BC football players sign letters of intent

Softball team hits off season

Basketball team comes from afar

Vehicle theft rising at BC

Dunking made classy

BC names interim dean of students

BC enrollment increase leads to spatial decrease

Whiskey Flat Days celebrate old Kern’s ancient heritage
The Renegade Rip

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dee discounts on hot fashions and everything for the home
Foster teens shown in art

BY BRANCA HERNANDEZ
Los Angeles Times

Photographs of 13 Kern County foster teens were displayed at the Heart Gallery Gala on Feb. 7.

"I think it's nice that people are taking time and effort to do this for the community. I just wish there were more public participation.

— Angela Cross, prospective parent"

BREAK-INS: One student was robbed twice in the same month

Continued from Page 1

The student was walking back to her dorm from the university's fitness center on Feb. 11 when she was approached by a man who demanded her wallet and keys. She complied and the man fled.

On Feb. 3, the same student was also robbed of her wallet in a nearby area.

ENROLLMENT: Class sizes go up

Continued from Page 1

The increase in the number of students means that class sizes have increased as well. According to school officials, classes are now larger than they were in the past.

Campus honor society does community work

BY BRANCA HERNANDEZ

The university's honor society, St. John's College, is currently working on a project to improve the community in Kern County.

"We want to make a difference in the community. We believe in giving back and we want to use our education to make a positive impact.

— Maria Rodriguez, St. John's College student"

Workshops offer students success

BY TYNICK C. BARONE

The university is offering a series of workshops for students to improve their skills and academic performance.

"We are offering workshops on a variety of topics to help students succeed.

— Workshop organizer, university"

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Haggard honored with drive

Country music's Merle Haggard, who was born and raised in Bakersfield, was recently seen at a drive-in movie theater.

"Merle Haggard is a true California icon. He has been a part of our community for many years and we are proud to honor him in this way.

— Mayor of Bakersfield"

‘Diploma mill’ degrees not regionally accredited

By ELIZABETH MEERS

Many online degree programs are not regionally accredited, which can affect the recognition and transferability of the degree.

"We encourage students to research the accreditation status of any online degree program before enrolling.

— Education expert, University of California"
Scarcity calls for community college cuts

By Ty Pheng

Bakersfield College is facing a 10 percent reduction in the budget in 2008-2009, according to the College’s budget plan.

The College’s proposed budget for 2007-2008 is $46,321,775. For 2008-2009, the proposal is $41,078,412.

The cuts will affect all aspects of the College, including classes, administrative offices, and student services.

The College also plans to cut the number of courses offered.

The budget plan is subject to change depending on state funding levels.

Budget issues lead to denial of some sabbaticals

By KATHERINE J. WHITE

The College is unable to grant some of its faculty sabbaticals due to budget constraints.

Each sabbatical is valued at $12,253.46, about the cost of one year of full tuition.

The College has already denied some sabbaticals for the fall semester.

By the end of the 2008-2009 academic year, the College will have to deny at least 36 sabbaticals.

Valentine’s: commercialized or a loving exchange?

By MARGARET HERNAN

Valentine’s Day is commercialized and not commercially valid.

What is your favorite fruit or vegetable?

By CAROLYN SEWELL

What is your favorite fruit or vegetable?
REVIEWS

Oildale Mexican restaurant too hot to handle

By CASINO VGA ROSARIO

Oildale's recently opened El Sol has been turning heads with its spicy cuisine and lively atmosphere. But one customer found the heat too intense.

"I ordered the green chile chicken, and it was so spicy that my mouth was on fire," said John, a regular at the restaurant. "I thought I was ordering something mild, but I was in for a surprise.

"The staff was very apologetic and quickly brought me a glass of milk to help cool down," John continued. "I couldn't finish the plate, but I knew I had to come back for more."

The restaurant's menu offers a range of dishes from traditional Mexican favorites to more adventurous options. "El Sol takes pride in using fresh and locally sourced ingredients," stated the restaurant's chef. "We want to give our customers a taste of Mexico that's as authentic as possible.

Author says fast food is deadly

By CASINO VGA ROSARIO

"Fast food is a major contributor to the obesity epidemic," said Dr. John Smith, a nutritionist at the local hospital. "It's high in calories and low in nutrition, which makes it a popular choice for many people.

"But the long-term effects of consuming fast food are severe," Dr. Smith added. "High cholesterol, heart disease, and diabetes are just a few of the conditions that can develop as a result of a poor diet.

"We need to encourage people to make healthier choices and to limit their intake of fast food," Dr. Smith concluded. "It's not just about losing weight, but about improving overall health and well-being.

Fall fashions displayed in February

By CRYSTAL ROBERTS

The annual fall fashion show at the local college was a hit, with attendees buzzing about the latest trends.

"The colors were vibrant and the designs were bold," said Mary, a fashion student. "I was especially impressed with the use of mixed materials and textures.

"The show was a great way to get an inside look at the fashion industry and to see what's coming next season," Mary added. "I'll be sure to bring these ideas into my own designs.

Features

CSUB hosts casino fundraiser

By KYLA BEALL

CSUB's annual casino fundraiser was a success, with attendees having a great time.

"The casino was packed with people," said the event's organizer. "We had a wide variety of games and prizes to choose from.

"The proceeds from the fundraiser will go towards supporting student scholarships," the organizer added. "I'm thrilled with how it turned out and look forward to next year's event.

Jumper' a lackadaisical foray into mediocre sci-fi moviemaking

By OZAM RAMEZ

"Jumper" is a disappointing film that fails to live up to its potential.

"The story is weak and the acting is wooden," said a critic. "It's hard to care about the characters and their fate.

"I expected more from this sci-fi flick, but it just didn't deliver," the critic concluded. "I would recommend giving this one a miss.

Kern County sees rise in meningitis cases

By KYLA BEALL

"The increase in meningitis cases is concerning," said Dr. John Smith, the county's health officer. "It's important for people to take precautions and get vaccinated.

"We're working closely with the state health department to monitor the situation and to provide resources to affected areas," Dr. Smith added. "We want to prevent further spread and keep our community safe.

Cinema on Feb.

The annual cinema festival in Kern County began on February 15. "It's a great opportunity to see independent films and support local filmmakers," said festival organizer John Smith.

"We have a variety of films screening this year, from comedy to drama," Smith said. "There's something for everyone.

Astonishing things on the screen and off the stage

The theater company presented an impressive production of "The Mousetrap," which was a hit with audiences.

"The acting was superb and the set design was stunning," said a reviewer. "It was a great night at the theater.

Movie Review

"The Last Airbender" is a visually stunning film, but the story is weak and the characters are one-dimensional.

"Despite the impressive visuals, the film ultimately fails to deliver," the reviewer concluded. "I would recommend giving it a pass.

Our Town, Our Lives: Kern County's annual art exhibition was a success, with attendees admiring the work of local artists.

"The quality of the artwork was impressive," said one visitor. "It's a great way to support local artists and to appreciate the creativity that surrounds us.

Bakersfield's Littl knight of the rodeo

The Bakersfield Littl knight of the rodeo was announced at the annual rodeo event. "He's a great representative of the community," said the rodeo's organizer.

"We're proud to have him as our Littl knight," the organizer added. "He's a role model for our younger generation.

STUDENT DISCOUNT

The annual student discount event was held at the local college. "It's a great opportunity for students to save money," said the event's organizer.

"We have a variety of discounts available, from food to transportation," the organizer said. "It's important for students to take advantage of these offers.

A weekend in Bakersfield

The Super Cruise Poker Run and Car Show and Riverwalk’s Fishing Derby draw crowds in Bakersfield.

Above: The Super Cruise Poker Run and Car Show on Feb. 9, which was hosted as the Kern County Fairgrounds, was the home to many classic, exotic and import vehicles.

Left: Teresa Mathis, Kevin LeMaster and Susan LeMaster participate in the Riverwalk’s Fishing Derby on Feb. 9. Mathis previously caught a June fish.

Below: Tornado Hansen and her father Chris Hansen participate in the fishing derby at Riverwalk.

The impacts of drought are great because people use water for all kinds of things... plants and crops need water to survive.”

John Menzies, BC geology professor

Kern County’s agricultural output produced $2.1 billion in revenue in 2006, with almonds and grapes being the cash crops.

By LAUREN KIZZIAR
Rip staff writer

According to Deborah Peters, Kern County supervisor, the central valley has been impacted by the drought. The Kern County supervisor is the chief executive officer of the county and responsible for overseeing its administration.

By MARCINDA COOL
Rip staff writer

Last year’s drought will impact state irrigation systems.

By GABINO VEGA ROSARIO
provincial affairs editor

“Last year’s drought will impact state irrigation systems.”

Emergency water grants to communities

Farm worker “Tano” again enters as a local hero. He is one of many illegal immigrants who work the fields.

By LAUREN KIZZIAR
Rip staff writer

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