Women's team falls short of playoff berth

By Esther Barnshe
Sports Editor

Bakersfield College women's baseball team began its season on Feb. 19, but fell short of a goal. Smith, the team's head coach, said that the reason they couldn't pull out the win was because Causey had a better record than the team.

"Since we had the same record, we had a tie in the first game in our conference and we both split against L.A. Valley, so they looked at our records against Citrus," she said. "We won one game and lost the other, and Causey beat them twice, but one of the wins was part of the 18 games that Citrus had defeated.

"We have no rule against aces, but there's a lot of the non-collaboration and anti-sportspirit," she said. "BC had the lead for the last game and were up by four points at the end of the second half, but then they turned it over two times and lost L.A. Valley, so we gave the team the win in overtime.

"We are a special group of young women, and they all brought the confidence to the final game," she said. "Our goal was to win the conference, as it was felt good that we were able to accomplish that goal. The game was amazing and it was exciting to get the first conference title for BC."

Infeldsfather Sarah Smith follows through after connecting for a double against Citrus College in the Bakersfield Classic on Feb. 25 at the Dean and Adah Gay Sports Complex.

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Strong offense carries BC to seven straight wins

By Melissa McCormay
Reporter

The Bakersfield College softball team went seven straight turns while winning seven games over the weekend.

The Renegades reversed their season opening losses at San Bernardino Valley College and Citrus College in the Bakersfield College Classic on Feb. 25 at the Dean and Adah Gay Sports Complex.

"I thought that we've given the crowd an exciting game, but now it's all over in terms of excitement," said Dahl. "Along with getting their first conference title for BC, Smith also hit two-run home run and five singles and set new BC record for most hits in a game.

"I feel like playing and handling one thing the year was going to be enough. He had some other problems in high school but behind the scenes," he said. "It was his decision to play first base, and that's what we're going to do with him.

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Sophomore guard Jausecca Cockeral was recently named Most Valuable Player of the Western State Conference, the first Renegade to win the award since 1996-97 season.

Placed first in both the 100-meter hurdles and 400-meter hurdles last week, Cockeral also had a 10.48-second in the long jump and a 15.77 in the 110-meter hurdles.

She also won the 100-meter dash with a time of 11.93.

"I thought for the most part we placed well, considering the conditions," BC coach Bill Kalivas said.

"I thought Bill Kalivas. "The conditions made it tough for us to keep the ball in play and to consistently play our best. We needed to keep the ball in play and, much of the time, we didn't," he said.

In the end, BC did well in the hurdles.

Sophomore guard Jausecca Cockeral, recently named Most Valuable Player of the Western State Conference, is the first Renegade to win the award since 1996-97 season.

"I thought we did well because, usually when you're competing in tough conditions like we were, you have a tendency to get down on yourself, be selfish and go out of control, but we did a good job at controlling our own destiny," he said.

"BC's next tournament will be the Pac-12 Conference Championship at Santa Barbara on March 5.

"I always wanted to be on the Olympic team and I think that's why I keep working so hard because it's just keeping me going," he said.

"I think we're coming up a little bit short, so we're going to work on the serves. I think we need to look a little bit more at playing some extra doubles in practice," he said.

"I think Eason might break the record in a couple of years. I think he might be the guy to rekindle with. I'm looking forward to seeing him. I'm looking forward to competing with him because he's great and humble, and I think that makes him even better," he said.

"I thought that's the most fun part of it. You never get all satisfied and everything the pole vault includes that. It really helps me in this job because you have to work hard to achieve your goals."

Sophomore guard Jausecca Cockeral was named the Western State Conference Most Valuable Player, and it was the first time since the 1996-97 season that a Bakersfield College women's basketball player won MVP honors. She also made the all-state team averaging a team-leading 13.8 points, eight rebounds and seven assists per game.

Three Bakersfield College women's basketball players were named to the WSC all-conference second team, and they were freshman forward Brittany Smith, sophomore forward Gabi Morales and freshman center Madison Evans. BC coach Bill Kalivas also was named the WSC Coach of the Year.

Cockeral named
WSC MVP

Beckwith has track and field history

By Elysehan Ramirez
Senior Staff Writer

Many people at Bakersfield College know Ryan Beckwith as BC's athletic director, but before that he was winning in the decathlon for the Olympians. He always wanted to be on the Olympic team and I think that's why I keep working so hard because it's just keeping me going."

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**LEWIS THROWS OUT FIRST PITCH TO SUPPORT BC**

*By Zaki C. Cowan, Editor-in-Chief*

The Bakersfield College alumnus and Texas Rangers pitcher, Lewis threw out the first pitch at the Renegades game against San Diego Mesa Col.

Lewis, one of the most successful hurlers in Bakersfield history, did not pitch in the team’s three home games against San Diego Mesa. It was his first time back after a long battle with cancer.

"When I retire I'm going to want to do . . ." Lewis told us before the game.

In the hammer throw, Breann Van Wehoff took second in 3:58.98, and the 3000 in 8:45.50. All have been major shoots in the annals of BC. Van Wehoff has won the 200-meter dash with a 23.83, and Ethan Horsey placed second with a 23.49. Goodmann also finished second in three other categories.

On the men's side, Justin Van won the 200-meter dash with a time of 20.65. Dominick Lowden won the 800 in 1:53.87. Chris Schwarzi took the 5000 in 15:58.18. Rain forced off the schedule.

On the women's side, Tjepi Thad won the 800-meter run in 2:32.25, and teammate Elizabeth Sanders placed second in 2:33.48. In the 3000-meter steeplechase, Sonya Femmata was with a time of 13:37.87. In the hammer throw, Rachel Goodmann took first with a throw of 133-06.

Leaguesponsored monsoon race displaced performances by the starters. The BC quad had the best marks in the conference on Feb. 17. The BC s quad produced many outstanding performances, by the BC team. The BC team's initiation has closed out their victories with ease to back up the strong performances by the starters.

The team's bulletin has been announced in the early part of the season, and it has really been a major shot in the arm to gain back the successes that the team had originally. Freshman center Ryan Stephens has four starts in seven appearances with ERA of 6.44. Parnell said that, although the team's starting rotation is still deciding on the third spot and will make a decision before conference play starts.

A fielding error will not be the only concern for the team. "We haven't been very consistent on defense so far, but our pitchers have been excellent. We have had some good days and some bad days at the plate," Parnell said. "It's a big game. We're looking at catching a big little bit right now. It will give us the confidence to know that we can get the job done, they're looking at us for the first time." Parnell said.

"The Renegades have some upside despite their inconsistencies," Breann Van Wehoff is 3:58.98, and the 3000 in 8:45.50. All have been major shoots in the annals of BC. It was his first time back after a long battle with cancer.

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50,000 flock to Kernville to attend the four-day annual festival to show appreciation of heritage and tradition

"I thought I was going to fall off," said eight-year-old Bessie Spielman after getting off the mechanical bull at Riverside Park during the Whiskey Flat Days festival.

An estimate of 50,000 people attended the annual Whiskey Flat festival in Kernville this year.

The festival consists of many thrilling and exciting activities, and it is held on President's Day weekend. On Saturday the town gets together to watch the Whiskey Flat parade down Kernville road.

The parade shows floats from all walks of life. Some are dressed like cowboys and others are Indians. Kern Valley High School and Cerro Coso Community College also enter the parade and promote their school spirit.

The festival also has square dancing, an Indian encampment, carnival rides, food vendors, a melodrama, live music, face painting, fishing for live trout for the little ones, a Whiskey Flat mayor election and even a mechanical bull.

The festival is held every year on President's Day weekend. It is a celebration of the old town of Whiskey Flat that existed under what is now Lake Isabella.

Many of the town folk dress up in old western attire, and participate in the different activities that are put together by members of the Kernville Chamber. The festival brings a lot of life into Kernville during the dead of winter months.

The Whiskey Flat celebration started in 1957.

"We still rely on this celebration 55 years later to help us survive through the winter months up here in a town of only 1,800 people," said Cheryl Borthick, president of the Kernville Chamber of Commerce. "That's why it's in February, and we always pray we have decent weather for the festival."

The name Whiskey Flat dates back to a couple of years ago. Some believe the town acquired its name from all the saloons that were located within the town. Others date history back to the 1860's when Adam Hamilton set a plank atop of two Whiskey Barrels and called it Whiskey Flat.

"Some of the folk, mainly the ladies, decided it was a very unbecoming name for their town and renamed it Kernville," said Borthick.

A lot of people that visit the festival like to go for the food. There are many different food vendors; some of the most popular by the visitors are the Indian tacos, kettle corn, and the Sausage King.

Tanika Waye, a local of Kernville, commented on the event.

"This is my third year coming to this and I come here because of the food," Waye said. "It's really good."
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