Country artists gather to honor Merle Haggard
By Jose Najera

The Kern County Museum hosted the Haggard Boxcar Festival on April 9 with the goal of showcasing country music performers and bands who were playing among the historical former boxcars and buildings. A total of 14 performances and bands were set up to play directly on the porches of the historical homes or in front of the structures located on the museum grounds. The festival drew a sizable turnout of all ages. Joe Schaffran, executive director of the museum, said, “I want them to enjoy and appreciate music that has been roots in Bakersfield.”

Several dignitaries and politicians were on hand to mingle among the music lovers. Several professional entertainers made themselves available to meet and greet fans, such as country singer Kaylee Ryan, who joined the cast as a contestant on the reality show “The Voice” in third season. Parros performs a wide variety of music but counts the music of Merle Haggard as having a huge influence on him. On his debut album, “Make My Way,” Parros performs country music in the style of local legends like Haggard and Bob Owen. He recorded his album at the Capitol Records recording studios in Hollywood. Parros performed a song written by Merle Haggard as having a huge influence on him. On his debut album, “Make My Way,” Parros performs country music in the style of local legends like Haggard and Bob Owen.

Several other musical performances and bands were set up to perform at the Boxcar Festival. Several performances were planned for later in the week, including the annual festival of being able to continue making music in the sound and style of local music legends like Haggard and Parros performed a song written by Merle Haggard as having a huge influence on him. On his debut album, “Make My Way,” Parros performs country music in the style of local legends like Haggard and Bob Owen. He recorded his album at the Capitol Records recording studios in Hollywood. Parros performed a song written by Merle Haggard as having a huge influence on him. On his debut album, “Make My Way,” Parros performs country music in the style of local legends like Haggard and Bob Owen.

The Renegade Rip

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BC elects Von Manos as SGA president
By Brandon Coven

Dezi Von Manos has been elected the Student Government Association president for the 2017-18 school year. She won the president election with 205 votes ahead of the runner-up Daniel Mechem, who received 161 votes. There were also 30 votes for none of the above and 28 votes for unanswered. The voter turnout was 2,381 percent with 570 total votes cast by 2,018 students in Spring 2017. Winners for the BCSCM election results were announced in the Fireside Room on March 15. Dezi Von Manos said that she wants to inform students before the elections take place, instead of informing students during the elections in order to increase voter turnout. She said, “We could have done a little better on the outreach toward the students on informing them about the election. I know that when I was campaigning, a lot of students had no idea that elections were taking place. So in my campaigning, I found myself informing them of elections. I think that the questions they had pertaining to SGA, I think that’s probably why voter turnout was so low.”

Another pool that Von Manos is going to work on is to prohibit smoking anywhere at Bakersfield College. “There are designated areas right now because please see ELECTION, Page 8

Country music singer James Carothers performs his set at the Kern County Museum Boxcar Festival for fellow artists and attendees.

BC health center would offer abortion pills under new bill
By Morgan Park

A new bill introduced to the state senate in March (SB 320) would require UC’s, CSU’s, and community colleges with health centers to offer abortion pills to students seeking them. The bill, named the “College Student Right to Access Act,” was introduced on March 17 by Sen. Connie M. Leyva (D) with the intent to “benefit university students who may become pregnant and who seek to terminate their pregnancy within the first ten weeks,” read the press release following the bill’s introduction.

“It is important that college students have access to safe and reliable reproductive health care options, including early pregnancy termination. UC, CSU or community college already has a student health center, it makes sense that the college should do the right thing for students. Because the facility is that students do not have to travel tens of miles to find a place where they can access the third commitment in order to receive care,” Sen. Leyvas said in the release.

Bakersfield College would be one of the schools that would a able to offer abortion pills at the Student Health and Wellness Center under SB 320 in its third season. BC’s health center focuses on individual over-the-counter medical care in the bill one might expect to get at an urgent care center or department of family practice, as well as mental health counseling for students.

“We’re an important student support services,” said Ray Purcell, Health and Wellness Center director. SB 320 is still in early stages, raising approval from health and education professionals.Senator voting on the Senate floor. Purcell hasn’t been able to make the bill thoroughly, partly because he was on a medical leave of absence last week.

Though, rather than enforcing the carrying of abortion pills, Purcell would rather approach the subject differently.

Please see ABDATION, Page 8

New policy would make BC tobacco-free by next fall
By Morgan Park

Bakersfield College may be on track to implement a tobacco-free policy by the Fall 2017 semester, according to Cindy Collier, the dean of Allied Health. Currently, BC follows state law regarding tobacco smoking. However, bills are being drafted for a new smoking policy on campus.

The proposed procedure was drafted by a task force comprised of BC faculty and staff such as Ray Purcell and Nicole Daniam, as well as student representatives Alicia Romero. The group was headed by Collar to tackle BC’s smoking issues. The policy, if enacted, will ban all tobacco products, and smoking from campus. This procedure has been successfully vetted through the Academic Senate and the Classified Unions,” says Coller. “We are currently working to hear from the Faculty Union, however they have previously been in favor.”

The bill will be presented to the College Council, which helps advise the college president on April 13. BC has also been awarded a $7,900 grant from the Truth Initiative, a non-profit organization whose focus is to stop tobacco use. Ray Purcell, the director of the Student Health and Wellness Center, said the grant has been used for educational purposes, like the imagine #BCTobaccofree signs placed throughout campus.

“We are working with California Youth Please see SMOKING, Page 8

A memorial table for Merle Haggard was set up outside his boxcar home.

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“We are working with California Youth Please see SMOKING, Page 8

A student smokes while posing near “BCTobaccoFree” ad.

Kit fox investigation concludes with DA

BC represented at Delano Relay for Life
Apps used for sex, not dating

By Amanda King

The Delores Huerta Foundation’s Teens 4 Equity program, which collaborates with the California LGBTQ Advocates, held a rally March 15 outside of The Redwood Center at 21 at 2nd Street and L in celebration of the National Transgender Day of Visibility.

The National Transgender Day of Visibility is an annual event recognizing the courage and experience of transgender people and raising awareness about the rights of transgender people worldwide.

Aliens of the transgender community typically face violence, hate, and war on flags to show support for transgender rights.

There are a number of children and families in attendance and support for trans rights.

Today was the day that she told them that she was gay, and it's a day that she will never forget. She said, “It was a huge step for me, but I needed to do it for my own sake.”

If you are interested in learning more about the Delores Huerta Foundation’s Teens 4 Equity program, please visit their website at www.dh4e.org.

The rally lasted from 4 p.m. and was widely well received. People of all ages showed up to show their support for transgender people and made a huge impact.

The rally started off with a large group of people gathered in front of the Redwood Center. The crowd sang songs and chanted in support of the trans community.

At the end of the rally, everyone was invited to a potluck where they could meet new people and share their stories. The potluck was a huge success and everyone had a great time.

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Congressional honor for former BC adjunct

By Zach Sullivan

Former Bakersfield College student and current adjunct professor Santa Reid was recently nominated and awarded a congressional honor by Congressman David Valadao for his hard work and advancements in fire technology, said Tim Capuhain, director of Fire Technology at BC, who nominated Reid for the award.

Capuhain said he first met Reid roughly 10 to 12 years ago when he was one of his students.

“His student was in my class, and one of the things I tell all of the students is, the reality to not everyone in the class is going to become a firefighter, but there are other kinds of jobs in the fire service they should be aware of, and of the jobs I talked about was a fire engineering tech job. Back then there were only two colleges offered degrees, University of Maryland and Oklahoma. He graduate from BC and called me up and said he was heading back east to go to one of those colleges to be a fire technician and engineering, let me know how things go for him,” Capuhain said.

A few years later, Capuhain said Reid contacted him and told him he was looking for Bakersfield College in California, and they had two colleges and a fire protection engineer degree. “Hey, can you please contact David Valadao, the Congressman for California’s 27th District, to make sure he ever make it back to California to meet me,” Capuhain said.

Couple years later he called me up and told me he worked with a fire protection agency in Los Angeles and I told him it’s a long, round about story where he went to California State University at Los Angeles, but he never made it back to Bakersfield.

According to Reid, in England the law of primum gravior meant the fine boy was fined everything “to ensure that such families do not populate the land available to them to feel secure.”

“Now what comes along with that are the stereotypes that we all know, the absolute authority of men over women, the right to use physical force if necessary to do whatever they want. You know that there are laws to protect a woman’s purity and if they are not the laws of the United States, but other countries are those laws,” Capuhain said.

Said Reid, “If they are not like European countries, that’s what creates her as a woman.”

Another point that Miller mentioned was that the female would no longer use the diamond ring because the diamond ring was now used to provide for the female after the divorce.

A woman must know how and where they are going to provide, the female is not going to provide. An example of this is a housewife or a servant.

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A woman must know how and where they are going to provide, the female is not going to provide. An example of this is a housewife or a servant.

Said Reid, “I really felt that because of my interest in history, research on my classes for transfer into my future career, and giving credit to both BC and the University of California at Los Angeles, but I never made it back to Bakersfield College and called me up and said he was heading back east to go to one of those colleges to be a fire technician and engineering, let me know how things go for him,” Capuhain said.

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By Fernando Mattaine

Reporter

The Women’s History Month and Women’s Rights Commis- sion held its last event for the month, “Creating a New Con- struction of the Female Image in Children’s Media.”

The event was composed of speakers and featured women who discussed the vari- ous roles they had identified themselves. The panelist were BC Professor Emi Miller and Andrea Thorson, Tall College professor and executive director of First and Always Melanin Foundation.

Emi Miller began the first one in the topic on speaking by introduc- ing the audience to multi-ethnic writers that first started to iden- tify the self. She mentioned how the first images of women were civil rights and feminism. Women were not given power and that created the idea that men should have more power than women.

“How do we why do we need to validate our power?” said Miller’s.

“Great example to mention how women often use prey to get what they want to have power,” Miller said.

“As a history professor, what I’m looking at are the origins, what are the roots of the identities available to women.”

Said Miller She introduced the idea that the female’s image in Europe in the early 1900s and how it evolved to what it looks like today. Said Miller, “I’m looking at the diamond because it symbolized that females are attractive and valued for a man who is success- ful and wealthy enough to be able to buy something expensive because it represents a value.”

If divorce occurred, the female would no longer use the diamond ring because the diamond ring was now used to provide for the female after the divorce.

Another point that Miller brought up was the idea that the female is no longer valuable. She linked the idea back to Europe where women only had two identities: a housewife or a serv- ant worker.

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Couple years later he called me up and told me he worked with a fire protection agency in Los Angeles and I told him it’s a long, round about story where he went to California State University at Los Angeles, but he never made it back to Bakersfield.
There's an article about Bakersfield College and a Poet Laureate event. The article mentions a Poet Laureate event held in conjunction with the Delano Relay for Life event. The Poet Laureate, Juan Felipe Herrera, gave a reading at the event, and students were encouraged to come and enjoy the poetry. The article also mentions a jazz festival at the college, with performers such as Sonya Christian, Kris Tiner, and Paul Boz. The festival took place on March 29th. The article also includes a mention of the BC Delano Relay for Life event, where students and faculty gathered to raise money for cancer research. The article highlights the involvement of students and faculty in the event, and the importance of community service and fundraising efforts. The Poet Laureate event and the jazz festival are both highlights of the college's cultural events, showcasing the diversity of activities available to students.
Dezi Von Mannes hopes to accrue some constructions waiting in line for Spring Fling events at BC.

The next day, a campus-wide Egg Hunt was held. A booth was also set up where students could purchase a “cheer”-shirt for $5. On the other side of campus, participants in a blind fold test for Parkinson’s disease were donated from pizzazers around town and the community. Students received blind-folded pieces from every booth and were given a piece of paper to vote for whoever they thought was the best. The final event for Spring Fling was Laser Tag, which took place on the Commons lawn April 6.

Chin directed another Ives’ play, “A Flea in Her Ear,” at BC last year. “Ives was a prolific comedic playwright who was known for writing plays that made you feel like some reflection of society in the play. You think you’re just getting entertainment and pleasure, but he was trying to get you thinking about the themes of some of his plays,” said Chin. “So there is that kind of misunderstanding, myself, people, maybe inattention, as they say “to have an interpreter for some gain the stress levels are easier to come by. BC have helped Trevino accept two years ago, and that this was the second one they were doing. Trevino finally accepted his hearing first started to go out around the age of 20. He relied on his voice to communicate, causing him and other Deaf students to not be able to participate in class activities. His family has also had to take an interpreter for some of his classes, in order to learn to have an interpreter for some of his classes, in order to learn to do not know sign language. He relied on his voice to communicate, although he could not hear and could not hear or read lips. "I'm Deaf proud. If I had never become Deaf, I would have never met some of the amazing people in my life."

The next day, a campus-wide Egg Hunt was held. Dezi Von Mannes, a student at Bakersfield College for the second time, headed back to BC to earn a degree in American Sign Language, after becoming deaf when she was seven years old. Trevino, 29, is a blind person and worked in the pharmaceutical business and taught pharmacy to other courses.

"Life was always just busy, busy, busy," said Trevino. "I don’t think much about what just happened in my life. It’s all about a vibe. If you’re going to do something you have to be in love with it, and I have, and it has a lot to do with me. It’s like becoming to be happy to you’re playing. You see, it’s like a life force. It’s scientifically proven it can be a stress reliever, it can regulate dopamine in the brain, and it’s very healthy. It’s as simple as it can be.

During the past couple of weeks, there have been a lot of small events on the BC campus.

(From left to right) a student in the ASL program. Lastly, I want to name off some students I’ve met over the years who have been in Trevino’s life that has really been helpful. If I had never become Deaf, I would have never met some of the amazing people in my life. The stress levels are easier to come by. BC have helped Trevino accept that they see you signing,” Trevino said. He relied on his voice to communicate, causing him and other Deaf students to not be able to participate in class activities. His family has also had to take an interpreter for some of his classes, in order to learn. Professors at BC have helped Trevino accept that they see you signing,” Trevino said. He relied on his voice to communicate, causing him and other Deaf students to not be able to participate in class activities. His family has also had to take an interpreter for some of his classes, in order to learn to have an interpreter for some gain the stress levels are easier to come by. BC have helped Trevino accept that they see you signing,” Trevino said. He relied on his voice to communicate, causing him and other Deaf students to not be able to participate in class activities. His family has also had to take an interpreter for some of his classes, in order to learn
Pop-up art show from students

Pop-up art show from students

By Megan Fesmirk-Reporter

A Bakersfield College drawing II class displayed art pieces at a pop-up art show on April 6 on the grassy area outside by the Fine Arts building. The art was displayed while passers-by perused the art. Some BC students stop to view the artwork before their classes at 9 a.m. and lasted until 12:30 p.m.

Participants were given the opportunity to get accustomed to drawing different facial profiles and using color. Some of the activities and amenities that contribute, either directly or indirectly, to health include making art works.

Some BC students stop to view the artwork before their classes at the pop-up shop.

Students view art pieces inspired by Michelangelo's work on the Satin Chapel.

Participant Alan Ramirez poses next to his "Final Judgment" inspired piece.

Art student Jesus Guillem explains some of his artistic processes for his inspired piece at the pop-up art show on April 6 outside by the Fine Arts building.

By Ambria King

BC annual Garden Fest ready to bloom

By Zach Sullivan

Bakersfield College's annual Garden Fest will feature more booths and people than ever before, as well as vendors who provide BC students with many opportunities by providing them the opportunity to make connections with future employers and apply for both full and part-time internships, said Foley-more, a Horticulture technician at Bakersfield College.

Garden Fest, which according to Sterns was started by her and fellow agriculture professor Lindsey Day in 2005, which will take place April 22 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Bakersfield College. This year’s event will consist of roughly 150 vendors, and is expected to surpass last year’s event of 600 people in attendance. Sterns said.

According to Sterns, Garden Fest will benefit not only agriculture students but students in all fields of academic interest.

“Garden Fest is an event that will help any BC student. I tell them to treat it like a job interview. All agriculture students should attend, however, even with all of the other vendors we have, including non-agriculture, every student should come,” she said.

When asked what is different about this year’s event than previous years in her opinion, Sterns pointed to the increased number of vendors.

“I think the added number of vendors. This is the first year that we've had some vendors in advance. I had sold out all of our booth spaces, so we had to get creative and add some more space,” she said:

“We did, and that’s how it’s going to be. Also, I had people contacting me saying, ‘I heard about the event. I’m a crafter, I do this or I tell that,’ and I never solicited them, so for the first time these people who have not been solicited to come to the event just call me out of the blue and say, ‘Hey, I want to be there.’

Sterns pointed to the student’s ability to network with potential future employers and talk to people in the industry or field they are looking into as another benefit for those who attend.

“These people are always looking for employees, and students receive résumé and even paid positions just from going around that day and talking to different vendors, so we always encourage them to come and treat it like a job fair. You never know where that one conversation is going to pay off in terms of career, she said.

Sterns said the most exciting moment for Garden Fest is their big payoff, they get a lot out of it and they have so much fun that day.”

“They’ve worked hard all semester and this is the best opportunity for a lot of students, and they enjoy it,” Sterns said.

Sterns said the reason Garden Fest is continuing to grow each year, and is extremely proud the event is so successful, which is demonstrated by the number of vendors.

“Garden Fest has grown BC as a whole in popularity, which I think is a good thing not only for us, but the campus as a whole. We’ve had more and more BC departments and clubs get involved and I think that makes the event even better than before, it’s not just us planting seeds, it’s everyone on campus.”

Garden Fest is free to attend, and free parking will be provided in the northeast side of the football stadium as well as by the BC Fine Arts building.

By Andrea King

17th annual health and wellness fair

By Lizette Chavez

Noche de Cultura at the Bakersfield College campus

By Zach Sullivan

BC students view the art works on display for the pop-up art event in front of the Fine Arts building.

The event was brought to BC by the MEcha organization on campus, Doni Van Manen.-Chair.

Some of the activities and amenities to be offered at the event are as follows: the event will be free of charge and will be open to the public as well as students for both attending the event or perusing and framing art works.

For those interested in participating all that is required to be a part of the event is to stop by and meet MEcha.

"It’s a night of cultural awareness, we’re bringing all types of cultures to ge for one night and every culture will represent themselves through the expression of art,” Van Manen said.

By Ray Parcell, director of Bakersfield College’s Health and Wellness Center, the event is pointed to a range of issues, outside of basic medical treatment, that can contribute, either directly or indirectly, to health.

Research has lately shown that health-damaging things that are pleasurable to the eye are essential to health. When we drive a healthy car (we can go to a certain extent, about longevity, but we're not just talking about the years in a healthy body),” said Parcell.

He hopes that those who attend the event will become more aware of the issues surrounding health and the issues that determine good health.

There will be a number of speakers at the event, including: Mayor Karen Goh, the medical director of Kern County Public Health, Dr. Julia Pensel, a Bakersfield College nurse, and several others.

Speakers will begin presenting at 9 a.m. and will cover a range of health topics from Bakersfield’s Health report card to the importance of affordable healthcare.

By Andreas King

MEcha to host “Noche de Cultura” at the Bakersfield College campus

By Megan Fesmirk-Reporter

"Noche de Cultura" will be held on April 21 in the Sadler Theater at Ba- kersfield College from 6-9 p.m.

The event will be held in celebration of the diverse cultures that make up the BC campus.

The event was brought to BC by the MEcha organization on campus, Doni Van Manen-Chair.

Some of the activities and amenities to be offered at the event are as follows: the event will be free of charge and will be open to the public as well as students for both attending the event or perusing and framing art works.

For those interested in participating all that is required to be a part of the event is to stop by and meet MEcha.

"It’s a night of cultural awareness, we’re bringing all types of cultures to ge for one night and every culture will represent themselves through the expression of art,” Van Manen said.

Some BC students stop to view the artwork before their classes at the pop-up shop.

Students view art pieces inspired by Michelangelo's work on the Satin Chapel.

Participant Alan Ramirez poses next to his "Final Judgment" inspired piece.

Art student Jesus Guillem explains some of his artistic processes for his inspired piece at the pop-up art show on April 6 outside by the Fine Arts building.

By Megan Fesmirk-Reporter

A Bakersfield College drawing II class displayed art pieces at a pop-up art show on April 6 on the grassy area outside by the Fine Arts building. The art was displayed while passers-by perused the art. Some BC students stop to view the artwork before their classes at 9 a.m. and lasted until 12:30 p.m.

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**Commentary**

**Article**

A comic as wicked as it's divine

By Dylan James Jones

Recently I started delving into the comic book world and started purchasing more comics. I went over to Barnes & Noble looking for a book but ended up there and stumbled upon a graphic novel of “The Wicked + The Divine”. I went out and bought it. I’m usually not in the mood for comics, but that story intrigued me.

The story involves 12 different supernatural entities that are reincarnations of gods. They are all reincarnations of 12 different people. The story involves the idea of these people being reincarnated as gods. The story is a mix of supernatural and normal. The story involves the idea of these people being reincarnated as gods. The story is a mix of supernatural and normal.

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ATTORNEY: New senate bill would make California colleges offer abortion pills

By Morgan Park
Editor-in-Chief

A non-student man was arrested on April 14 in the Public Safety office accused of making a female BC student “wringing at an unknown man to get away from her and lie down east of the Campus Center.” According to an email sent by public safety director Christopher Counts to students and faculty,

“Public Safety officers arrived on scene and made contact with the female student and male non-student. The female stated the male had walked up to her and began talking to her. Once state in the scene, the female student, the man then stopped yelling and he said he would “take her to a secluded area and rape her.” After being brought into custody by Public Safety, the man was booked over to the Bakersfield Police Department, who later charged the man with sexual battery, attempted rape, attempted kidnapping, and several other felonies. According to Counts, the man was taken to Kern County Jail.

Man arrested on campus for attempted rape of student

Students were able to tour Merle Haggard’s childhood home, which was constructed around the base of a boxcar.

HAGGARD: Country music legend honored on campus with concerts, food, history and fun for attendees

By Rudy Parriss, former contestant on NBC’s “The Voice”

Meet with fans and attendees at the Baccalaureate Festival.

Merle Haggard’s father, James, told the audience, “If it’s a ‘you shalt no mat -

I de to California and the Kern Coun-

It was placed in the mu-

Rudy Parriss, former contestant on NBC’s “The Voice,” meets with fans and attendees at the Baccalaureate Festival.

ELECTION: Von Manos to strive for a tobacco-free campus during term

It’s kind of a half tobacco-free campus. That was a resolution that was taken into consideration for creating a tobacco-free campus, and that was a year back, and now we’re working again in order to get it 100 percent tobacco-free campus,” she said. When asked if there was anything that she thought could be improved, she replied, “I think the most important thing is that we need to carry on with the resolution that was taken into consideration for creating a tobacco-free campus.”

SMOKING: New proposal headed to College Council could outlaw smoking at BC

By Nigel Park
Editor-in-Chief

An HR employee confirmed that the branch manager is a member of the local Kiwanis club.

The Haggard family house was converted into a home from a 1910 Santa Fe railroad re-fueling station. The Haggard family house was converted into a home from a 1910 Santa Fe railroad re-fueling station. The Haggard family house was converted into a home from a 1910 Santa Fe railroad re-fueling station. The Haggard family house was converted into a home from a 1910 Santa Fe railroad re-fueling station. The Haggard family house was converted into a home from a 1910 Santa Fe railroad re-fueling station. The Haggard family house was converted into a home from a 1910 Santa Fe railroad re-fueling station.

The 1970s, California was dealing with the effects of the Dust Bowl in the Oklahoma region of the country. Lauren explained that she was an unemployed journalist who was earning less than $15,000 a year.

Participants were able to tour Merle Haggard’s childhood home, which was constructed around the base of a boxcar.

Though, Purcell can’t carry these methods into the same way he can contra- cellular tetanus pills on Lykos, which replace the traditional tetanus vaccines through a chiro, is now new ter- minology for the 해양의학 collegues campuses, including BC.

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The vice president will be Carmen比赛 with 256 votes, Mustafa Barraj 1937 with 254 votes, and Janet McCleod 1928 with 190 votes. There were also 117 votes for none of the above, and 374 votes for unassigned. BC’s new student trustee will be Bailey Danielson, who received 492 votes running as an independent.

There were 81 votes for none of the above, and 478 votes for unassigned. BC’s new student trustee will be Bailey Danielson, who received 492 votes running as an independent.

In terms of contraceptives, there were fairly limited options, so it’s not an option he can contra- cellular tetanus pills on Lykos, which replace the traditional tetanus vaccines through a chiro, is now new ter- minology for the 해양의학 collegues campuses, including BC.

One voter at the Kern County Baccalaureate Festival allowed patrons to sample old-fashioned sodas, like naartjie.
By Sam L. Jaime
Sports Editor
Freshman Celia Hickman had been training for the Heptathlon all season, competing in many meets and events as possible and winning for hours on end. Hickman finally gets her chance to compete in the Chula Vista Southern Cal Heptathlon, which spanned two days between April 4-5.

While Hickman placed 12th overall, she was actually placed ninth heading into her final event, the 800-meter run, which she considers her weakest event. In total, Hickman placed 12th in the 800-meter hurdles, 11th in the high jump, 14th in the 200-meter dash, 18th in the long jump, 12th in the javelin, and 18th in the 800-meter run. While the day was slow, placing on some events may not sound impressive, coach Christie Hill believes that Hickman’s performance will only be a big boost for her personal goals within the sport.

“I feel really accomplished knowing that I was able to get through the meet,” Hickman said. “I was a little sore and tired, but I was able to push through, thankfully.”

Hickman has had some success at the heptathlon, she has had some success at the javelin and hurdles throughout the season, competing in as many meets as possible and training for hours on end.

In her best event, the javelin, she was able to set a personal record in this year’s seven events.

“From the start, I have been working on improving things,” Hickman said. “I have been training for the Heptathlon with every out they can get, she said.

Among her toughest events, the long jump seemed to pose an issue for Hickman. She has had some success at the long jump, placing as high as seventh, Hickman finally got her chance to compete in the Chula Vista Southern Cal Heptathlon, which spanned two days between April 4-5.

Sophomore centerfielder Alexis Rodriguez rounding third base to score the first run of the season against Santiago Canyon on April 8. Bakersfield College would go on to lose 8-2.

Sophomore centerfielder Alexis Rodriguez rounding third base to score the first run of the season against Santiago Canyon on April 8. Bakersfield College would go on to lose 8-2.

Bakersfield College softball battles for playoff spot

By Maria Saldana
Digital Content Editor
It’s almost the end of the season for the Bakersfield College softball team, and the highest question of their season right now is if they will make it to the playoffs. While the team is 14-4 in the Western States Conference, the Renegades are fourth in the Western State Northern Division after four losses in five games.

Coach Christie Hill wants to make the playoffs, but knows that her team has to go on a winning streak to get back in the top four.

“We can make the playoffs, but we pretty much have to win out, so we have to commit to what we want to win,” she said.

Before their meet against Cuesta, the Renegades had lost four of their previous five games. Their only win came from a 7-0 win against Fullerton.

Their most recent losses were on April 11, at a doubleheader against Moorpark. The first game they lost 8-7 and the second game 12-2.

For the Renegades, playing tight at the plate and hitting is absolutely crucial. Simpson said that the Renegades played two games April 10 which had five hits for each team and with only two games left, they need to keep up the momentum.

“Though it sounds like a tough road ahead for the softball team, Hill knows that the team has to keep playing hard; they don’t want to lose any more games in a row,” she said.

“Even though conditions are tough for us all to be back here and up and down, we’re doing the whole roller-coaster thing, so the coaches are just to keep the game on and let the outside affect us, we need to be there.”

Hill mentioned how she will keep the team focused on playing hard and how to keep their minds focused.

“I try to re-enforce them to keep up their minds and focused,” Hickman said.

By J.R. Hensley
Sports Editor
High jumper Jasmine Green clears the bar during the Bakersfield College Relays, March 25. Bakersfield College athlete Emiliano Tristan (left) gets over the hurdle at the water jump of the steeplechase, March 25.
column

FATHER OF THINGS I’LL NEVER DO

I’m aware of many of the things my sons will never do. Through the future and talent and this one. I’ve learned to hide behind ability, and flight or fall, because every situation, there’s always something to learn from sports, that’s why you do it. If you knew the outcome, there’d be no reason to play. Whatever reason have struggled at times for the coaching staff, calling it a “good fit” and northridge, and join his cousin Justin Toerner on the campus on July 24, 2016. He’s not nervous about the future, finding comfort in his familiarity with the Northridge campus. Instead, Toerner continues to refine his craft, one of the pitchers in his three-pitch arsenal which includes a cutterball, and his favorite pitch, the four-seam fastball. He needs to know it by heart, telling the story that the gap and motion essentially became too similar of an object. "In the end, you’re supposed to have an idea of what you want the final outcome to be."
Aguilar grows as a player
By Daulin James Jones
Reporter
One of the standout players of the women’s team this season has been sophomore Brittany Aguilar.
This season, Aguilar has dominated in the dual meets with partner Riley Tucker. The pair have put together mid-season and have excelled. Over the break she earned first-team all-conference for doubles at the Western State Conference Tournament.
“I’m so happy that I made first-team all conference,” Aguilar said. “This year’s been a different year for me. Last year I felt kind of lost. I felt like I didn’t belong in this sport and it wasn’t really prepared. This year I feel like I’ve learned to thoroughly enjoy how the game works, and from my coach and teammates.
Unlike many of her fellow teammates, Aguilar hasn’t been playing tennis for nearly as long. She started playing tennis her sophomore year of high school at Bakersfield Christian.
“My first year I just kind of went out there and did it,” said Aguilar. “I’ve played every year consistently since, including training on the offseason, working out with fellow tennis players around the city.”
She notes that her first seasons at Bakersfield Col- lege were “a bit rough,” said Aguilar. “I didn’t feel like I was doing as well as I could my first year. I was a little overwhelmed, and felt like I couldn’t fully keep up.”
Aguilar said that this is the year she knows her, not just a tennis player, but a student. Aguilar is currently majoring in Child Development, and wants to get her degree in Early Childhood Education. Majoring in Child Development is something important to her because her mother is a teacher, and Aguilar has hopes to follow in her mother’s footsteps.
“I love kids!” Aguilar said laughing. “I really do. I think it’s so important to have good teachers for children because it helps them so much for the future. My mother was also a teacher. She used to teach at the Bakersfield Unified School, and in Denver as well. She kind of inspired me.”
Like her teammate Tucker, Brittany Aguilar also has her own favorite pump-up songs for the team’s practice. “Honesty,” she loves to kind of hood music before games. Like we play “Shots” by LMFAO. We play all those kinds of pump-up songs that just help us get ready for the game.”
Unlike most sports, tennis isn’t one that tends to be as well known like others, such as baseball, foot- ball or basketball. It’s unseen to a lot of people so it’s not as hard as it looks. “I could tell people one thing about tennis, it’s that it’s not as hard as it looks, just come out and play. You can always find people to play with on your own level. There will always be people willing to help you out. Tennis is a lot of fun, and honestly anyone can play.”

Women set to advance; men to stay at home
By Daulin James Jones
Reporter
The Bakersfield College women’s tennis team ended the regular season with a 10-2 conference record and 18-5 overall record. The Renegades finished in a three-way tie for first place to make the postseason.
The men’s team finished 6-6 in conference and 6-11 overall and did not qualify for postseason.
But before spring break, the women’s team earned itself the title of Western State Conference co-champions and several individuals were honored.
Riley Tucker, Brittany Aguilar, Sierra Contreras and Ariana Acevedo were named Academic all-conference. Tucker and Aguilar won first-team all-conference honors in doubles with their undefeat- ed record in conference as well as Contreras and Acevedo, who never lost during the sea- son.
“Our girls have had a great season. This has definitely been one of the best if not the best season women’s tennis has had. All the girls did a fantastic job, and I know they’ll do the same in the Ojai Tournament,” said head coach Nick Jacobs.
On April 11, the women’s team will have one more meet for the season, which will be the CCCAA State Champions at Allan Hancock, which will be heading to Western State Conference Champions at Allan Hancock, which will take place on April 11, 22 and 23. After that meet, both teams will have one more match for the season. The two will be the CCCAA State Champions at East LA on May 6, 8 and 8.

Bakersfield swim team on their way to compete in the WSC champions
By Mario Saldaña
Digital Content Editor
By Mario Saldaña
Digital Content Editor
On March 31, the Bakersfield College swimming team wasted Allan Hancock for the Western State Conference title sophomore Brittany Aguilary.
The BC men and women swim team finished ahead of the teams with 166 points overall from the competitions, while Ventura won first place at the meet with a total of 241 points combined.
Jennifer Quan placed fourth in the 200-yard fly with 2:30.81 and placed third in the 500-yard free with 5:01.09, and Napoleon Renter placed second in the 200-yard fly with 2:24.97. The swimmers that scored the most individual points for BC men and women swimming team were Brian Bauter, who placed fourth in 200-yard fly with 2:05.95, and won first with 200-yard breast to 2:22.46, and Anthony Martinez, who placed second in 200-yard fly with 2:07.72 and third in the 500- yard free with 5:15.16. Kenneth Rodriguez won first in the 200-yard back with 2:32.81, and Francisco Moya placed fourth in the 1,000-yard freestyle and third in the 200-yard breast.
Coach Matthew Moon want to see how his team did well and was happy on where they finished but believes they can finish a little bit better by pushing themselves a little more. “Overall the team did good, but we have to be a little more aggressive, because I feel like that’s somewhere where we lack, and that can affect us. So that is what we are going to have to work on from here to our next meet, but we are re- ally stepping up especially with times,” and coach Nick Jacobs.
They’ll be heading to Western State Con- ference Champions at Allan Hancock, which will take place April 10-21, and 22. After that meet, both women teams will have one more meet for the season, which will be the CCCAA State Champions at East LA on May 6, 8, and 8.

Fabian Cardenas lofts a ball toward his opponent during WSC Individual Tournament, April 7.

Sophomore Riley Tucker readies to backhand the ball vs. Victor Valley on March 7.
I've only shot a gun twice in my entire life, and if you asked me what kind it was, I honestly couldn't tell you. I just remember I had fun while doing so. I had never been to an actual shooting range.

When I previously shot guns, it was out in the fields shooting at cans or handmade targets. So when I walked into Second Amendment Sports, I honestly had no idea what to expect. The rows of guns intimidated me, and I had absolutely no idea what to choose.

An employee was graciously patient and helped me choose one that fit my small hands and that didn’t have a lot of “kick.” I remember the last time I shot a gun, it was too heavy for me, and it almost made me fall on my ass once I shot it.

After some thought, I ended up with a Springfield 9mm XD tactical, and I fell in love with that gun afterward. Once inside the range, an employee showed me how to load and unload the gun and to always keep it facing forward for safety reasons.

I braced myself for my first shot, not knowing what to expect, and I was pleasantly surprised. The gun was light and the handle fit my hands pretty precisely.

I couldn’t help but feel a little badass, like Mathilda in the movie “Leon: The Professional” when she first shows Leon that she’s capable of learning how to handle and shoot a gun despite what he initially thought. My friends Jesse Najera and Ambria King accompanied me and they also tried a few shots.

All three of us ended up shooting right in the target. We were pretty impressed with our skills and had a blast. I heard people say that shooting guns is a way to relieve stress, and they weren’t wrong.

My usual stress reliever is to go headbanging crazy at rock concerts, but I have to say that this is definitely a new hobby I will be picking up.

We picked up a few fliers and found out that they even have training courses such as private lessons and handgun courses. They even offer five shooting-range memberships that range from $25 to $250 per year.

Afterward, I wanted to the archery department in hopes to try to learn how to use a bow and shoot an arrow. Alex Bowman was there to greet me. He was extremely knowledgeable and helpful in the world of archery. I also just couldn’t help but laugh at how perfect his last name was.

Bowman opened my eyes to how technical archery really is and that you just can’t go into it blindly thinking you will do well the first time. It takes lots and lots of practice and dedication to put it down.

They, unfortunately, didn’t have any feathered arrows set up, so I couldn’t go out and actually try it, but I was still able to hold the bow and get a feel for it. I quickly realized that it definitely takes a lot of upper body strength to pull back the bow.

I imagined myself being like Katniss Everdeen (of course, I had to make that comparison). Overall, I had a fun experience and I learned something new. The employees there were so helpful and made my adventure that much more memorable.