Greg Chamberlain resigns

By Esteban Ramirez
Editor

Bakersfield College's men's basketball season started with a promising start, but throughout the year they suffered some tough losses.

"This year's team had some good perimeter players and good interior players, but right before their opening game they lost freshman center Tareq Alomari.

"The season has been a bigger turnout, since we played in front of some high schools," said BC coach Rich Hughes. "It started with the season opening, a 93-85 win over Westmont College, which was the week before season started, and got worse from there," he said.

"It's really nifty why the season turned out like it did, but I will say that the few areas that hurt the most were defensive lapses, rebounding, turnovers and shot selection.

Please see MENS, Page 10

A tale of two seasons

By Esteban Ramirez
Sports Editor

The seasons for the Bakersfield College women's basketball team were filled with a promising start and an exciting run for the Western State Conference title. The women's team currently has a 15-12 record and is coming off a conference championship. They also have just graduated six of their regular season players, which has them on the verge of a conference title.

"The key to our team is that we're a hard working team," said coach Greg Chamberlain. "I'm happy that we're first in the conference, but I'm also happy that we're playing hard and everybody's all in this that you can't get away from BC.

"I'm happy that the team is playing hard and everybody's all in this that you can't get away from BC."

The team has gone through some tough situations, like losing both forward Madison Tworie and forward Gabi Morales. Despite all the barriers, they still have found a way to keep winning consistently.

Please see GAMES, Page 10

BC demographics change

By Keith Kaczmarek
Reporter

Bakersfield College's demographics chart shows the diversity of the student body. According to data available on BC's website, the most dramatic change has been the growth of the student population identified as Hispanic/Latino and the decrease of the proportion of students identified as White.

"We are an old school, but our enrollment reflects the surrounding area," said Andrea Chang, director of marketing and public relations for BC. "Our enrollment reflects the surrounding area. We are an old school, but our enrollment reflects the surrounding area."

In 2002, Hispanic/Latino students were only 36.4 percent of the student population, but in 2012 this group has grown to 50.4 percent. While students still from 45.1 percent to 28 percent. This 2012 data modestly mirrors Bakersfield's 2012 demographic statistics on the city's website.

Chang credits various changes in the student body to the changing economy of California, and how a tough economy sends people back to BC.

"When you are talking about 10 years ago, there was a different job market. You could get a job paying $20-30 an hour right out of high school Why would you go to school when you could do that?" said Chang.

Please see DEMOS, Page 5

The Renegade bench watches as the final moments of Bakersfield College's Feb. 8 game against L.A. Valley tick off the clock in the Gill Bishop Sports Center. The Renegades lost in overtime 83-65.

A tale of two seasons

By Patrick Hacha
Copy Editor

Bakersfield College president Greg Chamberlain surprised many with his recent announcement to resign as president after June 30 in order to return to teaching career.

His colleagues Nan Gomez-Heltgen, the Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs, and Academic Senate President Cornelio Rodriguez described their reaction to the announcement.

"I was very surprised. There was no indication, no indication that that might happen," said Rodriguez.

Gomez-Heltgen believed he did a good job in his role as president because he was an analytical and genuine person who focused on students to shape his decisions at BC.

"I had mixed emotions. My first response was remembering how innovative and effective he was as a faculty member," said Gomez-Heltgen. "Second was a personal impact, which was disappointing because from a personal perspective, he's the kind of person you want to work for and with."

Rodriguez said that aside from being surprised, he was saddened to lose a president that had built a strong relationship of trust with his administration through his integrity and mutual respect.

"Those things come a lot too fast people, but they really mean a lot to me," he said.

"Though, they're surprised he's leaving,"

BC demographics change

By Patrick Rose
Copy Editor

Bakersfield College guard Jaimee Cookford attempts a basket as Citrus College guard Amner Taghdis attempts to block on Feb. 11 in the BC gym.
Blues musician shares his passion of music

By Beviana Fields

Having experienced all of the highs and lows of rock ‘n’ roll, Will "Daddy" Ray, a rhythm and blues musician and guitarist at Front Porch Music, has embarked on a num-

ber of adventures over the years playing and touring with legendary

artist Little Chuck Berry, Artie Kasey, Sugar Ray Noriega, and countless other blues artists.

Ray grew up in the south on the road with both of his parents. His father was a country

drummer and his mother was a gospel singer. They both performed on the well-

known American TV variety program, “The Ed Sullivan Show,” and had a movie based on

their life called, “For the Boys.”

"We gave away everything we had except our guitars, clothes and an amp," said Ray. "We

bought a van with 100 bucks and hit the road.”

The cross-country venture be-

gan in San Diego and consisted of dozens of pick-up gigs in each state along the way.

"We just pick a bar, go in and say, ‘we’re playing in our way in New York. Can we play for a buck?’ Sometimes we’ll have with the bars and a bartender.”

Ray said Ray was impressed by the hospitality that many people showed along the way by offering them food and a place to stay.

By the time they reached Rhode Is-

land, they were out of money and food. Despite this setback, they headed to Rhode Island with high hopes of earning a glimpse of legendary blues player Muddy Waters.

They quickly realized that they would not be able to get in the bar that they had heard was at the moment that Ray and his band were recognized by a man from playing a priva-
ty gig.

"The guy said, ‘go to Ria-

side, and ask for the Blues Cafe’,” Ray said. "They made their way to Vic-

toria and found that they were able to get in and began playing immediately.

“We were just two wins away,” he said.

Impressed with what he heard, an employee at the cafe called the owner and told the phone up to them while they were playing.

"He comes over and says, ‘you can have any want, but we are not soMutation to play another song, he’s on the phone again and after the second song is over he says, ‘IF you want steak and lobster, then that’s fine!”

After refueling at the cafe, they continued on a regular basis, which led to a number of other bookings around town.

"It was like this scene. Everybody knew each other. People were sharing guitar strings... whatever you needed,” Ray said.

At that point, they began book-

ing gigs all over the East Coast, although they were primarily based in Vermont.

After their first experience with the chilly winter weather, they decided to pick up and head south to Seattles, WA for more gigs.

In the 1980s, Ray was known for many years.

His mother brought the news back to the West Coast and went to Seattle, WA for more g

igs.

As his career took off, Ray said with a smile, "I've never been particularly comfortable playing at bar clubs. They are on the phone again and after the second song is over he says, ‘IF you want steak and lobster, then that’s fine!”

By the 1990s he made his way back to the East Coast where he was paid $300 a week with his mother, Betty.

On the second song is over he said, "You want steak and lobster, you want it."

The play is an inspirational

message in women to find the
courage within themselves to rise up during hard times.

The play is a film in 2005. While the film was good, it did not do justice to the whole

message. The film suggests that the problem is that of a group of women at an apartment

complex.

The producer Tentia Powell said that she chose to do this production as an upcoming thing,” said Blanton, referencing the GSA’s work on promoting the identity of transgender students, which she believes can triumph over any obstacles.

"I feel that even if there is only one student, it matters.”

Alexis Blanton, GSA vice president, feels that these changes will be made to give transgender students a comfortable experience on campus.

"I feel that even if there is only one student, it matters,” Blanton, who loves on-deck steps toward trans-

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There are number of other transgender-friendly

facilities that would be available to all students on campus.

There is an additional meeting for meeting for GSA members on Tuesday at 2 p.m. in the library.

In the 130 and more information on GSA can be found online at https://www.gsa.tamu.edu.

GSA seeks gender-neutral facilities on BC campus

By Beviana Fields

The Gay Straight Association at Ams-

tons College is currently working toward making changes on campus that will reflect their sexuality of equal-

ity and gender neutrality, as well as other adjustments for transgender students.

Transgender is a term used to de-

scribe someone who, for example, may be female but later discover that label does not quite suit who they are.

This person may be more comfort-

other sex while a nurse. This can lead to a false transitioning into a female role.

There have been a number of ideas proposed by the GSA that follows government standards for facilities, documents and language.

Alexis Blanton, vice president of the GSA, recently spoke to the Student Government Association about the growing issues that face transgender students on campus.

"We’re just trying to get these is-

sues solved and let people know, “ said Blanton.

By Breanna Fields

Theater production inspires women of all races

By Ruben Perez

In honor of Black History Month, the Bakersfield Commu-

nity Theatre presented the Tony Award winning play "For Col-

ored Girls Who Have Consi-

dered Being White When the Rainbow Is Enuf’ by Ntozake Shange.

"For Colored Girls" was writ-

ten in 1975 and was first per-

formed in Berkeley, California.

It deals with controversial is-

sues affecting women such as drug addiction, rape, and HIV.

Seven women from different backgrounds perform a series of poems that describe issues that can affect any woman.

"It tells women to never accept if that one student, it matters.”

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"It tells women to never accept
Globetrotter chases dream

By Martin Cheng

"When Blenda Rodriguez was cut from her high school basketball team, her desire to hit her dreams. AfterWarehouse years as a break, he said, "I have a focus, a basic, I really play to work hard." Rodriguez started out playing college and NBA half-time shows. Then he was featured on TV. According to Rodriguez, he is "still learning to be a better dad." Today the Harleem Globetrotters called for an audition, and in 2007 he became one of five people that year to become a Harleem Globetrotter. The Globetrotters will be performing in Bakersfield March 7-8. Feb. 16 at Rabobank Arena. Now, as a five-year Harleem Blenda Rodriguez, he tells kids across the country about how their dreams can come true. On Feb. 10, he visited both Valley Oak Charter School and Bakersfield Memorial Hospital to spread the positive message of dreams coming true in the lives of Bakersfield kids. Rodriguez describes each event as "My dad, our hearts in the community, the rest is up to the audience to show them how much we appreciate them."

Just Vinny perform at open mic night on Feb. 8 at Anderson's. Of course, it’s fun. Each character you can build up, and even though it’s cartoonish and everything, you have so many characters, and even though you can put them on screen and play the same level again with each new character in build that character up and never end your possibilities The game is ongoing," Colbe said. It’s amazing, so some thin...[116556]...boredom but you can still get excited. So just to be in the audience to show them how much we appreciate them."

Just Vinny perform at open mic night on Feb. 8 at the Anderson's. He said he had fun and liked doing "The Renegade Rip" www.therip.com Wednesday, February 15, 2012
Strong ready to grow his knowledge

By Zab S. Conman
Editor in chief

Most people in Bakersfield know Vernon Strong. He's the safety from the Lynn School, destined to advance to the next level, only to have those dreams shattered. Strong then knuckled down and knocked into a 45-copy career. But he's more than that, and now people want to know more than his athletic aspirations. "Sports are behind me," he said. "I know there's more to my mind!"

Strong is 57 units into his A&M nearly seven years after the even- ting that ended his football ca-

"The hardest part was not being able togo," he said. "Even though I could actually "teach," he said. "The doctors said that I was going to "landmark" the rest of my chance were saying I was going to "ruin the player of my life.""

Tons were conversation in a box, I heard from people. Strong is bright and I think the player of him to me."

Eventually he got out what the world would be, which is usually a little bit more than what even a piece of someone is a stutter.

"Now, I've got knowledge back in my head," Strong has ambitions for be-
yond the gridiron. A plan on being a child evacuee: "All said and done."

"I still want to make an im- pact," he says. "My goal is to come out of it with a 3.5 GPA. I've been smart in the past. I've done great things in the past, but I just want to do my best."

Strong comes from a family of athletes. At times, knowing that his head wouldn't be the big issue was too low that tradition was too much. "Sometimes I would sit at home and just cry because I knew it was going to be that much harder," Strong said. "The only times when I felt asked... I just felt like there was no one in the world that could help me."

Despite not ending up where he thought he would seven years ago, Strong is certain that he is where he was meant to be all along.

"Things may be going great, but God wants you in a different direction," he said. "I played sports, I was good at sports, but now I have to do something else."

"Now I am focused on grow- ing my mind!"

New social
networking
website is a
smash hit

By Angie DelGado
Reporter

Many students around campus have not heard of the new phenomenon in social networking known as Pinterest, but the ones that have swear that it is the new best thing.

Laura del Río, 23, described it to her friends while grabbing a pep and painting it on the wall. "I know you, pin your interests," Strong said. "I want to get in touch with people."

"The Academy of Country Music Award can best be described as the pinnacle of country music, country artists and the media. This year the Academy of Country Music Awards is planned for April 5 in Las Vegas. To be nominated, the station had to submit a 10-minute video clip of best show for the entire year. Then a judging panel se-

et located the station for each cat-

category. KUZZ is nominated in the medium market category.

KUZZ's morning show crew consists of Steve Gradowitz and Earl Emery. KUZZ talks about the history of KUZZ, award nomina- tion, the work that goes into your future wedding, birthday parties and more.

KUZZ displays their 2009 Radio Station of the year award. KUZZ is nominated for on-

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