Hughes aims at WSC title in sixth season

By Michael Morrow Video Production Editor

Bakersfield College men's basketball team is set to open the season on Friday, the first of a six-game road trip, playing in five tournaments and three games throughout the central and southern region of the state.

The Renegades first home game doesn't come until Jan. 8, when they face off against West L.A., head coach Rich Hughes believes the road challenge will only make his team better down the stretch of the season.

"The most important thing is you want to win early, you want to gain confidence — but more importantly, you want to win late, and we didn't win late last year," said Hughes. "If we hit a few road bumps early and it helps us as a group, and that helps us grow towards the end of the year so that we can make another run at a state championship, then maybe that's what has to happen for us.

The Renegades start the season at the Ventura tournament on Nov. 11-13 and follow that up against rival Fresno City at the Fresno City tournament on Nov. 19-21.

Hughes said the team has the talent to win both tournaments, but, in his eyes, the Renegades lack the consistency needed to be victorious. A reason Hughes feels the team is inconsistent is the fact that they are a young team and can only return three players from last year's team. Guards Stevie Howard and Flavio Dandridge along with forward Cooper Daron are the returning players.

"I think every year you're going to see a year on your sophomores. Those three guys played major roles on the floor, on the stat sheet and off the floor, so we're going to need not only their experience, but their leadership to lead the freshmen," Hughes said. "Basketball is like life; it doesn't always go your way, but that's how you respond to the adversity. And they've been through it, so they won't hold the freshman through. We will be really key.

Normally, the first two nonconference BC hosts a Thanksgiving tournament the Friday and Saturday following Thanksgiving, but due to budget cuts and other lack of funding issues, Hughes and staff decided to cut the tournament and add another tournament at Antelope Valley College in early November.

Hughes talked about how he feels defining, rebounding and creating offense will enable the Renegades to win, not only in the early season tournaments, but also throughout the season.

"We have to be able to defend. We have to stop people from getting easy shots against us," said Hughes. "When you press, sometimes you give some ones easy layups, but this year team, we have to be a little bit better defensively that we have been in past, as for allowing layups. We can't allow layups.

"We're a very small team, so rebounding is going to come from being fundamental and boxing out. We can't give up second shot attempts," he said. "We have to get the ball up the floor and create offense with our fast break, and not necessarily taking bad shots, but trying to get numbers. Five-on-one instead of five-on-five, and I think this team has the speed to beat people down the floor."

Hughes is entering his sixth season as head coach of the Renegades, and is assisted by Aaron Chavez, the associate head coach who has been in BC since Hughes has been the head coach.

"They're in there, they had 21-win seasons, five playoffs appearances and one conference title," the Renegades had enough outings in last season's playoffs, losing to Southwestern in the Western State Championship.

Hughes hopes to make a strong push in conference. "We've been at the top in the past few years. We've been one of the teams that have been up there, but the past couple years, but I all­

ways think we have a chance to win. We don't have a lot of returns, but, a lot of the other teams don't either," Hughes said. "Chavez has a couple returning backs, so we're hoping to be in the top again and hopefully steal a conference championship out of it this year.

Last year the Renegades won 21-6 overall, and 9-3 in the Western State Conference and Hughes talked about the team being away from home they don't want to be.

"We always have our natural rivals. Fresno is in four of the tournaments we're in, and we split with them last year, so we're always looking to beat them, to show that we're a rival. We both have been close to the top in the past few years. When we go in league, obviously Chavez has had some very good luck against us," Hughes said. "Slo-Mo, we've had the short end of the stick on a couple of real close games in the last two years, so we're two teams who are always battling to be one of the better teams in the state, and those are the type of teams that you have to beat to prepare for playoffs.

Of the 15 active returners on the roster, six are from Lemoore. Only five players are from the greater Bakersfield area, with the others being from inside BC. The Renegades have no home court, and two practice gyms are too loin-son, but the team is all guards.

The Renegades lost valuable players like forward Bobby Fisher, and guards Kyle Valentine, D . Kathy and Ricky Wofford, but Hughes is confident and hopeful for this season.

Women's basketball

By Zak Cowan Reporter

The Bakersfield College women's basketball team has been preparing for the new season, hoping to make significant improvements on second from last year. During the 2010-2011 season, the team went 0-16 overall, with a record of 4-8 when playing against Western State Conference opponents.

Pam Dildl is the head coach of the Renegades, and has high hopes for her team going into the 2011-2012 season.

"I'm really excited about my team this year," said Dildl. "It's going to be fun. We're all extremely different, with a completely different game plan," she said. "It's a new season and I'm just excited to see what we are going to do."

Dildl isn't worried about the small and young team.

"We don't have many players overall, with only two recruiting opportunities and seven freshmen," she said. "The year is working hard, and I'm confident that she isn't worried about her team putting up points consistently. "All of my starters can put the ball up, so there should be some pretty good perimeter distribution," Dildl said that her team is an "up and down" type of team and expressed excitement about the up-tempo offense they plan to execute.

"We are athletic, and we're going to learn how to run, we never can before. I've got some great post players, but we just want to run," she said. "We don't want to have to get into a half-court offense." Dildl said that she isn't worried if they get into those situations, since her team can handle it.

Women's Basketball

Nov. 12-13 at Hancock Tournament

Nov. 17 at Moorpark

Nov. 20 at Bakersfield

Nov. 27 at Santa Barbara City

Dec. 2-4 at Ventura Tournament

Women's head coach Paula Dildl gives her freshman center, Brooke Hood, some direction during practice on Nov. 1. BC opens her season on the road, Nov. 12-13 at Hancock.
Alumni return to BC for 50-year reunion tour

By James Licea

After almost 50 years, former students of Bakersfield College who lived down on campus came for a reunion and tour of the current campus on Oct. 23. The students came from all over the country to visit the Bakersfield campus.

The tour began in the library, moved to the farms, admissions, then the Levan Center. After that, they took them to the Humanities building, the Child Care center, the indoor/ outdoor theater, and they went to the Horticulture Lab and came back around to Levine Hall, which was the main attraction for the tour.

Levine Hall used to be the dormitory and the men's dorm and the dorm to which the Grace Van Dyke Library stands today. During the tour, the BC alumns reminisced about living in the dorms and the classes they had.

They talked about squeezing three people in a room that was never to house two, jumping locked gates to get to the good and the rotten cars that were made to be used in the dorms. They spoke of pulling all-nighters and the ridiculous rules they played on if caught.

Bret Casey, former SGA president of the fall of 1962, reminisced about how much trouble they played on the students from other schools turned off by the water that the women wore dressing.

Involuntary, the women called the men's dorm and pretended to be part of the U.S. army, stating that they needed every able-bodied man to get their warrantee clothes on and run out from for a boy to pick them up.

Casey explained that this was during the Cuban Missile Crisis when President Kennedy was talking about going to war. Winning the cold war, Casey and the curiosity of the women's dorm spoke up, too. He said, "Every woman that was in the dorm was looking out at us, laughing."

Wang talked about how back then BC was the richer community college district of the state because of the oil money, and the equipment and student body budget surpassed UCLAs. He also talked about how the football team won the Rose Bow.

Jim Whycombe and Bill Parker went while they attended BC, circa the 1960s. About the campus, they said, "We've seen a grow and it's really amazing to see the changes. It's our own assurance that it's still here, but it's not. Everything's kind of familiar."

Many things about the campus are different from how it used to be, but there are many buildings that still stand, Primetla Augustine explained.

About the old campus, Augustine said, "It was a unique situation, you didn't have dorms at community colleges at all anymore." The former BC students went to dinner after the tour to further talk about memories.

Three former students who kept in touch over the years said that they came up with the idea after meeting several years back. At first, the idea was to gather together a group that would go around campus and see how different it is now. They ended up getting drivers around by SGA in carts and getting a national band, courtesy of the food department.

The alumni that organized the event were Aquino, Carolyn Davis and Judy Cooke. Together, they all would like these plans to be fresh with and contact BC to get approval.

Former students of the Bakersfield California that helped broker the idea was Kay and Amber Rapp was especially helpful along with Amber Chang and Batioo Whiteman.

SGA President Lisa English, in a symbolic gesture, former SGA president (1962) Ben Casey hands over the gavel to current president Lisa English at Bakersfield College on Oct. 23.

General Council Sean Hall and Michelle Helms sat in the student center in LCC to look. English and Hill said Chang and Cooke asked if they would participate in giving a tour to former students via e-mail. This was a great opportunity for people who have the past in the past, and the look forward to helping them," Hill said. Hill also was very interested in hearing the stories of the former students and ideas on the similarities and differences of the campus.

Retrospective showcase brings 'nostalgia' to BC library art gallery

By Martin Chang

Nancy Romero has an exhibit of her art at the Bakersfield College library. She describes her work as "symbolic of thought and anthropology." Romero started her interest in anthropology in a more traditional study. She abandoned this study because of "disillusionment with the impersonal tools of anthropological investigation." She described her work as "the intersection of human and man". She also described her work as "about the rigidity of morality, the different views of what we do and how we act." She has work based on creation stories. Romero said she was "frustrated by the contrast between the "Before" and "After."

Romero said, "Before suggesting immortality, 'success', and 'after', movement, transformation and decay."

Romero works in several different media in order to reach her "inner voice." She works with what she described as "still Venetian oil glazing techniques." She has also worked in tempera, gold and dendrome. Romero used several media to bring "depth" to her work. Much of her painting and media projects she took a workshop from Suarez Barron. Romero made her own workshop for painting.

Richard Villanueva, a student at BC, came to the exhibit opening as an "art dimensional" art very interesting" and "really cool."

The work in the show proves Villanueva is feeling of nostalgia. "It gave me a flashback of my childhood of BC," said Villanueva. "I don't get to go back to my Bakersfield College experience."

Villanueva was also interested in the repository work of Romero. "I think the most captivating thing is how it has the same meaning all the time. Time is a vital aspect to the piece. It's kind of a symbol of death. It think it's very favorite one.

Levan Center hosts ethics debate

By Michael Welsh

The subject of ethics in politics was discussed in the Norman Levan Center at Bakersfield College on Oct. 23.

BC political science professor Steven Holmes, Bakersfield California columnist Lois Henry and Kori Community College District board of trustees member Paul Ladd discussed the importance of ethics in politics.

Holmes focused on the importance of voting. "There is no doubt we are the most informed society in the world. But that doesn't necessarily mean we are the best informed society in the world," said Holmes. The professor said that while Americans have easy access to information about candidates and elections, about 90 percent of people choose not to vote.

Henry also spoke on voices and information. Henry discussed the media's role in influencing voices, using examples coming from former president Bill Clinton's infidelity to Jack Straw's political past. The speakers discussed the issue of how a politician's past can affect how voters view their credibility.

While Holmes and Henry focused on the importance of informed voting, Ladd focused on the difficulty of finding fault due to embarrassing campaigns.

"We don't know what's true about anybody because things are being back and forth," said Ladd.

The speakers were well received by the audience. "I really enjoyed it. I really opened my eyes," said David Watkins, a BC student. "I wish we were told to vote what the government chooses for our laws and regulations. Personally I'm going to go back and look into what I thought I agreed with - to make sure that I still stand with those decisions."

Coffee-induced hallucinations

By Samantha Garrett

I've crossed that fine line of too much coffee, and now I'm seeing things.

What's up? No, not at all.

Do you know what that is?

Whoa!
Local radio personality talks football

By Brenda Irene Rodriguez

Reporter

You may have heard him on Kern Radio News Talk. AM 1110. During this season as the voice of the sidelines with his reports on Bakersfield College, a live radio show on Kern Radio that reports on all the Bakersfield College Renegade Football games as they are happening, he’s Matt Alvarez.

This 23-year-old student of Cal State University Bakersfield seems to be the news these days after accepting an additional position in the student department, reporting the early morning news for Kern Radio News Talk and doing it all while attempting to gain his Bachelor’s Degree in Journalism from the University of Arizona.

Alvarez, who is originally from Bakersfield, has only been back for a few months as he finishes his studies at CSUB which will transpire over when he receives his degree at UA, he also is a part-time BC student.

With a knack for sports, it should come as no surprise to most that he grew up in a family influenced by sports, specifically football. Alvarez’s father, Lorenzo Alvarez, has been an assistant coach for the Bakersfield apple prominently 24 years.

Alvarez gained his sideline experience growing up in his home and on the BC football field through the guidance of his own father’s knowledge of football, which has made seared into his mind reporting on the Renegades since he was a child of the times as a boy when he could hangout with the players and even become a water boy for the team.

Matt Alvarez comments on a play during a Bakersfield College football game against El Camino on Oct. 30.

By Brenda Irene Rodriguez

Reporter

On Oct. 22, the indoor theater at Bakersfield College was filled with people to watch the BC Chorale and Chamber Singers perform.

Ronald Kean, director of the Choral and Chamber Singers, chose this concert theme to be centered on the idea of the healing power of music, and a lot of gospel music was performed. The performance was dedicated to the victims of the 2018 Indonesian tsunami. During the encore song, “Het us” a picture slide show was shown of disasters that have occurred around the world.

The BC Chorale sang the lyrics, “Here our memories play/Our world has been shaken/We wander our homes forebode/They brought tears to some of the audience. Special guests were the Centennial High School Chamber Singers. “We are honored, privileged and excited to share our music with the audience and to hear the choirs at BC,” said Ray McDermott, choral director of CHS. The CHS Chamber singers sang three songs to contribute to the concert.

The kids were awesome, they were just great,” said Dawn Starling after listening to the CHS songs. “And this is why we sing,” said Kean. “The show went really well. Great display of the culture here at BC,” said Brian Randall, SGA vice president. “It was great, very energetic, positive, and uplifting. Having a high school here was great too,” said Richard Newton.

Kean stated the concert plans to be one piece of music in mind, which was “Requiem,” then continued adding more pieces. All the funds earned from the ticket sales of the concert help each member of the BC Chorale pay for travel expenses to Hawaii in May 2011 to honor the Polynesian Cultural Center, which will enable students to see the culture of Polynesia through their song, dance, arts, crafts and food.

BC Chorale performs on campus

By Brenda Irene Rodriguez

Reporter

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