Local post-punkers prevail with pride.

By Vincent Perez

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Post-punk rock: three words that are not commonly heard in Bakersfield. Local four-piece band Black Sails Western Shores wants to change that.

The band described its sound as “catchy punk,” a slowed-down version of post-punk, and “down tempo punk rock.”

However, Black Sails guitarist and vocalist Matt Sallied said the band has been labeled “boring.” It’s a silly word for a band.

A lot of it is punk bands that were from back in the day that wasn’t punk music like Fugazi and Jawbox. Taken whatever it is and putting your own twist on it.”

Black Sails members Stephanie Castro (drum vocals-guitar), Matt Sallied (guitar/vocals), Wes Walker (bass/drums/vocals) and Tim O’Dowens (guitar) have had their own local bands that ranged from punk to soul.

Castro, however, points out that the public’s attitude is changing to where people are more open to the diversities of music that even eventually made what we have now, which is awesome.”

When asked what he is listening to currently, Castro responded, “Right now, I’ve been listening to more country, but bands like Uncle Lucinda, Drop the Wrench, N calculation (which headlined a show with Black Sails on Feb. 23 at Sunday’s Italian & Spanish restaurant and bar, and maybe too for the guy that opened for Black Sails on Feb. 1 at Saturday’s). I’ve got a couple of songs from The White Stripes, ‘Royal Mountain’ and Black Gold band is something that’s been new for me.

I was listening to it for the very first time.”

“I’m just happy. I’m really, really happy. It’s easier to sit there and be sad, but it takes a certain type of person to say ‘oh, it’s happened.’ But it’ll be all right.”

Sallied said, “Black Sails isn’t the exact blueprint for DJY [down tempo punk rock bands]. It’s hard in this time for what we’re doing. This thing that we pegged as good music, isn’t really.”

“Take our first album of Black Sails and listen to ‘All We Do’ and ‘Never From’.”

That’s what the band wants to change that.

If you’re not going to do something different. “I say we’re proud to be hands of bands but nobody, besides maybe Black Sails or Korn, has taken the name for Bakersfield, especially in the independent music world, which is where we are at.”

“Suck out of Black Sails Castro and Wes Walker (back) play at Sandrini’s on Jan. 19.

We’re not going to do anything. We’re going to do different things that we have right now, and that’s what we’re playing. That’s something that mean more to us than what we’re doing.”

The band had a show set for this Friday at Sandrini’s but something happened, but they’ll be all right. That’s what we’re playing. That’s something that mean more to us than making millions of dollars.”

On giving advice to local younger bands, Castro said, “If you’re wanting to do music, it’s important to you and it matters, forget about trying to do a certain way or look, just do it that makes you happy and that’s the only advice I could give. What’s most important is the music.”

“If you make it happy and it makes sense to you, then do it. If it doesn’t, and it’s a chance, then don’t waste your time.”

“Someone said that our music is like a slice of drinking with your friends.”
"We still feel that we have work to do, but we think we can go far if we just start clicking right now."

- Skyler Vaden, BC guard, signed right
**Team finds ways to win**

**Softball loses costly games**

**Bakersfield College**

**Student Government Association Presents...**

**Mission**

The Renegade Pantry is committed to serving the student body by providing food for students in need.

**Vision**

Eliminating Hunger One Student at a Time. Food donations can be made at Campus Center 4.

**2010 Distribution Dates**

The following dates are for pick-up only: January 28, February 11 & 25, March 11 & 25, April 7 & 22, May 6 & 27, June 10 & 24. Hours are from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

SGA summer hours are subject to change and will be posted on the Bakersfield College SGA Facebook page and SGA website by May 14, 2010. For more information on how you can contribute to The Renegade Pantry’s mission.

**What is the procedure for connecting with the Renegade Pantry?**

You can connect with the Renegade Pantry on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/BakersfieldCollege or in the SGA office, located in Campus Center 4.

**What you can do to help**

Business Partnerships: Organizations that can provide regular needed donations can improve services to the students. With a set monthly donation, we will accept non-perishable food items, personal care items, along with monetary donations. The Renegade Pantry is a Non Profit Organization.

Food Donations: Donations are permissable at any time to the Renegade Pantry and mailed or dropped off at “The Renegade Pantry” located in Student Activities Office (Campus Center 4). Individuals can donate using the above described procedures.

**Who is eligible?**

Any currently registered student in need of food. No student will be turned away.
Above: While waiting for jazz band practice, BC music major Chris Ruiz plays guitar.

Left: History major Austin Wooldridge fills the air with beats from his African djembe hand drum on the BC campus Feb. 16.

Below: For the Record guitarist and Bakersfield College culinary arts major Joe Kisselburg plays along with fellow band member and computer science major Ian Fitzpatrick in the free speech area of the BC campus Feb. 16.

## Upcoming Events around Bakersfield

- "Ice Worlds" Planetarium Show
  February 18 @ BC Planetarium, 7:30 p.m.

- Nile Belly Dance Festival - Primal Infusion
  February 19 @ The Nile Theatre, 6 p.m.

- Bakersfield Art Association Mardi Gras Gala
  February 19 @ 7 p.m.

- Kern River Blues Society Jam
  February 20 @ Trouts, 2 p.m.

- Kern County Honor Music Festival
  February 25 @ Rabobank Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

- George Thorogood and The Destroyers
  February 26 @ Fox Theater, 7 p.m.

- Unlocked - Singles Mixer
  February 27 @ Surface Gallery, 6 p.m.

- Kern County Rose Society - Plant Sale
  February 27 @ Hall Letter Shop, 8 a.m.

- Family Fun Auto & Bike Show
  February 27 @ LeGrand School

- Camelot - Broadway in Bakersfield
  February 29 @ Rabobank Theater, 7 p.m.

### Featured Event

Panorama Invitation - Gallery at Bakersfield College
Featuring artists from local Kern County High Schools

Located in the Wylie and May Louise Jones Gallery on the Bakersfield College campus.

The exhibit will run until March 10 and is open Monday through Thursday, 1 - 7 p.m.

### A Message from the Mayor’s Desk

Bakersfield College Students,

Please help keep our city clean from litter, trash and debris. Use trash cans, ashtrays and recycling bins. Take pride in Bakersfield.

Sponsored by Mayor Harvey L. Hall

Photo Illustration by David Kamowski

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