**Uncertainty surrounds student’s death**

By Harolia Reyes

"This might sound a bit morbid, but I am a curious person. So don’t be mad that I’m asking. And don’t tell me you think I’m morbid, either. If someone does, what happens to their parents?"

This is one of the last points that Hunter LeBaron, a transgender student at Bakersfield College, published on his personal Facebook account before committing suicide. According to Blake Clendenen and Casey Walker, two of LeBaron’s closest friends, he had felt depressed for a while, constantly experienced self-harm, and had attempted to take his own life multiple times before.

"He would cut. Not the type of cut that was a cry for attention to make the emotional pain go away, but his actual pain that he would lose blood. He would lose a lot of blood," said Walker. Haunted by that particular fact, the situation escalated on Feb. 5.

However, he encountered problems during his second week of the semester. Student reactions have been varied on campus, while student reactions have recently escalated.

"I knew people say it gets bet-
ter. I feel like there were signs and I didn’t catch on soon enough," - Blake Clendenen, BC student

"I know people say it gets bet-
ter. I feel like there were signs and I didn’t catch on soon enough," - Blake Clendenen, BC student

"I feel like I did what he did because of multiple things: stuff that happened when he was a child. He told me he was abused—he’s family, school, and just everywhere. It just got to the point where it didn’t like it would get better," - Clendenen said.

According to his friends, one of the factors that might have led to LeBaron’s depression was the negativity that he received from his family, during his transition from a woman to a man, which started a year ago.

Walker said, "He got a lot of neg-
"They are the ones in charge of his mental and they are going to use his former name and gender, which I think is wrong because they should use his legal name. He is legally male and his legal name is Hunter."

According to Clendenen, LeBaron’s family’s lack of acceptance was present.

"I’m one of the talking to his fam-
"They made me refer to him as a ‘her’ and I didn’t want to go into a fight with them, but I feel like I’m disappointed," - Hunter LeBaron

Students protest Runels’ activity on Feb. 12 in the Bakersfield College Free Speech area. Wade Hickey (left) holds his sign while a supporter holds the sign of Garrett Goodlin (shock in camera).

**Former AD Herb Loken passes away**

By Robert Malina

Herb Loken, former Bakersfield College athletic director and gym-
nastics coach, passed away on Feb. 14.

Loken was named BC’s ath-
etic director in 1968 to replace Bill Gildea then was on leave from 1954-60. Loken was also the gymnastics

count 1997-98 (except during the 1990 season)

Billy Corey, who taught BC and was the track and field coach from 1963-2008, was office mate with Loken in 1963 and especially Loken’s quiet sense of humor.

"When we walked in, some-

According to Clendenen, the situation escalated on Feb. 5.

However, he encountered problems during his second week of school. "They said that I needed to fill out per-

He contacted Public Safety director Chris Couner af-
f that incident.

"He told me I didn’t need a permit, but because of complaints, they may have us not have anyone," he said. "When I met with him I told him, ‘Well, I’m just going to teach anyway and I feel we should do what he had to do.’ So they told me that he called the Bakersfield PD Department again.

Runels continued to preach in the Free Speech area despite concern from school administrators.

The incident escalated on Feb. 5.

"Last week I was here. [Public Safety] ap-

Please see PREACHER, Page 6
By Amber Hayden  Photographer

Several signs around the Kern County Fairgrounds read, “Get rad or dye trying,” and that’s exactly what approximately 1,000 participants did on Feb. 15 at the Color Me Rad 5K, with tons of colored dust already floating through the air before the run began.

Runners showed up in multi-colored shirts, tutus and sunglasses to run for the Ronald McDonald House charity. With ages ranging from young children to the elderly, the excitement could be heard as they cheered as each wave started.

From small packs of the colored powder to fire extinguishers filled with all different colors, there was no getting away from the dust as the wind kicked it around. Two young children could be seen chasing each other with a small pack throwing it at each other as their mom took pictures of the pair of them.

As the announcer readied each wave with a countdown to start, there was music that played and more cheering from runners. He told them, “Don’t try hard, have fun,” and would wave them on to start running.

Elaine Reyes was there to run with her kids.

“It is something fun to do with the kids,” she said and added, “They like the dress up and the pictures part of it.”

So that all the runners could all get covered in the colors, they started making smaller waves because of all the participants. One runner Sam Creech, a manager for Rite Aid, said, “We come out for the colors and to get dirty, but also for the charity.” Her group in agreement said that the charity is a good cause, but the big excitement is getting dirty.

Some of the runners who were part of bigger groups had opted to name their teams. Such names that could be seen were “Tuff Cookies,” “Mellow Yellow,” and “halos,” whose runners were also seen wearing little halos on their heads.

Jennifer Leisten, who was there with her daughters, said she was looking forward to the run even with just the three of them. Her oldest daughter, when asked if she was looking forward to being able to get dirty and not have mom get mad, just smiled and nodded. Her younger daughter just watched as the colors flew through the air.

As runners ran through different colored tunnels, they were covered in whatever color the tunnel happened to be.

If you didn’t register before the race, it was OK, as there was a booth set up for new registration. When you did, there were color packs in the packets received by the runners. The ages of runners varied from young children around the ages of two, to mid-60s.

Left: Gabriela Castro runs to the finish line at Bakersfield’s Color Me Rad event as friends and family cheer her on from the sidelines.

Right: Alison Martin runs wearing a unicorn costume at the Color Me Rad 5k event benefiting the Ronald McDonald House. This is the second year she has participated in the annual event.

Members of the “Kitty Kat Brigade” team cheer as they get near the finish line at the annual Color Me Rad event in Bakersfield.
Friday, Feb. 21
Bakersfield Renegade annual concert, Nar-12 is a 12-step program for friends and family affected by someone else's addiction to alcohol or other drugs. Bakersfield Marriott, 1001 Truxtun Ave. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Free registration. For more information: Robert Perrine (661)325-6100 or robert@bakersfieldcollege.edu or www.bakersfieldcollege.edu.
Saturday, Feb. 22
Bakersfield Renegade annual concert, Nar-12 is a 12-step program for friends and family affected by someone else's addiction to alcohol or other drugs. Bakersfield Marriott, 1001 Truxtun Ave. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Free registration. For more information: Robert Perrine (661)325-6100 or robert@bakersfieldcollege.edu or www.bakersfieldcollege.edu.
Monday, Feb. 24
Bakersfield College Renegade Pantry sign-up day. Campus Center C3. For more information: pantry@bakersfieldcollege.edu.
Tuesday, Feb. 25
Bakersfield College Renegade Pantry sign-up day. Campus Center C3. For more information: pantry@bakersfieldcollege.edu.
Financial Aid Awareness Week kickoff. Bakersfield College Campus Center. 9:15 a.m. Sign up for "Smart Borrowing" workshop through line at BeSmart.org. For more information: BakersfieldCollege.edu/faith.
Wednesday, Feb. 26
Bakersfield College Renegade Pantry sign-up day. Campus Center C3. For more information: pantry@bakersfieldcollege.edu.
Financial Aid Awareness Week. "Achieve the Dream" workshop. Sign up through Inside@BCC at BakersfieldCollege.edu. For more information: BakersfieldCollege.edu/faith.
Thursday, Feb. 27
Bakersfield College Renegade Pantry sign-up day. 5 a.m.-12 p.m. and 4:30-5:30 p.m. For more information: pantry@bakersfieldcollege.edu.
Friday, Feb. 28
Black Gold Productions: Molotov "Where's Home." Woman's Club of Bakersfield, 2030 10th Ave. Dinner 7:30 p.m. Show: 8 p.m. For tickets or more information: Mike Hawkins (661)360-4423 or BGP-plays.com.
Saturday, March 1
Black Gold Productions: Molotov "When's Home." Woman's Club of Bakersfield, 2030 10th Ave. Dinner 7:30 p.m. Show: 8 p.m. For tickets or more information: Mike Hawkins (661)360-4423 or BGP-plays.com.
Sunday, March 2
"The Legend of the Wasco Kid" Gaslight Melodrama Theatre & Museum, 1254 East Anaheim St. Sign up for reservations or for more information: (661)325-6100 or robert@bakersfieldcollege.edu.
Golden Empire ready for next step

By Rigoberto Lopez
Photographer

With a donation of 64 brass instruments and members attempting to reach fundraising goals, the Bakersfield College drumline has evolved into the Golden Empire Drum and Bugle Corps. The group, with Tim Heasley as corps director, would like to gain membership into Drum Corps International, known as DCI. The BC drumline, formed in 2005, officially became a drum and bugle corps this semester. An anonymous donation to the BC Foundation provided the brass instruments, and members have to meet fundraising goals of $13,000 to cover costs such as food, charter buses, and travel attending shows on the road.

Because they’re a new drum corps, the BC group is still in the process of being evaluated by DCI. DCI will determine which competitions they can be in and whether or not they can compete in them.

The Golden Empire is still scheduled to go to eight competitions this year, starting with June 20 in Clovis and July 13 in Bellflower. This is the process of deciding which competitions to enter will not be determined until DCI can finish its evaluation. Heasley said that at this point, none of those competitions are out of the question because they have to have a small team that is manageable. Within the next five to six years down the road, the Golden Empire would like to travel out of state. The group practices once a month, but there are a few key differences when it comes to DCI as such. There are no woodwinds, only brass, percussion, and color guard.

The competitions occur during the summer rather than the fall like in marching band. BC’s corps consists of members who are high school freshmen to age 22. Their goal is to increase membership to have enough people to play the 64 brass instruments. They currently have 45 brass players.

The group practices once a month, which is referred to as a camp weekend, that involves Friday night, all day Saturday, and part of Sunday. There are six blocks of rehearsals that are three hours long. There are six blocks of rehearsals that are three hours long. The process to be in the program was to pre-register on its website, which is performsarts.org. They also held auditions during Christmas and are still holding auditions for people who are still interested.

According to Heasley, the expectation out of the students is for them to get better at their instruments but also to spread the word out to high school freshmen to better their music skills. The process to be in the program was to pre-register on its website, which is performsarts.org. They also held auditions during Christmas and are still holding auditions for people who are still interested.

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By Elizabeth Fernandez
Reporter

The Student Government Association proudly presented the newly renamed Student Success Resource Fair on Feb. 11, where departments and instructors set up tables to readily inform students of many programs and resources available to them at Bakersfield College.

Antonio Alfara, from the cancer development workforce preparation department, said he wanted students simply to “have understanding [that] services are here to help.

“Students might have just come in for the free T-shirts, but they’ll leave with so much other resources,” said SGA Vice President Edison Borbon.

For example, one BC student, Marcus Mercado, a vocational nursing major, was simply walking past when he noticed the fair and heard his name “tinted.”

Mercado, however, was pleasantly surprised after walking into the event and meeting all of the booths. “I don’t really know who to choose from, I want to know what they all do for others now.”

Choosing to stop by the Allied Health booth first, as he is pennant to his major, Mercado met up with Gabriele Martin, nursing instructor on campus.

“A lot of students have the idea of a medical degree, but might not have, or know, the right path, they need clarity and information,” said Martin.

She then added that informing students about her program is what encourages her to be a part of the resource fair.

Tom Moran, department chair for foreign languages, said, “It’s a challenge to reach 38,000 to 17,000 students, but it’s important that they see a better understanding of their options for graduating and transferring.”

“We’re giving them the tools they need.”

Although counselors and advisors are on-hand at the student services building, many students, like Mercado, really benefit from the Student Success Resource Fair experience.

He even admitted, “I don’t pay much attention to what’s going on [at school] besides my classes.”

Mercado described specific questions to the Allied Health department staff and found out that he was taking the wrong classes. They also gave him further advice to better his decision for the program.

After the resource fair said, “I found that SGA had done a good job of holding the event and said he would not only like to come back, but also would recommend it to friends and fellow students.

“Phenomenal! Better than imagine!” said Borbon when asked how he felt the fair was doing.

And added, “we want to encourage students to take advantage of all these resources that are offered. It’s a part of their student fee, so why not get the most of it?”

Motorcycle accident on 178

By Myrina Jilhaus
News Editor

Some lucky contest winners were able to enjoy an exclusive meet and greet with Lucy Hale at the KUZZ listener show, which was held at Buck Owens’ Crystal Palace on Feb. 12.

Hale, an actress/vocalist well-known for her role as Aria in ABC Family’s “Pretty Little Liars,” signed personalized autographs for the contest winners and also posed for photos with each winner prior to the concert.

Contest winners Lacie and Natalie Leno, it had not been clear to them that they would be meeting the singer and Hale told her that it was a “chance” at meet and greet and not a contest win.

She added, “I was just tickled pink, I was so excited.”

That was my first time getting to meet somebody famous also, so I was glad I got to experience it with Hale,” Jacks explained that the felt the opportunity of meeting Hale with her daughter made the experience even more special.

There was an opportunity to reserve seats for the listener show, which were all reserved once more than 14,000 entries according to a KUZZ.com employee. However, only one BC student was one of the contest winners.

“Students might have just come in for the fair, but they left with so much more,” said Borbon when asked what they did for others now.

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And added, “we want to encourage students to take advantage of all these resources that are offered. It’s a part of their student fee, so why not get the most of it?”

By Elizabeth Fernandez
Reporter

The Kern Community College District Board of Trustees held a meeting on Feb. 5, in which the chancellor and the board.

Sward had originally had a speech prepared in which she would offer SGA’s proposal for a compromise on student worker hours.

As of now KCCD’s policy is that they may not exceed 19 hours during a school week, unless there is a “designated” recess such as winter, spring or summer break.

The revision that the council is currently considering would eliminate the ability for student employees to work more than 19 hours, even during the designated times of exception.

Obama’s recent healthcare reform dictates em- ployees are required to provide health insurance for employees working more than 32 hours per week.

If the school doesn’t place a cap on hours, it could be held subject to the policy.

“They don’t want to be fined, so they’d rather have, or know, the right path; they need clarity and information,” said Martin.

Used, “we want to encourage stu-

Although the rule the board had removed the item was to further investigate and consider SGA’s proposal of teaching a compromise, and not because they had reached a conclu-

She also said that the good consultation pro-

Where preparing to return to the workforce balances with “I have two young kids.”

By Myrina Jilhaus
News Editor

Lucy Hale performs a song from her first album titled “Road to Home” at the Grand Ole Opry on Feb. 21.

Lucy Hale performs at the Buck Owens’ Crystal Palace

By Elizabeth Fernandez
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Continued from Page 1

I feel like he did have ten being under-represented. That transgender individuals are of-...
New cards a waste of time and money

U.S. Bank is now responsible for all financial aid disbursements and, while they also control our Bakersfield College website, it is important that we should be concerned that the card issued by the bank isn’t a product of the bank
alone. This is a small step towards the realization of the fact that the bank, not the college, is responsible for the bank

The U.S. Bank is both a student's ID and your debit card. On the back of the card are two sections: the top, for college transactions like printing in the library and the other for non-college

transactions. This can be confusing to many people.

Before, when we had the Kern Students' Union, we had an old card and a new card is a MasterCard. Some people
don't like the look of that. But it is not a MasterCard and not a MasterCard.

The fastest way of getting your financial
aid for the semester is to take the card to get it deposited at any bank account of your choice. I am not taking a trip per
check. These two options are not to be trusted. Most people don't want to wait a week or two to get their money in the bank and the card or
the mail to transferred to the bank account of their choice. That's a good thing about the card, but most students need to know what to do if
School accounts get financial aid account, it is a mess. Most of the students that have gone to Kern
School have to open an account with U.S. Bank.

One of the reasons for not wanting to do
Micah says it's easier to figure out photos on those
and that could lead to problems down the road. I don't think it leads to anything, it provides a sense of security because it is

a picture you can go back to. Right now it is

unacceptable. “The bank is not for you. If you hold the card, you are

required to have a bank account. If you don’t, you can only use

the card in 3 credit unions. If you do not have

the bank, you can use the card in 3 credit unions.

“Banking at a credit union is affordable.

To get a replacement card, you can go to

a credit union and pay $5 if you get it.

In order to release films that are

original, they have been either a remake of an

older movie, or an adaption of a novel.

The films that have been released

back in the '80s, and recently,

“Transformers,” to “RoboCop,”

have run out of ideas. From

the original storyline? It seems that

whole storylines have been

taken from the original storyline. The

films that have been released

in the past few years, I have not been very pleased

with most of the choices that

the films have made. With the

exception of one. The story of

the film that has been released

has been either a remake or a

new movie, or an adaption of a

book or a movie. In addition to
taking ideas from old

works, Hollywood has been filled with

and novel adaptations.

The concept in this book is

astonishing, but it's the characters

that are really mind-boggling. The

plot of the movie is not

as

humorous as I thought. The

film is not as good as I

thought it would be.

I don't know if you have

seen the movie, but I think

they have been

on the box office.

The film, which turned out to be

an instant classic, was written

directly without any

thought. I don't think it is

that bad. I am not sure if

they understand the

genre of film.

The numbers and name on the card

belonged to. The account.

So what

is the

card

for?

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I don't want to wait a week or two.

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The Renegade Rip www.therip.com
Thursday, February 20, 2014

COMMENTARY
Page 8

Old RoboCop vs. New RoboCop
Omnicorp satisfies moviegoers
By Daniel Ojeda

The original RoboCop, released in 1987, was one of several movies with ice-age-hot special effects and hardboiled action that wrapped around a thrilling tale of a police officer in a futuristic city with robots and as part man, part machine, all cop. So when makers of the RoboCop reboot began appearing on TV, I looked inside the same question many fans of the original did, why reboot such a classic?

Early trailers of RoboCop hinted of a movie filled with action, just like the original. “Dead or alive you’re coming with me.” All that was new of Samuel L. Jackson and enough of Samuel L. Jackson and enough of a movie filled with action, just like the original. “Dead or alive you’re coming with me.”

But where the original movie mainly tracked on the moral issues of turning man into machine and focused more on RoboCop, cleaning up the streets of Detroit, this reboot is preoccupied with it. A new RoboCop is billed as an action movie, but it turns out it’s a philosophy lesson. It seems to focus on why the music is the underlining score for the movie and the character’s love of the taser gun.

Despite this, action scenes look amazing with modern effects allowing RoboCop to move quicker, jump higher and punch harder than ever before. There is also a spectacular blue light beam scene where the music is in constant motion while our hero battles against super-aggressive robotic soldiers, delivering the score with the energy that the movie should have. But these action scenes are few and far between.

There are also some very effective nods to the original RoboCop, from the music to the laser gun emerging from his leg. Samuel Jackson also provides a bit of comic relief playing a movie mogul news host who delivers angry monologues that are both good and bad. Some good performances, great visual effects, and a hero that’s easy to get behind. RoboCop was definitely entertaining. Too bad it couldn’t have done more to satisfy moviegoers.


Food Review

Chef in Chief

Breakfast should not be just for breakfast
By Bermin Rodriguez

Breakfast is supposedly the most important meal of the day, why don’t all food establishments offer breakfast at all times? All fast-food establishments close at 8 p.m. or 9 p.m. so that we can eat what we want, when we want to and not take the money.

Breakfast is only an establishment, out of the big fast-food chains that are open all day long. Sonic also serves all day, but we all know that nobody really goes there to eat, but to go for the drinks and dessert, no matter how many times we eat there.

Places like McDonald’s and Burger King used to put in on the market, “7 a.m. to 10 p.m.” “It’s not just any day” you won’t serve it all day, Burger King?

At the McDonald Locations which are open 24 hours, you start serving a limited breakfast menu only midnight. That’s a step in the right direction, but keep them open 24 hours.

Taco Bell also serves breakfast and now it’s open 24 hours, but it doesn’t start to serve breakfast until midnight. That’s a step in the right direction, but keep them open 24 hours.

Taco Bell also serves breakfast now and despite opening at 11 a.m. the problem with its hours is that it’s open until 11 p.m. and all day. Taco Bell’s breakfast is like an exclusive club in their mind, consider that everybody wants to go to, but nobody want to be in line to do it.

Even Subway serves breakfast now and despite opening at 11 a.m. most of the time it has to be closed between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m., it’s open 24 hours. But they shouldn’t serve a breakfast sandwich at anytime of the day.

So, I’m very concerned with the fast-food chains, is that it doesn’t open until 11 a.m. or 12 noon? Why can’t they extend their hours? Why can’t they open 24 hours? There’s no way you’ll serve it all day, Burger King?

To the McDonald Locations which are open 24 hours, you start serving a limited breakfast menu only midnight. That’s a step in the right direction, but keep them open 24 hours.

Breakfast should not be just for breakfast


SWEET 16’s app for songwriters

By Elsa A. Echard

SWEET 16’s app is the first mobile app that caters to hip-hop and R&B artists. It’s safe to say that I have found my songwriting app, which is available on both iPhone and Android.

The app is called SWEET 16’s and has a very easy interface. You can easily upload your song in a looped manner that permits the artist to get in the zone where they are writing lyrics. The app allows you to tweet your song to get feedback on your work. The app also has features such as the ability to save your instrumental and send it to friends. The app allows you to save your songwriting projects, save your instrumental and send it to friends.

The app is incredible and now the app has a full-screen view. It’s incredible before 10 a.m. I feel like an exclusive club in their mind, consider that everybody wants to go to, but nobody want to be in line to do it.

The app allows you to save your songwriting projects, save your instrumental and send it to friends.

A SWEET 16’s for songwriters


SWEET 16’s app is the first mobile app that caters to hip-hop and R&B artists. It’s safe to say that I have found my songwriting app, which is available on both iPhone and Android.

The app is called SWEET 16’s and has a very easy interface. You can easily upload your song in a looped manner that permits the artist to get in the zone where they are writing lyrics. The app allows you to tweet your song to get feedback on your work. The app also has features such as the ability to save your instrumental and send it to friends. The app allows you to save your songwriting projects, save your instrumental and send it to friends.

The app is incredible and now the app has a full-screen view. It’s incredible before 10 a.m. I feel like an exclusive club in their mind, consider that everybody wants to go to, but nobody want to be in line to do it.

The app allows you to save your songwriting projects, save your instrumental and send it to friends.
Bakersfield College’s Joe Leonardi clears 3.8 meters (approximately 12 1/2 feet) to tie for first in the men’s pole vault.

By Monique Hansen-Garcia

New club hopes to bring men’s soccer back to Bakersfield College

By Daniel Ojeda

Bakersfield College hasn’t had a men’s soccer team in over 10 years. But the start of the new semester also brings with it the start of something else, BC’s new men’s soccer club.

After submitting the required paperwork last semester, Raul Carrillo and Saul Ortega, BC students who helped start the club, believe the new club is ready to begin fresh this year and start off strong.

“We’re really going to try and work hard and make sure we’re doing our best,” said Carrillo. “And the boys are going to work hard and play their best.”

Carrillo will not only be the head coach for the soccer club, but he is also going to be the head coach for the men’s tennis team, as well.

A lot of people call me, like players from Centennial and Stockdale that are attending BC and being a minimum of six units for the semester, they are also looking for athletes that love the sport and are ready to take soccer to a new level competitively.

The head coach for the soccer club is former CSUB player Saul Finch, who is currently playing for the Fresno Fuego in the Player Development League, and they are also being advised by the women’s soccer coach Scott Johnson.

The soccer club will also be a traveling team that will compete with other soccer clubs from different colleges. The soccer club is also trying to raise money and find a sponsor because in order to compete and travel to other places, the soccer club has to raise or sponsorship opportunities, contact Saul Ortega at 661-808-7239.

The clubs first game is February 23 at 1 p.m. against the CSUSB Coyote soccer club at the women’s soccer field.

For any questions about tryouts, fundraising or sponsorship opportunities, contact Saul Ortega at 661-408-7259.
Women beat Glendale with one game left

By Monique Hansen-Garcia

Nakia Page scored 21 points and had 10 rebounds to lead the Bakersfield College women’s basketball team to a 68-54 victory over Glendale in a Western State Conference South game Feb. 13.

Despite foul issues for both teams, the Renegades powered through and never trailed Glendale, starting with a 7-3 lead early on. Going into the half, BC led 35-26.

Along with Page’s 21 points, BC’s Clacey Tarver had 16 points and five rebounds, and Logan Meland had 16 points and six rebounds.

Some serious adjustments were made in the “lineup and full-court press,” according to coach Paula Dahl.

Dahl was extremely pleased with her team, mentioning that this win was one she really wanted. When asked how it felt to beat a team like Glendale, Dahl responded, “awesome,” and had a grin to prove it.

Page scored 21 points during the game, nearly a third of BC’s points, and collected 10 rebounds.

Forward Nakia Page (24) goes up with the ball against Glendale defender Mary Karapetyan (3).
Playoff berth doubtful after Glendale loss

By Elias C. Ahumada

As the season comes to an end and the Bakersfield College men’s basketball team, there is no reason to be optimistic about the team moving forward. "We are a young team," so this season we suffered a couple of losses, but I think everyone is improving, so we can expect a re-as good home team," says Tony Plavchyan.

For foreign exchange student athlete Paul Lecurieux-Lafayette, life has been a bit challenging coming to America. “I came here by myself and I knew nobody,” said Lecurieux-Lafayette. “The first day I came here I didn’t know where I was going to stay, but the coaches helped me a lot there.”

Lecurieux-Lafayette, 20, is a fast player with a well-rounded game that gives Renegades fans hope. “The game looked over after glendales 64-59 loss against Glendale College. Despite a valiant effort, BC could not make up the deficit earned in the first half.”

French exchange student enjoys his time with BC

By Elias C. Ahumada

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Swimming takes several wins during first meet

By Daniel Oyada

Bakersfield College’s men’s swim team had six swimmers finish in the top 25. The BC swimmer finished the WSC Pentathlon on Saturday at the WSC Pentathlon on Saturday at Antelope Valley College on Feb. 15. Andrew Hargis placed first at 5:10.76, Michael Fink placed second at 5:17.19 and Connor Hicks placing 25th with a time of 5:32.55. Right behind him was Shelby Bayne, good for fourth place in the pentathlon.

The BC swimmer finished the WSC Pentathlon on Saturday at Antelope Valley College on Feb. 15. Andrew Hargis placed first at 5:10.76, Michael Fink placed second at 5:17.19 and Connor Hicks placing 25th with a time of 5:32.55. Right behind him was Shelby Bayne, good for fourth place in the pentathlon.

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Kernville attracted big crowds for its annual Presidents Day weekend festival, Whiskey Flat Days.

Whiskey Flat Days is a festival in which Kernville reverts back to its old name, “Whiskey Flat” and re-enacts the way that its forefathers lived back in the Wild West.

The festival, which took place Feb. 14–17, had a wide array of events over the course of the weekend, including a parade, melodramas, re-enactments, a carnival, live concert performances by bands The Rock Bottom Boys and Allasso, a rodeo, and even frog jumping contests.

On Feb. 15, the “first heat” of the frog jumping contest began and it was very popular with the crowds. There was even a betting station set up for people to wager on frogs. The crowd went wild after the second race, when the underdog—or under-frog—won with 5-1 odds.

Charlie Busch, a Whiskey Flat Days committee member who also takes part in the melodrama, said all profits from the wagers on the frogs go toward funding Whiskey Flat Days. Those who won their wager were given “frog bucks,” which are redeemable at any of the merchant stores, according to Busch.

The frog jumping was also a huge hit with children, who were allowed to catch the frogs after each race.

“We haven’t lost a frog yet,” Busch joked.

Mike Breckenridge, one of the many re-enactors, could be seen hanging out with his horse outside of the Kernville Saloon. Although Breckenridge said it was his first time taking part in Whiskey Flat Days, it is something that he wishes to return to. He traveled from his home in San Diego for the weekend in order to be involved with the event.

Whiskey Flat Days is one of the most popular festivals in Southern California, attracting more than 45,000 people over the Presidents Day weekend.