcido, and Tania Bernal were all appointed as senators.

For the position of BC SGA Director of Organization, Daron Dontae Smith Jr. was announced as the winner with 357 votes, and Jeremiah Marsh came in second with 226.

For the position of vice president, Galo Jimenez ran unopposed and was elected with 346 votes.

Before announcing who would be the next president, Kyle Mann pointed out that there are still open positions that need to be filled for SGA.

A Director of Finance, Director of Activities, Ledge Affairs, Board of Justices, and Manager of Student Activities are all positions that are still available.



SARA LIEVANOS / THE RIP

Matthew Frazer is elected as the new BC Student Government Association president on April 14.

### Inside

For the full results of the BCSGA elections.

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# BC will offer new degree

By Crystal Valdez  
Features Editor

Bakersfield College is taking on a new degree program in which students can get their Associates in Arts in Elementary Teacher Education.

A presentation took place where the degree path was broken down so students who are interested could better understand it. Family and Consumer Education faculty member Bernadette Towns led the presentation, which focused on the transfer degree for Elementary Teacher Education specifically.

Students who were one or two years away from graduation were encouraged to leave the meeting because the information did not pertain to them. This is because those students followed the Liberal Studies degree path, which will no longer be an option after the new degree path is implemented. The reason those students are able to carry on with their degrees is because they have catalog rights.

Students who seek a degree in Early Childhood Education were also encouraged to leave because their path of study focused on grades K-3. The brain development of young children requires its own field of study.

Students who have only taken one year of classes that fulfill certain areas of the Liberal Studies degree path were encouraged to stay and to switch because of lack of catalog rights, as well as in order to facilitate the transfer process. Those who were unsure of what grade they hope to teach were also encouraged to stay for the entire meeting.

Advisor Pam Gomez spoke about specific required courses that students must take in order to transfer to Cal State Bakersfield.

"Our goal is that you complete



MASON J. ROCKFELLOW / THE RIP

Bernadette Towns is handing out the Program of Study packet while explaining the requirements for the new elementary program to the students.

60 units and that you're out of here in the two years and you're graduated and transfer to CSU Bakersfield," said Gomez.

She added that the required courses cater to Cal State Bakersfield. Anyone who is interested in going to another school is encouraged to speak to an advisor in order to make sure that the same courses meet the requirements of other schools.

Gomez went on to say that the courses that were selected for students to follow are well rounded. They prepare future elementary and junior high school teachers for the CSET (history and science) and the CBEST (English and mathematics) exams, which are required to become elementary and junior high school teachers.

Once all the courses are completed and a student is able to transfer, the Elementary Educa-

tion Teacher path becomes Liberal Studies at CSUB.

A model of what courses students should take every semester was explained by Gomez during the presentation.

Towns then told students present at the meeting that, "We're here to help you and we do want to help you get on the right track, but you do have to take ownership for your degree."

By this she meant that students need to know what they are getting themselves into. One of the reasons why the Liberal Studies degree will no longer be available is because students often confused it with Liberal Arts. Additionally, those who have taken classes before the new information was offered need to see if those classes are interchangeable and meet the new requirements.

"You need to be proactive and take control of your education..."

said Towns.

The new degree path is fairly stringent, according to the Program of Study packet that was handed out at the start of the presentation.

Students who are interested are encouraged to take the classes that are in the Program of Study packet. However, if a student (for example) does not wish to take English B2, he or she can take Philosophy B9. English B2 was selected simply because Towns and other advisors believed it would help students become more well rounded teachers. Both classes, however, are options for the required critical thinking course that is needed in order to transfer. If you are interested in obtaining an AA in Elementary Teacher Education, see an advisor or contact Bernadette Towns through the BC website for more information.

# Students present published work

By Chris Miller  
Reporter

The Roughneck Review hosted its second Roughneck Review: A Celebration of Authors and Artists event on April 14, four years after the very first one. The event took place in the Levan Center, beginning at 11:30 a.m. and ending around 12:30 p.m.

The event was an opportunity for students to present some of the work they had submitted to the online journal, the Roughneck Review, either in past issues or the soon-to-be released issue coming out this May.

There were a total of six presenters who each presented a completely different piece of work. The works ranged from dark and personal poetry to a lighthearted essay ranting about shopping.

Many of the presenters had friends and relatives in the audience. Mayor candidate Gilberto De La Torre was also there supporting his sister Yasmin De La Torre as she read an essay.

Dr. Keri Wolf, a co-editor for the Roughneck Review, was pleased with the turnout. "I was very pleased with the turnout and with the community and that they were able to bring people and family members of all ages for it," she said.

Wolf explained that it took four years to host a second Roughneck Review: A Celebration of Authors and Artists event because the original founder of the Roughneck left soon after the first event and there was a transition period between then and now. Both she and her fellow co-editor Dr. Rae Ann Kumelos felt that it was time to increase

the Roughneck's presence and decided to host another Roughneck Review: A Celebration of Authors and Artists since the first was a success.

Despite the fact that the works presented during the event were all varied and unique, Kumelos wants to stress that the Roughneck is still looking for more entries in art, literature, science reports, music, or any other type of discipline, not just essays or poems.

"Students from all disciplines are welcome to submit, and we encourage instructors from all disciplines to submit exceptional student work. This work is an excellent model for their future class assignments, and so easy to access since it is online. Plus, BC alumni are also welcome to submit," she said.

For those interested in get-

ting involved with the Roughneck Review or how to submit something, contact one of the co-editors. Dr. Keri Wolf can be contacted at her email: keriwolf@bakersfieldcollege.edu, and Dr. Rae Ann Kumelos can be contacted on her email at: rae.kumelos@bakersfieldcollege.edu.

The Roughneck Review can be found on: [www2.bakersfieldcollege.edu/roughneck/index.html](http://www2.bakersfieldcollege.edu/roughneck/index.html)

You can keep up with the Roughneck Review on their Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/roughneck-review](http://www.facebook.com/roughneck-review)

Or you can follow them on their Tumblr page:

[www.roughneckreview.tumblr.com](http://www.roughneckreview.tumblr.com), their Twitter page: [www.twitter.com/roughneckreview](http://www.twitter.com/roughneckreview), or their Instagram page:

[www.instagram.com/roughneckreview](http://www.instagram.com/roughneckreview).

# Top 10 Fast Food Restaurants

The Rip's Chris Miller asked 50 students on campus what their favorite fast food restaurant is. The results have been compiled into the Top 10 answers based on student opinion.

## 1. In-N-Out Burger

Number of votes: 9

"Their [In-N-Out] food is a little fresher than other places. The service is also a little fast," said Alex Bradley, 24.



MASON J. ROCKFELLOW / THE RIP

## 2. Carl's Jr.

Number of votes: 8

## 3. Taco Bell

Number of votes: 7

## 4. I don't like fast food.

Number of votes: 5

## 5. Subway

Number of votes: 4

## 6. The Habit

Number of votes: 2

## 7. Jack In The Box

Number of votes: 2

## 8. Burger King

Number of votes: 2

Rounding up the spots for No. 9 and 10 with one vote each:

Panda Wok, Firestone Grill, Quiznos, La Villa, Dairy Queen, Chick-Fil-A, Wing 'N Things, McDonalds, Pokinometry, Panda Express, and Chipotle.

# Suicide Prevention



JACOB TOVAR / THE RIP

Paul Quinnett speaks about suicide prevention at the QPR Suicide Prevention Training presentation in the Fireside Room on April 18. He also speaks about the pamphlet he wrote titled "QPR, Question, Persuade, Refer." The event was put on by the Student Health and Wellness Center. You can contact the QPR Institute at [qpinstitute@qwestoffice.net](http://qpinstitute@qwestoffice.net) or (509) 536-5100 if you have any questions regarding suicide prevention.

# The Renegade Pulse was a success

By Chris Miller  
Reporter

Despite dreary and rainy weather negatively impacting the overall turnout for the Renegade Pulse, organizers and volunteers alike still felt it was an overall success.

The Renegade Pulse is a health fair on the Bakersfield College campus that took place on April 13 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. There were many different kinds of vendors set up for attendees to visit for free health screenings and tests.

Olivia Gurrero, 23, was one such attendee who happened upon the health fair by chance when she walked by and decided to check it out. She stopped by at least one vendor to have her blood tested, and was pleased with her overall experience.

Jessica Rivera, 37, was one of the volunteers who worked at the blood pressure booth, and felt that the entire event was worth the effort. "I think the turnout was pretty good. I had a lot of people coming to get their blood pressure checked," she said.

"I think that the weather wasn't too nice since it was sprinkling, and because of that, the turnout was a little less than anticipated. It was still good."

She went on to say, "It's my opinion that as long as you help at least one person, the entire thing was worth it."

Sandy Davis, 47, is Rivera's nursing instructor, and was asked to help with the event. She helped with the fair last year so she agreed to get involved again this year. She said that there were a few more attendees last year, and felt that the weather affected the overall turnout. Despite the lower turnout, she was pleased with how things went and plans on getting involved once more next year.

Raymond Purcell, the director of Student Health and Wellness Services, managed the entire event. He is new to this position and it was the first health fair he managed.

Purcell had help from Nurse Deborah B. Strong, the fair's originator, as well as Stella Ponce, who worked on last year's fair.

Purcell feels that the event was a success despite the lower-than-anticipated attendance. "I was pleased with the turnout. In surveying and personally speaking to the vendors, they felt that their time was well spent and all indicated interest in participating next year," he said.

"Of course I would have liked greater attendance because there were so many services and programs represented which elevate the health and wellness of the community and the campus. But, that's the reason that, as a team, we'll meet again to assess our strengths and weaknesses so that we can plan more effectively for next year."

Purcell said he and the department are conducting the National College Health Assessment in the Fall of 2016. The survey will be a campus report card, and will establish a baseline of campus health, which allows comparisons to be made with other community college campuses. This will also contribute to their three-year strategic plan and provide an ongoing measure of program effectiveness.



PHOTOS BY JACOB TOVAR / THE RIP

Above: Alondra Hinojosa (left) gets her blood drawn from Bakersfield College student nurse Carly Rabun. Left: People walk around at The Renegade Pulse health fair outside of the Student Services building on April 13.



# The man who did everything says goodbye to BC

By Crystal Valdez  
Features Editor

Longtime Bakersfield College computer science professor and administrator Greg Chamberlain plans to retire by the end of this school year.

Chamberlain began his career at BC in 1989. His journey has been far from boring.

He served in a number of positions including: director of Academic Computing, faculty chair for the Computer Studies Department, director of Instructional Technology, dean of Learning Resources and Information Technology, vice chancellor of Educational Services for the Kern Community College District, and president of BC.

Of all his positions, Chamberlain affirmed that teaching was his favorite.

"I love what I do and to be able to share that with students and to be able to help them. I believe technology is changing, has changed, and will continue to change the world. Students that know more about that are better suited to do well in life," said Chamberlain.

He has aided many students to reach the path of success and to, as he stated, "do well in life." That is something Chamberlain

made clear that he truly cherishes.

"One of the things students don't understand is how important they are to faculty," he said. "Any students who can take a moment and send an email or write a note to any teacher that's made a difference in their lives, that's what we live for."

**"You can do certain things as an administrator, but you're not directly involved with the students, and that's the thing I love most about education."**

**—Greg Chamberlain, BC faculty member**

Chamberlain wanted to make a difference in schools throughout the district. His focus and goal to bring technology to the classroom led to his various administrative positions.

After 12 years as an administrator, Chamberlain returned to his favorite aspect of his career in 2012, teaching.

"You can do certain things as an administrator, but you're not directly involved with the students, and that's the thing I love most about education," said Chamberlain.

In 2012, Chamberlain resigned from his presidency at BC to return to the classroom. He stated that it was a tough job, "especially personnel issues; you're dealing with people's lives." He went on to say that, "one of the things that I'm really proud of is the fact that we didn't lay off any full-time faculty."

Chamberlain believes he has made a difference. However, he disagrees with the notion that students should thank him for their successes.

He believes they should thank themselves because they are the ones who work hard in order to succeed; he just helped guide them along the way.

"It's always really great, and I'm always really proud when I hear about what past students are doing with their lives," said Chamberlain. "I truly believe in the community college, and I believe it's a place for all kinds of students."

Chamberlain plans to travel more during his retirement. He mentioned that he has been to all 50 states in the country, but his wife has not.

As he stated, "It's time to start over."



JACOB TOVAR / THE RIP

Greg Chamberlain has served as a faculty member, district administrator and as college president. Now, he's retiring.

## Salvador perseveres through disorder

By Felicity Tomisaka  
Reporter

Freshman art major Rene Salvador was diagnosed with Autism at age four.

Salvador said, "I was diagnosed by a neurologist with Autism Spectrum Disorder. My teachers would ask me questions, but I was unable to speak."

Like many disorders, autism has different levels of severity. Autism Spectrum Disorder, also known as ASD, is a disorder where an individual will often have difficulties interacting socially, have repetitive behaviors, and sometimes will have symptoms that can affect the individual's ability to function in society.

Since autism is a disorder, there are ways to help individuals like Salvador to cope and become successful despite it.

For Salvador, it was special education classes and art that

helped him through his ASD.

Salvador said, "special needs classes helped me with social and life skills. For communication, they put me in speech therapy, but because of these classes I was unable to take art classes."

After high school, Salvador took a course that focused on independent living at Taft College that, "helped me by teaching me how to live on my own, in the dorms, and also gave me job skills," said Salvador.

While at Bakersfield College, Salvador took a time management class that helped him not only with time management, but also with his reading and writing skills.

In elementary and middle school, it was art that helped Salvador express himself.

"We did color therapy, which is the mixing of colors for painting and drawing. That helped me relax."

The individual bright colors

and mixing them are what attracted Salvador to art. He always liked to draw and paint trees and the sky. Blue is his favorite color. He tries to find interesting things to incorporate into his drawings or paintings.

While in beginning art class, Salvador tries to ask questions and not to let the pressure of the assignments criteria set by the professor stop him from completing his assignments.

"I'm comfortable with basic art that can help me when it gets harder. I find ways to make difficult things more comfortable."

For Salvador, portrait drawing is a good experience that can be difficult at times, since you have to make adjustments based on who or what you're drawing. His professor will make a suggestion and he will try it to see if that makes it any easier.

Salvador hopes to get a job where he is able to paint, draw, or do graphic design.

## Diamond gives presentation at BC

By AK Pachla  
Copy Editor

The Levan Center for the Humanities opened the 2016 season of their speaker series on April 6 with a presentation in the SPARC Indoor Theater by author, ecologist, and environmental historian Jared Diamond.

Diamond, a Cambridge Ph.D. and polyglot (among the 14 languages he has learned are German, Russian, a regional dialect spoken by the indigenous people of New Guinea, and soon, Italian) spoke to a standing-room-only crowd about his fifty year career as an anthropologist and the insights his work has given him regarding the human condition and the western world.

One of the first things any anthropologist will say about the study of culture is that humans face universal problems. We all have to eat, stay clean, avoid danger, and resolve disputes.

Diamond refers to the variety of human culture as "a million experiments" in how humans solve our problems.

Diamond recounts the story of his first field expedition to New Guinea as a young anthropologist. He found the community there to be friendly, but took pause at some of the traditions. His guides, for example, refused to set their tents up beneath dead trees. Thinking this to be a superstition, Diamond ignored their warnings, but considered their words.

The New Guineans were actually employing some very clever statistical reasoning. When one lives a life where every night is spent sleeping under trees, Diamond used math to discover that if one made a habit of sleeping under dead trees, the likelihood of dying from having a dead tree fall on you in the night approaches 100 percent within ten years. It isn't superstition. It's algebra.

"We tend to go to one or another extreme in thinking about small traditional societies," says Diamond, explaining that indigenous cultures are neither the noble savage nor the backwards caveman, but people living their lives and solving the problems they encounter. To regard others as fundamentally different from ourselves is to close ourselves off from our own collective genius, Diamond contends.

Jared Diamond has written several books about anthropology and human ecology, including "The Third Chimpanzee," "Guns, Germs, and Steel," and his most recent, "The World Until Yesterday." For more information about Dr. Diamond and his work, visit [www.jareddiamond.org](http://www.jareddiamond.org). For more information about the Levan Center 2016 Speaker Series, future guests, and a schedule of upcoming events, click the Levan Center's tab on the BC website.

## Escape Room opens its doors to the press

By Carl E. Littleberry Jr.  
Reporter

The Bakersfield Escape Room opened its doors on April 13 to prospective customers looking to challenge themselves mentally and physically in the company's aptly named "Escape" rooms. The Bakersfield Escape Room is located on 3616 Coffee Road, Suite C, in the Rosedale area of Bakersfield.

The day opened with a brief luncheon for the press, which was purely informational and introduced us to the benefactors of the escape room and the acting manager. Then the owners cut the red ribbon, signaling the opening of their establishment to customers.

However, before the public got in on the action, my fellow members of the press and I had the chance to experience a few different rooms for ourselves.

The escapees consist of teams of no less than two but no more than six, and each is charged \$20 dollars for the hour. There are three rooms in total at the Bakersfield location, R.E.S.C.U.E., Winter Fall, and the room this reporter had the pleasure to try and escape, the Crimson Room.

In the R.E.S.C.U.E. room, a young girl has gone missing and a tactical response team has been formed to find her. While looking for the kidnappers, your team discovers an abandoned warehouse, you must search the building and find anything that could lead to her rescue. Threats of a bomb are found and time is running out. The Winter Fall rooms puts you in the shoes of a covert rescue team foraging through mysterious clues and circumstances to find a missing MI6 agent and who was responsible for his going missing.

I, however, was a participant in the newest, and in my opinion, the most challenging Crimson



JACOB TOVAR / THE RIP

The Bakersfield Real Escape Room is now open and in full effect. Escapees may book appointments at [bakersfieldescaperoom.com](http://bakersfieldescaperoom.com).

room, which consisted of capturing pirates escaping a brig and finding lost treasure.

In the Crimson room, myself and fellow inmates were shackled together in a dark room with nothing but an assortment of chests containing written clues to help us navigate through our escape.

Not to give too much away, let's just say your mental fortitude will be tested from the start, considering they put the key in

the most obvious of spots, making it near impossible to find, of course.

Trust me when I tell you this is not something for those who do not like dark places or enclosed spaces because frankly, being trapped in a room for an hour scares me in my actual life.

These escape rooms, however, are fully-monitored, and escapees are free to leave at any time. Still, that feeling you get of being locked away with nowhere to

go is kind of humbling.

I felt a sense of urgency and excitement that I could never get in my normal life.

We were able to travel back to a time where there was no technology (minus the TV screen giving you hints), and people had to use ingenuity to solve their problems. My brain was tested and to be honest, so was my pride as someone who sees himself as a somewhat partially educated member of society.

In the beginning, we were only given half of the original allotted time of an hour, and after 30 minutes we were still trapped, but not deterred.

As a group, we decided we needed to finish this because frankly, we were only two clues away from finishing, and pride won us over.

What started as a rag-tag group of journalists became a cohesive collective of minds focused on one goal: escape.

We finished the room with no more than one minute remaining, becoming the first group to do so in Bakersfield considering the Crimson Room is brand new.

I highly recommend paying a visit to the Bakersfield Escape Room. They have great service and the atmosphere is subtle and very family friendly. For more information on the Bakersfield Escape Room, visit the Facebook page or their website at [bakersfieldescaperoom.com](http://bakersfieldescaperoom.com).

## Random Renegade

Every issue, The Rip will be interviewing a random student at BC about hopes and goals.

By Crystal Valdez  
Features Editor

Jonathan Salinas, 20, is a human biology major at Bakersfield College.

Salinas is used to rigorous amounts of homework and impacted class schedules, so he feels ready to transfer to Cal State Bakersfield in the fall.

"I'm stressing over school, but I do like what I do. I just need to get my shit together," said Salinas.

Salinas is currently taking 18.5 units at BC.

"I only have time for school, work, and to work out," said Salinas. He works at a local Starbucks and enjoys working out on his free time.

After receiving his AA in human biology, Salinas plans to earn his BA in kinesiology at Cal State Bakersfield in the fall of 2016.

Salinas changed his major at BC once; he used to be a nursing major.

"It [nursing] was hard, but I am a CNA [certified nurse's assistant] now, so those classes weren't for nothing," said Salinas.

His start as a nursing major

is what helped him transition into majoring in human biology. According to Salinas, with an AA in human biology, it is more likely for him to be hired as an emergency medical technician.

He added, "I like the whole paramedic, pre hospital, first response action. If I were going to be a nurse, I would be in an ICU [intensive care unit]. Now I want to be a physician's assistant. I'm not sure what I would specialize in, but that's the direction I'm going so far."

Salinas plans to go to UC Davis after his time at Cal State Bakersfield because, according to Salinas, they have a good physician's assistant program.

He told The Rip that he truly did not want to be a nurse to begin with. He recalled his mother making the suggestion, so he went with it. He initially did want to major in kinesiology, but he was unsure what to do with the degree. Salinas is much happier with the path he has chosen to take now.

He said, "As a nurse you deal with people, but as a PA you diagnose people, and I think that's pretty interesting."



CRYSTAL VALDEZ / THE RIP

Jonathan Salinas

## BC hosts a special day for gamers

By Carl E. Littleberry Jr.  
Reporter

Bakersfield College hosted its first annual Extra-Life Gamer Day consisting of a six-hour gaming marathon spread across a multitude of gaming platforms.

Admission into the event cost participants \$15 with the charge covering food and drinks for the entirety and entrance into a raffle for gaming related prizes such as Naruto key-chains and Blood+ pens and paper.

Leading the festivities were a myriad of BC clubs like the Japanese club and others, who set up six total rooms in the MS building on the BC campus.

The rooms consisted of different gaming genres ranging from first-person shooters (FPS), to dungeon-crawlers like Magick, and even a retro room for older gaming fanatics looking for Zelda on Nintendo 64.

A special guest on the day was Bakersfield native and Guinness Record holder Carrie Swidecki, 39.

Swidecki is a second-grade teacher in Bakersfield who also doubles as a professional gamer. She holds 11 marathon records, with the most recent being her 138 hours and 43 seconds nonstop Dance-Dance feat.

She uses her status as a celebrity gamer to promote fitness in children, as she has started three different after-school programs in the area to promote fitness through gaming.

"Fifteen years ago I was over 200 pounds, and literally, I looked in the mirror one day and said enough was enough. I used my love for games to help me lose weight," Swidecki said.

"I lost 75 pounds and 10 sizes in a year. I know this works. I mean I know they say playing games is unhealthy, but I am living proof that doesn't have to be the case."

Swidecki was recently inducted into the Walter Day Video Game Hall of Fame in Banning, California, and has been nominated for induction into the International Video Game Hall of Fame.

With her induction into the



PHOTOS BY MASON J. ROCKFELLOW / THE RIP

Above: Criminal justice major Unwahr Acosta (left), 20, performs drums and vocals, while Dontay Williams, 26, art major plays guitar to Bon Jovi's "You Give Love a Bad Name" on Rock Band 4 in the music room. The music room was put on by the Visual Arts League (Art Club).

Below: While in the game room put on by the Japanese Culture Club, political science major Jack Saba takes a shot on the contraption of a game called Steel Battalion.



Walter Day VGHOFF, Swidecki now has a limited edition TOPPS trading card on display at the site.

Thanks to the help of Swidecki and the many volunteers and participants who attended the event, over \$1,200 dollars has been

raised so far, according to BC director of student organizations Chad Hidalgo.

In total, \$1,500 dollars was the bar set by the students as the proceeds were all being donated to the Lauren Small's Children's Miracle Network Hospital.

"We were delighted by the turn out, and thank you to Carrie for hosting a Dance-Dance dance-off," said Hidalgo.

"We are looking forward to more of these and just want to use our love of games to help out."

## KIT FOXES: BC administrator responds to the kit fox stories

Continued from Page 1

Part of the permit process as outlined on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service website is a section that includes an explanation as to steps taken to monitor, minimize, and mitigate any impacts, and a section for any alternative actions considered and explanations as to why they were taken.

Culpepper acknowledged that BC did not have any permits, stating that "I am not aware of any permits that were necessary to do that, but I am not aware of any permits being suggested or required. We were in direct contact with the fish, game and wildlife and the expert biologist that they recommended, so if permits were required, they would have informed us of that."

When directly asked about who approved the cementing of the dens, Culpepper stated, "the cement being poured into the den was something that was done when Craig Rouse was here, that conversation took place then, I don't know if it was by direct communication from the biologist or not. I know that whatever procedures or steps we took, it was in collaboration with the experts and fish and game and wildlife. ... I wasn't there, I wasn't present in that discussion."

When asked about who did the actual cement work, especially when none of The Rip's sources observed work being done during normal business hours, Culpepper responded, "I can't speak to what other people indicate they saw or didn't see, but I know what our processes are, and I know we were in direct with the fish and game and wildlife and the biologist. We had the reports, we paid them money, so our facilities people were in fact the ones who did the work."

Following Rouse's departure from BC in June 2015, Culpepper stated he became directly involved with the kit fox situation, and remained involved until Don Birdwell got grounded in his new position as manager of Facilities, Maintenance and Operations.

Culpepper stated, "I reached out immediately to the fish and game and wildlife, because some time had lapsed, so I reached out to them, because there were questions about the mulch. The mulch was sitting in the student parking lot."

It was during this time that the mulch was re-located to a less prime location in the student parking lot next to Memorial Stadium, but according to Culpepper, a decision had to be made as to either discarding the mulch, or figuring out a way to coexist with the kit foxes while moving forward with the operations in Memorial Stadium.

The plan was to spread the mulch over Christmas break, under the direct supervision of the biologist. "They let us know exactly which areas were active, which areas were not active, they told us what we could do and not do, they came in and even supervised ... witnessed how we spread the mulch," stated Culpepper.

When asked if there was ever any thought given to creating a habitat or sanctuary for the kit foxes, Culpepper stated, "There was no thought on my part about making it a sanctuary or habitat, because the focus was to find what coexistence could happen. We needed to beautify the campus, we needed to continue to move operations forward, and to develop Memorial Stadium, because it's the operation of the campus. It wasn't trying to create another environmental habitat, it was about what the stadium was there to be

used for and at the same time knowing that the kit foxes were there."

Culpepper described Memorial Stadium as an athletics environment, but stated the beautification of the campus and landscaping is a Facilities, Maintenance, and Operations role, so this project was not a directive from athletics.

Looking forward, Culpepper stated there has not been any further interaction with the hillside to his knowledge, so it seems like coexistence has been established.

"It is my understanding that the kit foxes like the mulch, apparently they think it's a warm blanket, they see them up in there playing with it all the time ... who knows ... nature is very interesting," stated Culpepper.

Several interview requests have been sent to Rouse, and as of writing this story, no response has been received.

Additionally, The Rip has attempted to contact wildlife biologist Waring Laurendine of McCormick Biological Incorporated, who was identified as one of the biologists hired by BC. He has not responded.

During the course of the interview, Culpepper made it clear that he would not provide any of the documents he had in his possession, nor would he identify the person or organization who donated the mulch.

The Renegade Rip has submitted a public records request with the Kern Community College District, a copy of which can be seen at www.therip.com.

The Rip is requesting the identification of the donor who provided the mulch, any wildlife biologist reports or surveys, any documents from The California Department of Fish and Wildlife, any communication between Rouse/Birdwell and Culpepper regarding kit foxes, and a work schedule or timecards for all Facilities, Maintenance, and Operations employees for the timeframe of when the cement was poured.

In between the publication of the April 6 stories and the interview in this edition, Culpepper questioned why The Rip did not interview him for the story in the April 6 edition. In mid to late March, The Rip had contacted numerous employees and administrators at BC in an attempt to gather additional information about the kit foxes and how they were treated. Most of those contacted refused to comment and eventually directed The Rip to Culpepper.

In preparation for the April 6 paper, there was an unrelated news story in which The Rip attempted to contact and interview Culpepper. The initial interview request specifically talked about the status of Amber Chang, director of marketing and public relations, and did not mention the treatment of kit foxes and Memorial Stadium. It was then that The Rip learned Culpepper was the administrator to talk to about kit foxes.

Since the reporter working on the Chiang story had already left a message with Culpepper, he decided to wait for Culpepper's response to also talk about kit foxes.

Culpepper said Chiang did not fall under his purview, so the interview request was forwarded to the appropriate person. Thus, The Rip did not make an interview request to Culpepper that specifically mentioned kit foxes, and The Rip reporter and Culpepper never talked directly.

## Group supports Measure F tax that would benefit libraries



SARA LIEVANOS / THE RIP

Founders of Advocates for Library Enhancement and Measure F Mandy Walters (left) and Miranda Lomeli-O'Reilly show off their campaign yard signs.

By Sara Lievanos  
Reporter

On June 7, the voters of Kern County will have the opportunity to voice their opinion on a new ballot measure that aims to fund our public libraries with a one-eighth-cent sales tax increase.

The new measure, which is called Measure F, was created by a non-partisan grassroots organization called the Advocates for Library Enhancement.

The organization formed as a response to the idea of privatizing Kern County's public libraries.

Librarian and co-founder of ALE Mandy Walters explained why she decided to get involved.

"I moved to Bakersfield three years ago from a rural county in Arkansas that had 40,000 people living there, and we had a 30,000 square foot, high tech 21st century library, so I could only imagine what amazing things a town like Bakersfield with over 300,000 people was going to be doing in their libraries, and when I got here it was not that way at all."

Walters explained that the real issue plaguing Kern County libraries is not being able to transition into the 21st century solely because of chronic underfunding.

Measure F was created as a solution to this problem.

"People still believe that a library is a repository for books, and after seeing what a 21st century library could do in Arkansas, that is not the case," said Walters.

The co-founder explained that if Measure F is passed, it would allow our Kern County libraries to expand their services such as literacy programs for all ages.

It would also add updated technology like tablets and laptops for public use.

One aspect of Measure F that Walters stressed is that any money generated will not be placed in the general fund, with the understanding by the Board of Supervisors that it is for the

libraries.

All funds will be put aside in a separate account and by law cannot be utilized for anything other than enhancing Kern County public libraries.

Another important feature of Measure F, according to Walters, is that it will establish a community oversight committee.

The committee will be made of five volunteers, appointed by their board of supervisors' representatives, to make sure the money is being used responsibly and distributed equally for all the Kern County libraries.

Fellow co-founder Miranda Lomeli-O'Reilly discussed that the biggest trailblazer for the Advocates of Library Enhancement and Measure F has been Fresno County.

Lomeli-O'Reilly explained that in 1998 Fresno passed a similar measure that the public has loved so much they have renewed it twice.

"I can see that there is a solution to being on lists such as third least educated and most illiterate, because there is no reason we can't have something similar to Fresno," said Lomeli-O'Reilly.

Measure F, if passed, will expire in eight years and cannot be modified or changed without voter approval.

Both Walters and Lomeli-O'Reilly emphasize for anyone questioning whether or not to vote yes on Measure F that it is an investment in our community and in our children and our children's children to have libraries that provide people the resources they need for success.

Besides the six volunteer board members of ALE, Walters says that it has taken hundreds of people donating to the campaign, canvassing, and informing library patrons to try and make the measure a success, and more volunteers are welcome.

If you are interested in supporting the Measure F campaign or have any questions, feel free to visit the ALE Facebook page, kernlibraryadvocates.com, or drop by the campaign headquarters between noon to 5 p.m. at 1430 Truxton Ave., suite 100.

**"I moved to Bakersfield three years ago from a rural county in Arkansas that had 40,000 people living there, and we had a 30,000 square foot, high tech 21st century library, so I could only imagine what amazing things a town like Bakersfield with over 300,000 people was going to be doing in their libraries, and when I got here it was not that way at all."**

**-Mandy Walters, Librarian and co-founder of ALE**

## Presentation sheds light onto rape and domestic violence

By Misty Severi  
Reporter

Rape is a growing concern for women in colleges across America, and the amount of campuses that actually do anything about these rapes is surprisingly low.

Bakersfield College's Performing Arts Department performed a "Dramatic Reading: Violence in the Lives of Women" on April 7-8, talking about the issues of rape, sexual assault, and physical and emotional abuse to women.

Overall, the show had a full audience on April 7, and they even had to bring in extra chairs.

The program began with a talk on the statistics of rape on college campuses, with the cast taking turns reading from "Rampant Sexual Violence Against Women and Rape on College Campuses" by Joachim Hagopian, before showing a video talking about the rises in numbers of rape victims.

Victoria Colley and Carlos Noriega then performed the song "The Dark I Know Well" from the musical Spring Awakening about a girl who gets molested by her father while her mother does nothing.

Carlos Noriega and Sara Alaniz did an emotional performance of "The Inner Monologue of a Rape," and Evan

Alvarado performed a dance to "Roses" by Chain Smokers.

Victoria Colley performed four songs in total over the course of the night, including the duet. The rest of her songs included "Hello" by Evanescence, "Angels" by Within Temptation, and a heart-wrenching rendition of "Until It Happens To You" by Lady Gaga.

Other highlights of the night included Jason Glenn performing "I'm Not A Football."

Daniel Ochoa performed two dances, one to "Flawless" by Beyonce and the other to Beyonce's "Grown Woman," and Lily Philips dressed in a '50s housewife apron singing "Say That We're Sweethearts Again"

by Virginia O'Brian.

The song "Say That We're Sweethearts Again" is a dark comedy about an abusive relationship where the boyfriend tried to kill the girlfriend several times during the relationship, and the girlfriend (the singer of the song) doesn't quite realize what is going on.

The night ended on a high note with the cast performing the song "Fight Song" by Rachel Platten, an upbeat, positive song about taking back your life and moving on.

The final line of the song is "and I really don't care what anybody else believes, because I still got a lot of fight left in me."

## SGA election results

<b>Total Votes Cast:</b> 751	<b>Candidates:</b>
<b>Voter Turnout:</b> 4.10%	Daron Dontae Smith Jr. -357
<b>Presidential Candidates:</b>	Jeremiah Marsh -226
Matthew Frazer - 240	<b>Senator Candidates:</b>
Manuel Zavala -221	Fitzgerald Graves -337
Geena Olague -213	Tania Bernal -300
<b>Vice Presidential Candidates:</b>	Nicolas Montero-Garcia -275
Galo Jimenez -346	Lawrence Salcido -244
<b>Director of Student Organization</b>	Erik Alexander Garcia-Gregorio -241

## Weed helps health

By AK Pachla  
Copy Editor

Happy 4:20 everyone! I wish you this as a card-carrying member of the cannabis community. It was moving to California, where I would have consistent access to high quality marijuana at a price that is more or less fixed by a free market system, which allowed me to move past my own health issues and finally succeed in living an average life.

You may take this for granted, but I don't. My problems had been so severe that even now I can still be pleasantly surprised by the fact that I'm not just waiting to die anymore. You may be thinking about the future and running until you get there. I'm just glad I lived to see us both here.

That said, this actually isn't going to be one of those pieces where some stoner slobbers all over their favorite hobby, claiming that looking at pot cures cancer and living next door to dispensaries and commercial grow-ops is all unicorns and ninja turtles. This is the real world. Nothing here is perfect.

I want to be reasonable about my health. Banning particular configurations of molecules because you can claim not to know for sure how they work on people's brains opens the door for literally everything to be banned, including brains themselves. It is an extremist response.

Just as extreme, though, is the wholly unregulated introduction of a largely unfamiliar variable into the social mix on little more than anecdotal data. Cannabis does change how people's minds and bodies react. If it didn't, it wouldn't be an effective medicine for conditions like glaucoma, chronic pain, and anxiety.

Given the long-standing restrictions on conducting research with marijuana placed on many Western governments, including the United States, the public genuinely does not have enough information to make universally good decisions about recreational cannabis use. It's as unwise to extol the virtues of cannabis as an utterly harmless wonder drug as it is unreasonable to ban things because of sometimes, stoners get themselves into trouble.

Earlier this month, the Drug Enforcement Administration announced that it would be reviewing narcotics schedule and intends to make a decision by July regarding whether or not marijuana would remain classified as a Schedule I narcotic. Schedule I narcotics are considered to be of no medicinal value with a high potential for abuse. The only other drug classified as Schedule I by the DEA is heroin.

This classification has been what's prevented both the government and private interests from conducting real, top level research on the chemistry of cannabis. These researchers don't want access to cannabis so they can figure out how to grow the bombest. They want to analyze the component chemistry of the plant and derive medicines from those chemicals.

If the DEA allows for industrial research into cannabinoid derivatives, the future of medical marijuana won't be the pot shop down the street. It will be the painkiller that replaces opiates. It will be the antinausea drug that also makes chemo more effective. It will be the antidepressant that doesn't have to list "suicidal thoughts" as a possible side effect. In 50 years, people may be laughing at what caved men we were in 2016, wasting all that perfectly good medicine by smoking it up.

Marijuana may or may not be the wonder-cure some claim it to be, but it's certain that we'll never know for sure until we give people the chance to really understand what cannabis is made of and why it acts on us as it does.

As they say in my crop circles, you can't grow until you learn.

## Breast-feeding in public: Is it really that big of a deal?

By AK Pachla  
Copy editor

I Googled "breast-feeding in public" and found out that on April 11, a woman participating in a case being heard in a North Carolina courtroom was expelled from the premises for breast-feeding her infant son.

According to North Carolina law, a woman may breast-feed her child in any place where she is legally allowed to be.

I started with the Google search because I already knew I would find a recent example of a woman being shamed, disenfranchised, abused, or otherwise treated poorly for feeding her baby. People call it disgusting and a sex crime and go so far as to physically manhandle a woman holding a baby in her arms.

This isn't about breast-feeding at all. It's barely even about breasts. It's about a society that openly, unabashedly, and avariciously hates everything about women. It doesn't matter what the woman does, she is considered an evil thing that is destroying civilization just by her very existence.

When I hear people calling parts of my body illegal, disgusting, and evil, it insults me. Breast-feeding is no different from a great many other things that people apply an unfair, gender based double standard to, just like body hair and birth control. Breast-feeding is just one more people use to justify discrimination against women.

I know I'm not the only person on this campus who knows what it feels like to be labeled as "wrong" simply because of where they were born, who they were born, or how they were born. Like them, women have been living with this pervasive social hate for so long, we don't even recognize it anymore.

My breasts are disgusting, and I deserve to be publicly abused for having them? Well, of course. When has that ever not been the case, right? I would ask people who believe themselves to be "against" breast-feeding how much of their "opinion" is based on them finding women's bodies disgusting. I'm sure they'd all say "no," and I'm just as sure they lie.

Why wouldn't you? It's not like you've been offered another option. Isn't our entire culture directed at telling women over and over how ugly and stupid and worthless we are?

"Act how we tell you, buy this makeup, don't eat this food, take these pills, wear these clothes, or else everyone will hate you because you're just an ugly, worthless sex toy with a pulse, and don't you forget it."

Seeing a woman using her breasts for what they're for, I'm sure, isn't so much enraging as deeply, deeply confusing to Americans. "You mean a woman is a person, and she does things with her body that have nothing to do with me or my personal feelings? What is that about? Aren't I the center of the universe?"

No. No, you're not. And you don't get to force people to act like they're worthless just because you don't know any better.



ALBERT "NIMAK" VARGAS / THE RIP

By Carl E. Littleberry Jr  
Reporter

I am a man who loves the female body, from the complexities of the female personality, to the broad range of physical features that I myself find alluring on the female body. I may be a little unconventional in saying this but, the female body is the greatest piece of art ever created. Being born into household of six women and only one male, and being from the south, I was raised to respect women in every aspect. However, I do have a distinct issue with women and their breasts.

More importantly, I have an issue with breast-feeding in public and why women feel like they are entitled to do it whenever and where

they are. Breasts are and will always be a sexual organ, even when used for child rearing. On televisions everywhere we are censoring breasts all over the world. However, the one image that always slips through the cracks seems to be ones involving a mother breast-feeding.

### PRO CON

I feel that a well-placed sheet or a blanket can go a long way. Your bodies are beautiful, but they are supposed to be the world's best kept secrets. You are exposing yourselves to children in the park and teens in department stores then getting upset at the attention you draw from strangers when you do so.

Ask yourselves, ladies, would you feel comfortable if your child was at day care and was exposed to a woman wet nursing another's child, and during said activity the child confuses the difference and proceeds to expose herself in public? Never has it been okay for things such as breasts and other sexual organs to be exposed to the public, but women seem to confuse that women's equality movement doesn't really cover your feelings about public nudity.

I'm not going to whip out my genitalia in public and urinate in front of children just because I have to go to the bathroom. Also, yes it may be healthier than things like Similac, but you know you could always use a breast pump and bottle your milk beforehand.

You're basically forcing people to accept that your opinion on what we think is supposed to be deemed sexual, is okay, which is ridiculous.

For one this shouldn't even be an argument. Last time I heard public nudity should be illegal, and in my opinion that should include breast-feeding. I practically have to break my neck to not make awkward eye contact with the mother just to not feel embarrassed for both of us.

Honestly, we need to stop feeling as though every time women get mad about something we are supposed to hop to find a solution. Focus on the real issues, ladies, like wages and the lack of women in power positions in America.

And don't think of me as a chauvinistic pig. Ladies, I understand how uncomfortable a child can become just from the simple exercise of breast-feeding. It's more for the children, and children can't tell the difference between eating and sex. It's ridiculous when kids are supposed to be our future.

## Women deserve to be equal to men

By Marcus Castro  
Contributing Editor

Many people say that these days, women have nearly earned full equality among men. I think that they are completely wrong.

Women are moving toward equality at a much faster pace than they were 100 years ago, but I do not believe that they are close to where they morally should be.

Men still dominate in many areas of the work world and leadership positions. In politics, there are women such as Sen. Jean Fuller or Hillary Clinton who are making an impact, but the vast majority of the political world is dominated by men.

Men are making most of the decisions in the world that affect millions of people. I think that women should be much more involved in decisions that affect the nation or world as they can bring another perspective to the plate.

One of the main reasons for women not having equality is the male dominance in history of the world.

When you read a history book, how often do you see a woman's name come up? It's very rare to see it. Men have completely dominated the world's known

history.

Roles have been put in place for women to follow throughout time. These roles include stay at home wives, maids, secretaries, and other roles. Whether these roles were made over time by men or women is irrelevant to the fact that women feel pressured to fit these roles.

The roles of women in the home and work world aren't as prominent as they used to be in the past, but they still are relevant.

In order for women to push toward being equal, they must break these roles. The more that women kick these roles and do what they want. Let it be known that this is my choice; let it be known that you are not staying at home because you are a woman but because you choose to do it as a person not a woman.

There are men in society that truly believe that women are inferior to men. They think that because men are naturally stronger and larger that they are for some reason superior to women. That makes no sense to me.

Just because a man has the ability, on average, to overpower a woman or be better off in a situation where one must use strength, does not make men superior to women.

Women deserve equality, not because



ALBERT "NIMAK" VARGAS / THE RIP

they have dealt with being inferior for a very long time, but because they are humans along with men, and we all deserve to be equal.

## New minimum wage increase is really unnecessary

By Marcus Castro  
Contributing Editor

California Gov. Jerry Brown approved minimum wage's raise to \$15 an hour on April 4, and it will become effective in 2020.

To be honest, I think that minimum wage shouldn't be raised to that amount.

I feel that if you are a person who doesn't play an integral role in a workplace such as fast food, you don't deserve to get paid as high as \$15 an hour.

Now if you're a manager of the place you work at and have many duties, then I can see where you may deserve to be paid \$15 an hour.

One problem I see coming out of this is the products that we all purchase constantly are going to rise in price. With the businesses having to pay their employ-

ees more, they will have to balance the higher pay with increase in their prices. What will help individuals who get paid minimum wage will negatively affect everyone else in the work field.

I get paid \$16.35 an hour, which is not much more than the minimum wage increase. So the price increases for products will greatly affect me, as I will no longer be making what is a decent pay for a young college student.

Another problem that I think may unfold from this minimum wage increase is the loss of small businesses.

Many small businesses struggle to stay in business because many of the owners are regular people who make a regular amount of money. Small business owners will now have to pay a much heftier amount of money to their workers. Some of these workers they are going

to have to pay much more may even just be a drive-thru operator or a person who only answers phones. Going back to what I was saying earlier, I don't think it's fair for struggling small business owners to have to pay a worker who truly doesn't have a real important role in the workplace \$15 an hour.

Being a little selfish, I feel that if so many people are struggling because of the minimum wage, they should try to move up the chain where they are at or try their hardest to move onto a better paying job. Going to school can help people find better jobs, or learning a skill or trade can help someone find a better job as well. Both of these routes can lead to a lifelong career.

I know many people that are currently struggling at their minimum wage jobs while they go to school, but I don't hear

them complaining about it because they know that's just part of what they got to do to get where they want to be.

Another fix, maybe a far-fetched one, is the opposite of increasing pay. Decreasing the price of the products people buy, such as groceries, toilet paper, water, and other necessities, can help people that get paid minimum wage make a living.

This would allow for people to make it through everyday life much easier, and it would make it easier for people who want to move up in the work world but are currently at school or taking time to learn a specific skill to increase their marketing in a specific field of work.

To close this out, the minimum wage increase, in my opinion, is not necessary at all, but maybe by 2020, when it becomes effective, it will make more sense. We'll just have to wait and see.

Album Review

## Von Zimmer's album is decent



THE PROWLER

By Misty Severi  
Reporter

As someone who pays more attention to the lyrics than if a song is musically complex, I would say that lyrically, the artist Von Zimmer has a real talent.

Von Zimmer, a songwriter from South Dakota, just put out a new album and sent The Rip a copy in hopes of a review. The paper decided to oblige.

There are 10 songs on Von Zimmer's album "Freddie's Extra Teeth," referring to Freddie Mercury's (from the rock band Queen) extra set of teeth. Supposedly, Mercury never had them removed because he feared that he would lose his ability to sing the high notes, which to Von Zimmer was a sign of great dedication to his music.

My personal favorites from the album were "The Road to Nod," "Epic Fail Blues" and "A Groat Named Costard."

Von Zimmer's lyrics are creative, refreshing, and thankfully not overdone.

Some examples of his lyrics from "The Road to Nod" are:

"Not so different thinking claims to own the high road,"

Failure is a symptom of a weak genetic code."

Sweat from 60 hours hides behind the label, deafening progress tethered by a cable,"

And some lyrics from "A Groat Named Costard":

"Searching for one letter in the darkness left behind, monkeys tapping on keyboards, elevating humankind,"

"To oppose the accepted quintessence with a spear to shake,

last defense of ignorance, a burning at the stake."

In other songs, he rhymes words such as "current" with "deterrent" and "bomb" with "prom," another sign of his poetic and lyrical creativity.

Musically however, many of his songs have the same kind of tune and rhythm.

The music is far louder than his voice. I'm not saying that's necessarily a bad thing, especially since he credits himself more as a songwriter than a singer.

In my opinion, the repetition can eventually get kind of boring, and I don't see it as creative.

On the plus side, most of his songs are pretty catchy and can get stuck in your head for hours.

Other songs include "Your Song," a song written to his wife,

identified by the brass ring he mentions on his finger, and the "yes" that she whispered in his ear. "Archimedes Beer" is about a guy going down to a bar at the end of a terrible day. And "Tragic Fall From Grace" is a bitter song where the singer compares himself to the fame of other musicians. "Spitting on a fan, or talking on a phone, you will be remembered, I was never known."

Overall, on a scale of 1-5, in this album for lyrical quality I would give him a 4 or 5, for music quality I would give him a 3 due to the catchiness and his talent at playing the instruments used, but for musical creativity and vocals, I would give him a 2.

★★★★☆

Music Band Review

## Rock band punks out at own show

By Misty Severi  
Reporter

As a first time reviewer and viewer of the punk rock band SWMRS, I had pretty high expectations of the concert.

However, when SWMRS took the stage, I expected them to be leagues ahead of the rest of the bands in talent, but instead they failed in comparison to The Frights.

There were four bands in total that performed on April 6, and each one rose in talent as the bands got the audience hyped up for SWMRS,

the final band of the night. But when SWMRS took the stage at 9, the disappointment was high.

The highlight of their set was when they performed the song "Miley" written about teen pop star Miley Cyrus.

While I'm not a huge fan of punk rock myself, I did my research on them (like listening to their music ahead of time). I've heard several different punk rock bands, and I was not impressed. Here's why:

The Frights got onstage and immediately I could tell that this was a band that knew how to en-

ertain a crowd.

Confidence and energy oozed out of them.

When SWMRS got onstage, they were lost in their own little world, not even paying attention to the audience until the mic check happened.

Granted they had to set up, but the other bands were at least smiling at the audience and seeming friendly as they got ready.

I understand that they were busy, but they could have put in more effort. The background music was far louder than the vocals for SWMRS than it was for any other

band during the night, it seemed almost as if they didn't know how to use the microphone, despite the dancing onstage.

I'll give them props for having a lot of energy once the music started.

Having had heard their music beforehand, I can say that I'm a fan of their vocals... once I can actually hear them.

Overall the venue was great, the bands before SWMRS were fantastic, but SWMRS themselves? I hate to say that I was bummed.

★★★★☆



TICKETFLY

## Renegade Events

### Workshops/Fairs

**April 20:** Student Education Plan Workshop, Wednesday, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Location: Counseling Center, SS151

**April 20:** Writing the Map, Creating Outlines to Streamline your Writing, this Workshop will focus on synthesizing quotes, Wednesday, April 20, 12:15 p.m.-1:15 p.m. Location: SS133

**April 20:** CAS Workshop, Emphasize Integrity, Character Counts, both academically, in the working world, and throughout every aspect of our lives, Wednesday, 2 p.m.-3 p.m. Location: SS151

**April 20:** CAS Workshop, Preventing Plagiarism, Wednesday, 3 p.m.-4 p.m. Location: SS151  
Students will learn to recognize what constitutes plagiarism while they also gain skills in paraphrasing, using quotations appropriately, and formatting in-text citations and full citations.

**April 21:** CAS Workshop, Preventing Plagiarism, Thursday, 6 p.m.-7 p.m. Location: SS151  
Students will learn to recognize what constitutes plagiarism while they also gain skills in paraphrasing, using quotations appropriately, and formatting in-text citations and full citations.

**April 21:** Dismissal Workshop, Thursday, 9 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Location: Counseling Center, SS151

**April 25:** Writing Center Workshop, Strong Starts, Fit Finishes, Monday, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. This workshop will provide strategies for students to improve the introductions and conclusions of their essays. Location: Room SS133

**April 26:** CAS Workshop, Test Taking Tips, Tuesday, 1 p.m.-2 p.m. Location: SS151

Upon completion, attendees should understand and be able to apply test-taking strategies, such as visualizing success and distributing study time, in a real test taking situation.

**April 26:** CAS Workshop, Writing A Strong Thesis Statement, Tuesday, 4 p.m.-5 p.m. Location: SS151  
Students will learn techniques for creating powerful thesis statements that succinctly emphasize the main focus of their papers and help them as writers to stay on track.

**April 28:** Writing Center Workshop, Strong Starts, Fit Finishes, Thursday, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Location: Room SS133

**April 28:** BC Alumni Student Nexus, Thursday, 12 p.m.-1 p.m. Location: Fireside Room

**May 2:** UC Bound-Ready, Set, Transfer Workshop, Monday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Location: SS151

**May 3:** Student Education Plan Workshop, Tuesday, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Location: Counseling Center, SS151

**May 3:** Writing Center Workshop, Ice Ice Baby: Effectively using Quotes, Tuesday, 3 p.m.-4 p.m. Location: Room SS133

**May 4:** Writing Center Workshop, Ice Ice Baby: Effectively using Quotes, Wednesday, 3 p.m.-4 p.m. Location: Room SS133

### Music

**April 25:** Jazz Ensemble Spring Concert, Monday, 7:30 p.m. The Bakersfield College Jazz Ensemble directed by Kris Tiner presents a program of classic and contemporary works for big band. \$5-10 Suggested Donation. Location: SPARC Indoor Theater

### Miscellaneous

**April 21:** Renegade Talks, Thursday, 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. There will be a series of 8-10 minutes speeches by both students and staff on a myriad of topics. Location: Indoor Theater

**April 27:** Career Day, Wednesday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Location: Campus Center, Fireside Room, Foyer, Free Speech Area

**May 2:** Renegade Pantry Fruits & Veggie Distribution, fresh fruits and veggies available for distribution, Monday, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Location: Renegade Pantry, Campus Center

**May 4:** Farmers Market: Murray Family Farms, Wednesday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Location: Renegade Crossroads, Campus Center

## RENEGADE MINDS "What do you like best about Bakersfield College?"

Compiled by:  
Joe Bergman  
Photo & Sports Editor



Dyann Serrato, 56, Sophomore: "The professors, they are very professional and know their stuff."



Gabriel Hernandez, 19, Freshman: "Probably the trees... I am sitting under one now."



Sarah Voss, 20, Sophomore: "The professors are all nice, had nothing but good experiences with them."



Kevin Le, 19, Sophomore: "It offers a lot of opportunities for every student, especially for a junior college."



Angel Martinez, 19, Freshman: "Meeting people here is pretty rad."



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 California Newspaper Publishers Association.

## The Renegade Rip

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

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# 25 years of concessions for Ray Maranda



JOE BERGMAN / THE RIP

Ray Maranda has been voluntarily operating the concession stand at Gerry Collis Field, where the Bakersfield College baseball team plays, for the past 25 years.

By Kyle Cortez  
Reporter

For the past 25 years, Ray Maranda has been running the concession stand at Gerry Collis Field. "I enjoy it, and I enjoy being around the ballplayers. Meeting people here has just been an amazing experience," said Maranda.

Before Maranda started volunteering at the concession stand, he was an equipment manager and trainer for 25 years.

He retired 16 years ago and has kept busy by running the concession stand at the baseball games.

Maranda attended Bakersfield College in 1957 and then went into the military. When Maranda left for the military, he said that he would love to come back and work at BC.

After Maranda returned from the military, he was an equipment manager and trainer at Foothill High School. He then became the equipment manager and trainer at East Bakersfield High School.

Maranda then came to BC in 1976 and worked as the equipment manager and as a trainer until he retired in 2000. Maranda did say that he currently works about four hours a day at BC.

The brother-in-law of the previous BC baseball coach was the one who ran the concession stand before Maranda. He said that once the brother-in-law quit running the concession stand, he stepped in and has been here ever since.

"Someone had to make some

money for the baseball team, so I volunteered to help out," said Maranda.

Maranda couldn't recall anything peculiar happening at a baseball game, but he went on to say that it's been a lot of fun and quite interesting.

Although he's only volunteering, Maranda still puts in a tremendous amount of work at the concession stand.

"If there's a game at three o'clock, I'm usually up here at ten o'clock and I don't leave until six or seven o'clock. When there's a tournament, it's usually a 12-hour day. I have to get here early to make sure I get everything prepared," said Maranda.

Maranda runs the concession stand on his own, and he normally doesn't get help from anyone else.

"Every once in a while I'll get some help in here. They used to have students help, but I don't know what happened with that. Every once in a while though, someone will volunteer to help out," said Maranda.

Maranda said that he used to drive the bus for the baseball team years ago, and it's one of his favorite memories.

Maranda orders all of the supplies for the concession stand through the cafeteria and whenever there's a tournament, he'll make tri-tip sandwiches. Maranda is known for his tri-tip sandwiches, which he takes great pride in.

"From what I've been told, I make the best tri-tip sandwiches," he said. "The old saying is that when the scouts come in

they don't ask the coach who the starting pitcher is, they just want to know if Ray is cooking tri-tip."

Maranda said that he remembers watching Colby Lewis and Octavio Martinez play at BC and both have gone on to the major leagues.

Lewis is currently the starting pitcher for the Texas Rangers, while Martinez is a bullpen catcher for the Washington Nationals.

Maranda doesn't have the liberty to watch every inning of every baseball game since he does have to make sure the concession stand is running properly.

Despite there being several players that he has watched play at BC throughout the years, Lewis and Martinez have been two guys that stood out to him the most.

"There are several players that have played here that come back and stop by to say hello," he said.

Maranda isn't quite sure how much longer he plans on doing this, but he was just informed that he would be back next season running the concession stand.

Maranda said the best part about volunteering is being able to meet all the players and parents who come in.

"There are kids coming in to play, and I was able to give their parents their uniforms when they played here," he said.

Maranda said that he's had many great memories working the concession stand and that he looks forward to continue volunteering.

## Baseball Scores

**April 5**  
West L.A. College 11, Bakersfield College 1

The Renegades committed seven errors in the game. Hudson Hartley got the start for BC, and he only pitched 3.2 innings while giving up seven runs (three earned) on seven hits. BC only had four hits and the team combined to strikeout eight times.

**April 7**  
Bakersfield College 13, West L.A. College 7

West L.A. College committed eight errors in the game. Monty Stevens was the starting pitcher for BC and he picked up the win. Stevens gave up five runs on eight hits and walked six, but he was able to pitch six tough innings. Brooks Douglass, Hanz Harker and Juan Gonzalez all registered three hits. Douglass went 3-for-6 with three RBIs. Harker went 3-for-5 with two RBIs. Gonzalez went 3-for-6 with three RBIs.

**April 9**  
Bakersfield College 2, West L.A. College 0

The game was called after five innings due to rain. Austin Toerner pitched five innings giving up only two hits to get the win. Both of BC's runs came in the bottom of the second inning. Harrison Smith scored on a balk. Brock Hallum scored on a throwing error by West LA's third baseman.

**April 12**  
College of the Canyons 13, Bakersfield College 3

College of the Canyons had eighteen hits. Canyons top three hitters in the lineup combined to go 9-for-14 with nine RBIs. Hudson Hartley got the loss for BC. Hartley gave up 11 runs on 13 hits, which included three home runs. Brooks Douglass was the only Renegade who had multiple

hits. Douglass went 2-for-5. BC combined to strikeout 14 times at the plate.

**April 14**  
Bakersfield College 20, College of the Canyons 9

BC erupted for 22 hits. BC was down 6-0 after the first inning, but they continued to chip away at the lead. BC finally took the lead in the sixth inning by scoring eight runs. Canyons made nine errors in the game, four of them came in the bottom of the sixth which aided the Renegades comeback. Monty Stevens started for BC, but he only pitched one inning having given up six runs on five hits and walking four in the top of the first. Cain Roberts got the win for BC by pitching six innings of relief, giving up three runs on eight hits while striking out five. Jacob Herrera went 5-for-6 with three RBIs. Brooks Douglass went 4-for-5 with two RBIs. Kyle James went 3-for-5 with three RBIs.

**April 16**  
Bakersfield College 10, College of the Canyons 6

BC was able to take the rubber match against the second-ranked team in the state, Canyons, to win the season series 2-1. Starting pitcher Austin Toerner got the win for BC by pitching six innings. Cyrus Parsons came in for relief and pitched three hitless innings. Hanz Harker hit a two-run home run, which allowed the Renegades to maintain their lead.

BC sits in third place in the Western State Conference-South Division, just two games out of first place with six games left to play in the season.

BC's next game is at L.A. Valley College on April 19. BC's next home game is on April 21 against L.A. Valley College.



Above: BC's Brooks Douglass celebrates after hitting a double that brought in 2 runs. Douglass went 4-for-5 batting and had two RBIs, as BC beat College of the Canyons 20-9. Left: BC catcher Jacob Herrera catches a foul tip. Herrera went 5-for-6 batting and had three RBIs.

JOE BERGMAN  
THE RIP

## BC track teams have good efforts in preparation for conference meets

By Kyle Cortez  
Reporter

The BC women's track team had two first-place winners in the Vaquero Classic at Glendale College on April 9.

Tyra Saunders took first in the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.34 seconds. Saunders placed second in the 200-meter dash with a time of 26.11 seconds.

Kyra Saunders placed third in the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.76 seconds. Saunders also placed third in

the long jump with a mark of 17 feet (5.13m).

Sydney Roman placed second in the 1500-meter run with a time of 5 minutes 2.06 seconds.

The BC women's 4x100-meter relay team, consisting of Emagee Tyler, Tyra Saunders, Cassidy Murphy, and Kyra Saunders, took first in the 4x100-meter relay with a time of 48.69 seconds.

The BC women's 4x400-meter relay team, Carina Perezchica, Tyra Saunders, Kyra Saunders, and Murphy, placed third in the 4x400-meter relay with a

time of 4 minutes 24.23 seconds.

Veronica Slade placed third in the triple jump with a jump of 34 feet (10.38m). Marilyn Quintero placed third in the discus throw with a distance of 121 feet (36.88m).

The BC men's track team didn't have any first-place winners, but there were a few who had good results.

Daniel Aguirre placed third in the 800-meter run with a time of 1 minute 56.48 seconds. Christopher Moreno placed fourth in the 800-meter run with a time of 1 minute 56.68 seconds.

Mark Agbalog placed second in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 16.62 seconds.

The BC men's 4x100-meter relay team, consisting of Tristan McGee, Lucas Parviainen, Ronnie Lesure, and Issac Hernandez, placed fourth in the 4x100-meter relay with a time of 43.82 seconds.

The BC men's 4x400-meter relay team, consisting of Parviainen, Aguirre, Hernandez, and Moreno, placed third in the 4x400-meter relay with a time of 3 minutes 26.52 seconds.

Jacob Bookout placed fourth in the high jump with a jump of 6-2 (1.88m). Bookout also placed fourth in the long jump with a mark of 21 feet 3 inches (6.49m).

Dillen Littles placed second in the shot put with a distance of 45 feet 5 inches (13.84m). Littles also placed second in the discus throw with a distance of 137 feet 10 inches (42.00m).

The next track meet is the Western State Conference Preliminaries on April 22 at College of the Canyons. The WSC Finals are on April 29 at BC.

# Beach volleyball has its season debut

By Carl E. Littleberry Jr.  
Reporter

History was made at Bakersfield College on April 15 as the school hosted its first ever beach volleyball game, when the Renegades played Antelope Valley and Rio Hondo.

Not having sand courts on the BC campus, the games were played at CSUB.

The Renegades began the season losing two of their first three games, all on the road, losing by scores of 5-0 to Ventura and 3-2 to L.A. Pierce on March 18.

After a week long hiatus from play, the team rebounded by beating the same L.A. Pierce team 3-2.

"Early on, our girls were struggling with the transition to the sand courts. We don't have too many girls experienced with it to begin with so it was challenging," said first-year head coach Carl Ferreira, who also doubles as the BC women's volleyball coach.

However, the team found its stride in its home match against Rio Hondo, which posed little to no threat as all five BC doubles teams swept their two-game matches for an overall 5-0 team victory.

BC followed that with a similar drubbing of Rio Hondo, with all four Renegades doubles teams winning. Rio Hondo didn't have enough members to field five teams.

"Being a two-player game, we focus more on continuity with our players than we would on a regular court," Ferreira said. "We are just finding the right flow between our players, and our girls will have to learn each other's tendencies. In the end, though, I think we have a chance to really go far in some of the later tournaments."

Though the Renegades swept both matches on the day, the real news however was the history the team made with its first home game.

"It's huge for us," said McKenzie Hernandez, a BC sophomore. "I'm excited. Me and my partner is excited about our chances to go to the state tourney."

Ari Sikes, who led on the day with 26 total points, plays for the number five team of BC. Sikes said she was happy to just be allowed around the CSUB campus.

"This day was huge for us, but we couldn't have done any of this without CSUB allowing us to," said Sikes.

Local fans who made the trip



JOE BERGMAN / THE RIP

BC's beach volleyball team gathers as coach Carl Ferreira talks to them at the match against CSUB. CSUB went on to win the match.



JOE BERGMAN / THE RIP

Sarah Aurin (left) and Alyssa Matthews wait for CSUB to serve the ball. Aurin and Matthews are the No. 1 team for BC.

out to CSUB to support BC team in the 88-degree heat were especially happy for the team. Many fans echoed sentiments of relief for the team and know that just adding beach volleyball to the intercollegiate docket is huge.

Bakersfield native Cameron Scarborough, 58, was on hand to watch his niece play for Antelope Valley, and understands the

opportunity an added sport can be for the players.

"Initially, it was just regular volleyball, which is great, but it doesn't really take advantage of the individual as much as sand volleyball. There's more scholarships and chances for players when you do things like this," said Scarborough.

"The fans and CSUB really

made us feel at home. This really feels like a home court to us, it's a real advantage in my opinion," said Kelsey Henderson, a BC player.

Ferreira seemed immersed in the moment but thanked his team members for handling the pressure so well.

"These girls handled today like champs," he said. "It was



JOE BERGMAN / THE RIP

Kelsey Henderson (left) serves the ball while her teammate Savannah Cano waits.

never too big for them. They just played how we practiced, and we've gotten better each and ever time we step out there. I just want to thank everyone for today. It was huge for all of us."

BC also played CSUB in an exhibition where BC got swept. The team will resume play April 22 when it competes in the Western State Conference Individual play-ins.

## Softball makes playoff push with series sweep

By Mohamed Bafakih  
Contributing Editor

The final three games of the 2016 Bakersfield College softball season will take place this upcoming week as the Renegades look to bolster their record in hopes of earning a postseason bid.

The race for the top two spots in the conference to get an automatic bid in the playoffs may come down to BC's final two games on April 26 as the Renegades will host Antelope Valley College in a doubleheader.

AVC currently has the No. 2 seed and BC has the No. 3 seed, but both teams have the same conference record. Although the Marauders have a better overall record and season series advantage at 1-0 over the Renegades, BC must win out the next few games and sweep AVC to have a higher probability of a playoff spot if they beat out L.A. Valley and L.A. Mission.

Second-year head coach Christie Hill said they hold their fate for the postseason in their hands, but she wants to see clean games on both sides of the field.

Prior to BC's doubleheader against L.A. Valley on April 19 (recap at TheRip.com), which was part of the Renegades' nine of final 10 games at home to close out the regular season that began with a series sweep of Santa Monica on April 12, BC (14-20 overall, 10-6 Western State-Blue Division) battled against three teams with a com-

bined record of 77-24 in two nights.

Hill credited a "really tough preseason" in preparation for stretches like this in pivotal moments for her young team, which features just three sophomores.

One of those sophomores, pitcher/catcher Trinidad Lee, has taken notice of her teammates' growth throughout the season, as they have turned a once hopeless season into a hopeful one.

"I just think now that the girls (have) played with each other longer, we get to know each other, we're comfortable with each other... once you get that bond and you start playing together, you play as a team and that's just the difference," Lee said following the sweep of Santa Monica.

In the first game Lee finished with two home runs on four at-bats, pitched a complete game and struck out eight batters in a 9-1 rout of the Corsairs.

BC's second and only true pitcher, freshman Marina Felipe, got the win in the second match against the Corsairs, where she gave up one hit, zero runs and struck out nine batters in a 8-0 shutout win for the Renegades.

"They both [Lee and Felipe] are throwing well," Hill said. "They're a great combination."

Second-place BC and first-place College of the Canyons squared off in a WSC-Blue showdown on April 14 in the third and final meeting between the two teams, and BC's only



JOE BERGMAN / THE RIP

Trinidad Lee gave up only one run against Santa Monica.

road game in the last half of April.

The Cougars (23-9, 13-2 WSC-Blue) bested the Renegades 4-0 to give them the 3-0 season series sweep of BC.

In the three games played against the Cougars, BC has been outscored 22-1. However, as opposed to the 15-0 shutout loss in the first meeting against Canyons on March 22, the last two meetings saw COC score a combined seven runs.

The Renegades then returned home the following day to face Cuesta (23-11) and Mt. San Antonio College (31-4) in a non-conference doubleheader.

Cuesta had already beaten BC 3-1 earlier in the preseason when both teams faced each other on Feb. 12.

Cuesta jumped out to an early 4-0 lead after two innings, but the Renegades responded with six runs in the bottom of the third inning to make it 6-5 behind back-to-back homers from

Lee (11th of season, fifth most in the state) and Madalyn Arambula.

Cuesta capitalized on the Renegades' four errors, which led to 10 unearned runs in the Cougars' 12-7 victory.

BC played a cleaner game against Mt. SAC in the second end of the doubleheader, but the Mounties held on, 3-2.

Mt. SAC led 2-0 until the bottom of the sixth when Isabelle Martinez hit a two-run homer to tie it up. However, in the top of the seventh, BC gave up its second critical walk off of a hit batter leading to a RBI double from Aimee Rodriguez to bring in the winning run by Danielle Jeffers.

"It (Mt. SAC) was a great game. We were toe-to-toe with them at the plate, but walks and hit batters made the difference in the game. It's the little things that make a difference when playing top teams like Mt. Sac," said Hill.

## BC's swim team has been preparing for state

By Mason J. Rockfellow  
Editor in Chief

With the season's only home meet now over, the Bakersfield College swim teams have spent the last two weeks preparing for the Western State Conference Championships.

For the last couple of weeks, coach Matt Moon has been letting the team practice a little more freely, at least for the beginning of practice.

"I've been letting them kind of do their own 20-minute meet warm up. They kind of play around with what works best for them to get them ready to get up and race," said Moon.

Moon said that he has been focusing on dives for explosiveness off the starts, and little details, like keeping the swimmers focused on their events and specific strokes. Moon said he has been conditioning the sprinters with bungee training. Distance swimmers have been putting in more yards in the pool to help maintain their base.

But one of the main things of the tapering training process is rest and health.

"The big part about tapering is rest. Trying to get them to stay hydrated, rest, and let their bodies recover from the season, then go out there and hit it at the peak," said Moon.

At this time, there are only three swimmers, one male and

two female, who currently hold top 16 times in the state in their events, but the conference championships give swimmers another chance to qualify for state competition. Erik Wood has been strong all year and as of today he is the only male with a top 16 time. Wood has been swimming the 200-meter IM, 100 butterfly and 200 butterfly.

On the women's side, Sara Klang and Bri Smith are both holding top 16 times.

Moon said Klang is looking solid. Klang is in the top 16 for 200 freestyle and the 500 freestyle and just short in the 100 freestyle. Smith is in the top 16 for the 100 and 200 breaststroke.

The WSC Championships will be held April 21-23 at Cuesta College in San Luis Obispo.

Moon is looking forward to traveling to Cuesta for the championships and is excited to see the enjoyment on the swimmers' faces.

"My favorite thing is seeing the enjoyment, all the happy faces on them and their expressions... I think I get more joy out of seeing my athletes perform their best than I ever did, whenever I had my best time and looked up at the clock," said Moon. "To see all the hard work pay off, I think that is my favorite thing about conference is seeing that joy on their face after they cashed in the check; all that hard work paid off."



PHOTOS BY KYLE CHIDGEY / THE RIP

Left: Local artisan Jeffrey Balaschak displays several of his timeless pieces at Garden Fest.

Above: Local residents prepare for spring time gardening.

## GARDEN FEST 2016



SARA LIEVENOS / THE RIP

Above: A unidentified shopper walks past a display table packed full of Red Bellied Tree Frogs. This plant is unique in its coloring, as it closely resembles the frog of the same name.



Above: A little girl escapes the crowds at Garden Fest and passes the time throwing pebbles in the display pond.

Left: An unidentified male checks out the offerings available at Garden Fest.

Right: Members of the Bakersfield College Archives Association display historical photographs of the college.

Below: Photographer Michael Thorpe of the Bakersfield Art Association displays his work at Garden Fest.

Multimedia coverage can be found at [www.TheRip.com](http://www.TheRip.com).

PHOTOS BY KYLE CHIDGEY / THE RIP



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