

The Renegade Rip

Vol. 88 • No. 14

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Truck catches fire at BC event; no one hurt

By Lizette Chavez
Reporter

A black truck attached to a taco van caught fire outside the Outdoor Theater during the Noche de Cultura event on April 21.

Two explosions were heard before some audience members were aware of the fire.

Public Safety officer Mason Blair was the first responder to the scene. An attempt was made to put the fire out, but the fire extinguisher was empty, something Blair said needs to be addressed by the department.

"There were actually propane tanks in the back, so that was

making me nervous but we were able to take them out in time. Thank God it's on Friday, because there's not as many people around. It's my first time dealing with a fire, never done a fire report. There's always a first time, I guess."

Renegade Rip photographer Jesse Najera ran to his truck to retrieve his fire extinguisher, which was used but was not enough to put the fire out.

The Bakersfield Fire Department was called to assist and Engine 201 arrived five minutes later and were able to successfully put out the fire.

Fire Captain Brad Ward said they got the call at around 6:10

p.m. Ward was accompanied by two other fire fighters and their fire engineer who drives the engine and is in charge of the hose pressure.

"It's actually a pretty common pick up that we get [calls for] regularly, obviously not for the owners who are devastated, but it's a pretty common fire," said Ward.

Some students that were present when the fire started shared some of their participation and theories related to the fire.

Rayven Acosta-Webb, 23, who was previously in the United States Air force, said "I have experience with engines



LIZETTE CHAVEZ / THE RIP

A black truck hauling the Primos Taqueria taco truck burns outside the Indoor Theater during Noche de Cultura on April 21. The fire department safely squelched the blaze.

and stuff and eventually the fire would have spread.

It's lucky it didn't get to the gas tank; I think overall everyone acted as responsibly as possible." Arisve Pimentel was the stu-

dent to make the call to Public Safety about the fire. She said that her and some other SGA officers noticed the front of the truck was on fire and that she called it in.

Pimentel was later seen comforting the taco truck owners and reassuring the employees.

No one was harmed in the incident and the event went on as scheduled.



LIZETTE CHAVEZ / THE RIP

A woman walks with her baby through the flowers of the BC Garden Fest, which hosted nearly 150 vendors on April 22.

Garden Fest blooms on campus

By Lizette Chavez
Reporter

Bakersfield College's 12th annual Garden Fest was held northeast of the football stadium on April 22. The event had many vendors, both old and new, set up to sell a variety of products to the public.

There were a couple of booths set up by local farms offering free fruit, jams or honey samples and inviting people to purchase local produce.

One such farm was Murray Family Farms, which attended this year's event for the third time.

Ricky Ramirez said he found the event a great opportunity to share and find support and that it was a nice event with "friendly vibes."

Ramirez and his associate were seemingly generous with their fruit samples of strawberries, blueberries and cherries. Ramirez encouraged people to visit the farm and pick fruit for themselves so that they could learn about how fruit is grown and harvested locally.

Not all vendors, however, were Garden Fest veterans. Quite a few of the vendors were there for the first time. Jennifer Chavez, who considers herself a "jack of all crafts," was there to sell her ceramic garden tags. Chavez, who sells her merchan-



LIZETTE CHAVEZ / THE RIP

Jennifer Chavez presents her collection of ceramic garden tags for customers to peruse at the BC Garden Fest on April 22. Most vendors on display were local to Kern County.

dise through eBay and Etsy, has been creating her tags for 30 years. Chavez said she makes and sells 75 different garden tags and shared a little bit about her creative process.

"I start with mud and I hand paint them and they're fired twice," she said.

"I fire them once and then after I paint on the glazing I fire it again."

Another hot event was the BC Renegade Ruckus Cook Off Competition. The competition was done by the Culinary Arts program and had BC chefs compete in preparing "chopped styled" dishes for the panel of judges.

Not all activities were solely for gardening, though. There were carnival games set up by student clubs and organizations

where children could win prizes. Many families seemed to enjoy the games before taking their children to walk through the gardens and the greenhouse where BC students grew their plants and flowers that were available for sale.

Garden Fest was held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with about 150 vendors set up for the annual event.

Rising racial tensions in Kern addressed by BC professors

By Ambria King
Reporter

Over the past three years, there has been a sharp spike in racial tension in the U.S. According to a Gallup poll taken in March of 2017, "42 percent of Americans worry a great deal about race relations." When the same poll was taken back in 2014, only 14 percent reported having such worries.

The effects of these tensions have been witnessed fairly close to home.

On April 18, Kori Ali Muhammed, 39, was taken into custody by the Fresno Police Department in connection with the murders of three white men in downtown Fresno. Meanwhile, two days prior to the Fresno incident, on April 16, three African-American women were attacked with a knife at a Circle K in Southwest Bakersfield. Two men have been arrested in connection with the attack.

Both incidents have been labeled as hate crimes. "Racial tensions have increased in America," said Talita Pruet, who teaches Intercultural Communication at Bakersfield College. "We have a political climate where we have a country leadership that openly has been divisive and exclusive. I think that empowers people who are more racist and prejudiced to speak up and be vocal about racism. They feel more justified and validated."

Pruett pointed to social media, among other things, as one of Please see RACIAL TENSION, Page 7

BC hosts Law Day on campus for students

By Zach Sullivan
Reporter

Bakersfield College's Law Day Conference featured two panel discussions and workshops that informed students on what to expect in law school as well as how to deal with the stress that comes with it, while also featuring an internship fair where students were able to meet with representatives from local and visiting law schools and firms.

Students in attendance were given advice from prominent local judges and lawyers on how they were able to make it through and deal with the struggles of going to law school, advice that students in attendance believed to be invaluable.

The panel discussions featured input from BC president Sonya Christian, judge and BC adjunct professor Steven Katz, Judge Robert Tafoya, Judge Louie Vega, Commissioner Cynthia Loo, Associate Attorney Bethany Peak, Dr. Oliver A. Rosales, and Esther Schlaerth.

The first panel discussion talked about the interpretation of the 14th Amendment, while the second discussed overcoming the odds of becoming a lawyer.

Princess Herrera, 21, president of the Pre-Law Club at Bakersfield College, claimed she felt the event went well in her opinion. "I believe it's been successful for every student, they've had a chance to listen to the panels and hear all the great advice, so I think this day will be memorable for every student who has come here for the first time or even the second time like myself," she said.

Herrera said her favorite part of the discussions was the advice given by those on the panel. "The advice, I loved the advice. My personal mentor is Judge Tafoya. He is great at giving advice and

Please see LAW DAY, Page 7

Column The dark past of gay rights

The Gay Agenda: *Life and times of a modern gay man.*

There is a documentary I'm certain I've mentioned before, probably from when I got back from my husband's and my trip to New York City, however, even if I have, I will do so again because it was an incredible film. It's called "Before Stonewall." It recounts, from first and second hand stories, the lives of gays and lesbians before the 1980's, until the riots that brought about the gay rights movement.



J.R. Hensley

The world explained there-in, for me, paints this picture of America that seemed almost accepting, especially during WWII. One former marine tells her story of how her commander instructed her to root out women suspected of lesbianism, and when she told him that she would have to first turn herself in and almost all the girls in her platoon, he rescinded the order.

The film's follow up is "After Stonewall." This particular feature is hard for me to watch because it's when the almost cotton candy story, given to me in the first half, is turned sour from the horror that was the AIDS crisis.

The 80's was such a tumultuous time for the gay community. This unknown disease claimed so many lives that one person in "After Stonewall" said he went to a friend's funeral once a week until everyone he had known had died. For the life of me, I could and can never imagine what it's like to lose the ones you love in such quick succession.

That is why it is astounding to me that so many people have no idea that there is a "cure" for HIV. I put it in quotes because it's not really a cure (but kinda) but more of a barrier from contracting the virus, when exposed to the disease. I liken it to gay birth control. Truvada is used much the same way, but instead of keeping one from getting pregnant, it keeps the user safe from a deadly disease. Although some could say they're one in the same. I'm kidding. I joke. I tease.

Taken once daily, at the same time, will keep the person from contracting HIV, even if they have unprotected sex with someone that has the virus. Which means, that couples where one is positive and the other is not have the option of condom-less intercourse (my that sounds clinical). That kind of activity isn't recommended but it is an option.

My cousin-in-law, one of those that emerged from the AIDs crisis unscathed, travels the country giving talks about PrEP. He was one that experienced the loss of his friends to the disease. I imagine that's one of the reasons he gives the speeches.

Now, with HIV diminished from its previous numbers the community can return to that "golden age" I spoke of from "Before Stonewall."

For the past two semesters acceptance was my world. I was given the chance to write about my life as a gay man without worry someone would turn me into the police or brand me a degenerate. I even won an award for one of them. (Third place if you're curious. I was beaten out by TWO columns about Colin Kaepernick. I'm not at all bitter.)

I will miss it and anyone that happened to read my little column. This will be my "Before <insert whatever I accomplish here>."

Off-campus parking further restricted

By **Fernanda Martinez**
Reporter

Some of the nearby streets surrounding Bakersfield College have recently had signs posted up stating that there is no parking allowed unless a vehicle has a residential parking permit.

This implementation went into effect on April 24 when drivers, including students, were not allowed to park on parts of Princeton Avenue, Bucknell Street, and Radcliffe Avenue on the west side of the campus or on the residences surrounded by Noel Place, Dana Street, and Christmas Tree Lane on the east side of the campus from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Director of Public Safety at BC, Christopher Counts, stated that the Bakersfield City Manager's Office contacted BC's public safety department to notify them of the city council's actions. "This is something that the city came up with because the residents asked for it," stated Counts. "As soon as we got the notification, we immediately sent out emails to students to let them know about the parking restrictions."

Counts mentioned that many residents were upset because students were parking in their driveways and trash collectors were not picking up their trash because cars were blocking their



J. R. HENSLEY / THE RIP

Cars sit west along Princeton Ave. where parking now requires a residential permit.

way.

The city has posted signs restricting parking to any driver unless they have a residential parking permit.

"So now all those residents have a permit given by the city

that they have to put on their vehicles to park in front of their house. That's what those residents have asked for. So, if a car is parked on those streets, like if they have a guest or they have a party, and they don't have any

permits and if the city drives by, they are going to get a ticket," said Counts.

Counts also mentioned that each resident is given an amount of permits to use and hand out to their guests to park legally.

Angel Rivero is a student at BC who previously parked on those areas. "For me it is a bit of an inconvenience but I can understand why they did that because I would see that some residents had to put their trash cans further out into the street so that they would get picked up. It sucks for us, but this is their property and they have the right to do that," stated Rivero.

"I have been late to class twice this week because I come in the morning when cars are trying to find parking and I've had to park further out," stated Sandy Diaz, who is also a BC student. "The good thing is that there's only a few more weeks of class left so I won't have to struggle with finding parking for long. I guess it's worth buying the student parking pass because you'll be closer and you know that your car will be more secure on that side."

Counts also stated that the public safety department had received a few phone calls with complaints about the residential parking restrictions.

"This was something done within the city council and we referred [calls] to the city because we have no jurisdiction over that issue."

A map of the streets where residential parking is enforced can be found on the Bakersfield College website.

'Right to Access Act' gets revised

By **Morgan Park**
Editor-in-Chief

The "College Student Right to Access Act," or SB 320, a bill that would mandate California colleges offer medical abortion pills to students who might seek them, has seen a significant change after passing in the Senate Health Committee on April 19 — removing community colleges from its language altogether.

This means that if the bill were to pass, community colleges like Bakersfield College would not be included in its mandate, just UCs and CSUs. The change in the bill came primarily from a position filed by the Health Services Association-California Community Colleges to omit community colleges. When asked why community colleges would be removed from the bill, BC's Student Health & Wellness Center director Ray Purcell explained that offering such a service would be financially unviable for schools like BC.

"The logistics and expense of this would be staggering, and funding would inevitably require student health fees be increased to the maximum established by the state of \$20 per student, and some other funding source," Purcell said. Currently, the entirety of the Health Center's funding comes from a \$13 student health fee that most students pay each semester. According to Purcell, there's a lot more to the process



J. R. HENSLEY / THE RIP

The interior of the Student Health and Wellness Center.

of offering abortion pills than simply carrying the drug.

"According to regulations established by the FDA, [the abortion pill] must be purchased and kept in stock by the clinic; it can't be dispensed by a pharmacy," Purcell wrote in an email. "A pregnancy must be confirmed by two blood tests (an additional blood test needs to be done as well and a product called Rhogam, an expensive drug with specific storage requirements, may need to be administered with certain Rh incompatibilities) and then dated by ultrasound — meaning blood draws, the ultrasound machine and a licensed technician. An obstetrician-gynecologist with hospital admitting privileges must be on duty at ALL times," he said.

In its current form, the Health Center operates at a lower level of sophistication than would be required for an abortion pill service, offering primarily over-the-

counter drugs and mental health counseling for students. The only contraceptive they currently carry are condoms.

"Given that SB 320 in its current iteration would require that all this be done on campus and the services be available around the clock, I assume this was the rationale for community college health clinic exemption," Purcell said.

"On the other hand, reproductive health clinics currently have all this equipment and trained staff on-hand and utilize it for many other purposes multiple times every day," Purcell doesn't see the new financial burden as a practical step for community colleges that operate on a smaller scale with fewer assets.

"It's simply impractical for the most well-equipped community colleges to expand into this costly service only to duplicate existing community services," he said.

Smoking ban plan advances

By **Megan Fenwick**
Reporter

A procedure to make Bakersfield College tobacco-free has been approved by the College Council and will be added to the District Consultation Council's agenda in the next few weeks.

BC currently adheres to state law, which does not allow smoking within 20 feet of any entrance, exit, or window of a public building. If the tobacco-free procedure is approved, all smoking, tobacco products, and smoking devices would be banned from campus.

The new smoking procedure will be presented to the council by campus representatives Sue Vaughn, who is also on the College Council, and Steven Holmes, who helped write the procedure. According to Cindy Collier, the dean of Allied Health, the district's approval may be the last step to implementing the policy on campus.

Efforts have been made for years to change the smoking policy on campus, which has been the state law, but Collier said recent headway can be attributed to an aggressive taskforce and a \$7,500 grant given to the Student Health and Wellness Center by the anti-tobacco group Truth Initiative.

"Before, when we would try, we would hit interesting roadblocks," she said. "So I'm hoping those roadblocks have been diminished and that there aren't any new ones that are going to pop up. I think it's just tenacity."

Although the procedure would only apply to Bakersfield College, not the district, it needs to be approved by the District Consultation Council in order to go on to board policy.

From there, BC would have the authority to implement the procedure on campus. If the procedure is approved, BC would be tobacco-free by this fall semester.

Collier said the focus would be on informing staff and students and providing educational tools, while relying on peer pressure for enforcement rather than punishing smokers.

"It really would be a PR campaign from the second they said OK," said Collier.

BC Career Day showcases job opportunities

By **Brandon Cowan**
Reporter

Career Day took place at the Bakersfield College Campus Center on April 26. There were a total of 96 different employers to give insight on job openings for students and other information about their companies.

Gabriela Martinez, 21, a psychology major, attended Career Day at BC to apply for jobs.

This is her fourth year at BC and she is planning on finishing her associate's degree for transfer and then wants to attend San Francisco State.

Martinez was in the middle of filling out an application for a job that she was interested in because she likes helping kids.

"I used to be in swim for four years in high school," Martinez said. "So, I kind of still want to pursue that, and not only that, I want to get a life guardian certificate. And this is one of those ways I can achieve that while helping kids which I like doing

because I used to work at the Boys & Girls Club."

Stephanie Baltazer, a job development specialist at BC, was in charge of the event.

"So, basically, we're trying to bring employers to the students, employment opportunities," she said. "There are employers here that are interviewing on the spot hiring for positions, so we just want students to be able to apply what they are learning in class and be able to connect employers within their industry so that they can get a job."

Baltazer said that the educational department is trying to come out with a new app to help students get jobs.

"One thing that we are trying to do is implement a new software; it's all online. It's an app to the students' phone so that employers can post jobs. It will go straight to the student's phone. That's one way we are trying to make opportunities available literally in the students' hand," she said.



WILLIAM DUBON / THE RIP

Antonio Zavala (right) listens to an employee about about the positions available at Adventist Health.

Turning the page in BC journalism

By **Brandon Cowan**
Reporter

Erin Auerbach is going to be the new full-time journalism professor at Bakersfield College, replacing the previous professor, Danny Edwards, who is retiring at the end of the semester.

Auerbach is going to be teaching Beginning Reporting and advising the student newspaper, The Renegade Rip, in the Fall 2017 semester.

She first attended UC Santa Barbara and then moved to Arizona to have a change of pace. She got her master's degree in theater arts at UNLV and then got her master's in journalism at USC.

"I'm from the LA area originally, I was born and raised in the San Fernando Valley, and then I actually started college in UC Santa Barbara and then I transferred to Arizona, which most people think I'm crazy for because it was so pretty in Santa Barbara, but I just kind of wanted to get out of California and have a big change of pace, and Arizona certainly offered that.

"And then when I graduated from Arizona, I moved back home to LA and lived with my parents for about six months, then I went to Vegas and I spent six years there. That's where I got my master's [in fine arts] from UNLV, and then I moved back to California and went to USC and I stayed in California once I came back.

"After I finished USC, I actually lived out in Corona for two years. I wrote for The Press-Enterprise; I was a features writer. And the whole time I was at school in USC. And really, when I was living in Vegas was

when I started writing. I actually got started in writing using my master's in theater because local alternative weekly needed someone to write theater reviews, so I wrote theater reviews for a while for Las Vegas Weekly."

Auerbach got her interest in writing from working at Las Vegas Weekly, as she did not initially want to be a journalist.

"I wasn't one of the people that who kind of did it in high school and liked it and then did it as an undergraduate. I hadn't really even thought about it. My foster undergrad was that I wanted to do something in performing like singing and acting, or I wanted to work behind the scenes in entertainment."

What got Auerbach interested in taking the full-time position at BC was when she was asked by a fellow student from USC that was teaching at Los Angeles Harbor College to advise the student newspaper class that LAHC wanted to start up.

"So I did, and I found I really, really liked it, so I've taught there

for the last four years. And I liked it so much I said, 'This is what I really want to do,'" Auerbach said.

She said that she got a lot from the job at LAHC, and that is why she was interested in getting the job at BC.

"I get a lot out of it. I think it's very fulfilling. I love helping young adults find their way and find their passion for whether it's writing or communications, and I just think it's a great opportunity, so that's really why I went for the job."

Auerbach is still working at her current job, but she gave the school her notice because she is leaving soon to work at BC.



Erin Auerbach

By **Zach Sullivan**
Reporter

After being in charge of the Bakersfield College journalism department for the past 13 years, professor Danny Edwards is retiring. Edwards will be replaced by Erin Auerbach starting in the fall.

Edwards said he originally wanted to become a sports writer, which he did, graduating from San Jose State in 1980 and working throughout the Bay Area early on in his career.

In 1986, Edwards was hired at The Fresno Bee, where he spent 18 years in several editor capacities in the sports and news departments.

"The teaching thing came around in 2000," he said. "I was wandering into work one day at the Fresno Bee and on a bulletin board was a notice that Fresno City College needs someone to teach a newspaper class, and I thought, 'that sounds kind of cool', but I had a full-time job and my wife and I still had fairly young children."

Edwards recalled that he didn't think he'd have time for the job.

"I figured the newspaper class had some heavy hours involved even though it said on the notice it was only six hours a week, and I thought a job like that is not going to be six hours a week if you want to do it right, but just for the heck of it I applied."

A few days later, he got a phone call from a dean at Fresno City College asking if Edwards wanted to come in for an interview.

"I said OK and came in for an interview," Edwards said. "Three days later he calls me up and says, 'We want you to do the job.'"

Edwards accepted the position and taught at Fresno City College for two years from 2000 up until 2002.

In 2002, Edwards decided to go back to school and acquire his master's degree. He finished in 2004, and soon heard of an opening at BC.

"No sooner did the degree come in the mail than I heard about the job at BC," he said.

He applied for the job, and before long he was asked to come in for an interview and was offered the position.

"Next thing you know, they said they want me to do the job, and they foolishly hired me, and I've been here for 13 years ever since," he said.

Edwards admitted he had always been somewhat interested in teaching, but it was not until many years into his profession as a journalist that

teaching struck him as something he would want to do.

"I always thought teaching would be interesting, but it wasn't until I was pretty deep in journalism that I was like man, you know, I've been in this field for almost 20 years and you begin to wonder what else there might be. You're in the same field for 20 years and you think, 'I wonder if my skills or experience would relate to something else.' It was then that I saw that job posting. It's turned out to be a wonderful second career," he said.

Edwards said his favorite part of the job has been working with students and the natural mentoring that comes with it.

"I'm going to miss the natural mentoring that takes place," he said. "To me, it makes me feel good that students can come in a year plus later and feel that I'll be open to them and get some advice or whatever knowledge I can throw out there."

Edwards said teaching isn't something he really learned how to do.

"If someone got hired at the newspaper and they needed to learn the computer system, everyone always made me do it even though I'm not really a computer guy, but I knew how the programs worked," he said.

"One time I asked why they always have me do it, and they said, 'Oh you're just good at teaching that' and I never thought of it that way. I just taught it how I thought I should. I never took a class on how to teach, I guess some people might call it a natural. I just call it winging it, and a lot of it seemed to work."

"Just being straight up with students, not being someone you're not, not trying to be their friend. If you're going to be their friend, just be their friend, it's going to happen. If you're going to be their mentor, that'll happen just in the way you conduct yourself"

Overall, Edwards claimed he is content with retiring.

"Overall, I'm good with the decision to retire," he said. "I'll probably feel some sentiment on my last week here, and at graduation, but I feel a sense of satisfaction that the job is complete. I feel like hundreds of students have benefitted from the program at BC, and I am proud to have been in charge of it. It's coming down to it, and I'm really looking forward to moving on."

Edwards said he plans on traveling, spending time with his family, and continuing to compete in triathlons after his departure from BC.



Danny Edwards

Column

Tips to pop out eye lashes

Beauty Addict's Advice:
Tips and tricks for beauty

False lashes are trendy and beautiful because they can complete a makeup look, and just make your eyes and lashes look amazing. But if you're lazy, like me, you don't want to have to apply those suckers every single day.

I'm especially not a fan of how heavy they make my eyes feel. With that said, I've tried and hunted down the best mascaras I could find to give me that fake eyelash look, without actually using false lashes.

The first thing I do before I even apply mascara is I curl my lashes from root to tip to make my eyes appear wider and brighter. The best mascara I have ever used is something I recently came across within the last two weeks, it's by Yves Saint Laurent. And it's a game changer.

Yves Saint Laurent the Shock Volumizing Mascara is the best mascara on the market, hands down. It not only makes my lashes look thick, but it also doesn't weigh them down. I've found with other mascaras that as soon as I curl my lashes and I apply the mascara, they immediately lose the curl and I end up just getting frustrated.

With YSL's the Shock Volumizing Mascara, it does the complete opposite. It doesn't clump even when I put on multiple coats. It makes my lashes look beautifully dramatic with amazing staying power that doesn't smudge.

It may have a high price tag, but I can devotedly say that it's worth EVERY single penny. Yves Saint Laurent the Shock Volumizing Mascara can be purchased at Sephora for \$29.

Another two of my favorites that won't break the bank is by the brands Too Faced and Urban Decay. Too Faced's Better Than Sex Mascara has been my favorite for a few years now, and is widely popular by beauty bloggers.

It makes your lashes look full and defined, and by adding more than one coat it can create an intense, black, multi-dimensional look. The full size is \$23 and Sephora.com offers the travel size for only \$12. The best way to try a new makeup product is to always buy the travel size, if its available.

I've also found that the travel size mascara versions work even better than the full size version for some odd reason. The wand on this mascara is also shaped like an hourglass so it separates and coats each lash with perfection.

Lastly, Urban Decay's Perversion Mascara is another volumizing mascara that also contains Hairdensyl, which is a complex blend of proteins and amino acids that are known to stimulate lash growth. It has a creamier formula so it doesn't dry out your lashes, nor will it clump while applying.

This mascara is even a little bit cheaper with a price tag of \$22 for the full size and only \$10 for the travel size, which can also be purchased at Sephora.

These three mascaras are my beauty arsenals, and I can say I've tried a lot of different types in the 16 years I've been wearing makeup. I've even given drugstore options a whirl so many times, but I just keep coming back to these three favorites.

My wallet may not be happy with me at times, but at least my lashes look fierce.



Kylie Hendrickson

Students concerned about cafeteria's lack of nutrition info

By **Fernanda Martinez**
Reporter

Bakersfield College students have recently expressed their concerns that the BC cafeteria does not have nutritional information for the food items on their menus. Though it is not required under law, some students would like to receive this information when they ask for it.

Food allergies, illnesses, and other personal food concerns are some of the reasons as to why students would like to see this information.

Cody White, a BC student, stated that it would be beneficial for everyone to have this information in his opinion.

"I have a buddy who is allergic to gluten so he has to be very careful with the carbs he eats. As for me, I like to exercise and it would be helpful to know how many calories I'm eating when I buy food here because if I'm eating something that is not that

healthy I would like to know how many calories I need to burn off when I exercise," he said.

Suzanne Durst, BC culinary arts faculty, stated that for the amount of people that the cafeteria serves, it would be crazy to break down food items for everyone who has a different condition.

"I think more importantly than a nutritional label would be to have the employees understand the ingredients that are contained in what they are preparing. I don't think you need a nutritional label to know if there is milk in something. My students have no trouble telling me if there is something with milk or something like that. But nutritional labeling in that environment doesn't even make sense to me," stated Durst.

Durst also mentioned that it is a personal responsibility to be aware of the things a person is not allowed to eat. For example, if a person knows he or she is

lactose intolerant, always ask if there is any milk in the food they are consuming.

Katey Souza, a BC student, mentioned that she has struggled to maintain her weight and does not always have time to make lunch.

"It's hard to estimate how many calories are in a sandwich that looks healthy. Like, I usually eat a lot of tuna, but I'm sure the tuna sandwich here has a lot of mayo. I'll usually grab a salad because I try to stay away from the fried foods on the menu."

An employee from the BC cafeteria asked to remain anonymous when they stated that they believed the food services had never calculated any of that information.

"We simply have recipes that we follow, like we put so much of these ingredients and so on."

The Rip made attempts to reach out to Erik Sabella, director of food services at BC, but was never available for com-

ments.

Alex Gomez, a culinary arts faculty at BC, mentioned that he believes the cafeteria should provide the information because it would be a positive thing.

"I think it would be a positive thing for the cafeteria. I also think it would help sell the healthier items on the menu instead of everybody just buying a double cheese burger and fries."

Gomez mentioned that before becoming a culinary arts faculty member, he was working as the food services director for the college's cafeteria.

"When I was over there I wasn't able to get to that point because I didn't have the tools I needed," stated Gomez. "I wanted to get electronic menu boards to make it easier to put that information and display it. I think the cafeteria should at least have the calories displayed, like a double cheese burger... 1200 calories or whatever. That would be the first step into doing this."

Gomez also mentioned that people should be aware of how many calories they are consuming even if they are not dieting.

"If you have a soda and a burger and fries, well there goes half of the caloric intake for your day," said Gomez. "It helps to take nutrition to know about all of that, like about what type of diets and what food to eat and all the food groups."

Leah Carter, nutrition faculty at BC, mentioned that she always supports providing individuals with information about what they are eating.

"The cafeteria is not required by law to have this pretty much because they stand alone however it would be nice if someday they provided it," said Carter. "It certainly can be done but it just depends on the staff to calculate all of that."

Carter said that it would be a lot considering that the cafeteria menu contains many items from breakfast to lunch.

Random Renegade

Every issue, The Rip will be interviewing a random faculty member at Bakersfield College about hopes and goals.



Robert Martinez

By **Zach Sullivan**
Reporter

Professor Robert Martinez has been a professional musician over 15 years, and has been teaching at Bakersfield College just as long.

Martinez lived through the glory days of rock 'n' roll, and now teaches students about the roots of the genre as well as the stories behind it.

Martinez was born in San Bernardino, California.

Growing up, he played sports, but discovered his passion in music. "I had a great interest in older movies and took dance lessons. Little by little, I found myself touring with the Jean Portugal dancers; I did this for seven years. I was a dancer traveling and I got to see most of California doing that," he said.

"While I was doing that I discovered drums, and I thought that was the greatest thing since peanut butter."

By the time he hit high school, Martinez was beginning to record music while balancing his school work.

"I got to be really good and I was getting calls by 1966 and 67 to play in Hollywood, which I did. I was playing with

a lot of bands mostly in southern Cal in Hollywood, all the big spots. I was already starting to record, but at the same time I was still a high school student and I was playing flute and piccolo in the marching band, drums in the jazz ensemble, flute in the orchestra, and I wanted to be a music major."

After graduating high school, Martinez enrolled at San Bernardino Valley College as a music major.

"I was very fortunate to go to San Bernardino Valley College. A community college graduate I am, and proud of it," he said.

Martinez said he was drafted for the Vietnam war on account that the school he was attending mixed up his report card with another Robert Martinez, but upon a physical from the government he was turned down because of an issue with his blood.

When asked what made him want to get into teaching, Martinez said he was not really sure, but accredits walking into a music store one day and being asked to teach a few basic classes as his foundation.

Martinez claimed he took the job at BC to help support and provide stability

for his wife and newly born child, and also said Bakersfield's reputation as a good place to raise a family was another reason he chose BC.

"I was fortunate to see this opportunity at Bakersfield college, so I applied and they accepted my application. My first 17 years I was the director of instrumental music, I did the marching band, the pep band, the jazz ensemble," he said.

Martinez said he was extremely happy to be able to re-establish the marching band, something that had been dropped for years before his arrival.

"I reestablished the orchestra, it had been dropped for a number of years," he said.

When asked if he believes students connect with him more than an average teacher because of the course and material he teaches, Martinez said he definitely believes it has an impact.

"I get students that walk into my office and say, 'thank you, you turned a D student into an A student,'" he said.

It is moments like that, Martinez claimed, that makes the job enjoyable.

Martinez said he is really happy teaching his current courses, and plans to stay at BC for as long as possible.

Column

Obama's high price presence

Practical Idealism:

Seeking a balance between today's political landscape.

Barack Obama changed very little. In office, he continued and expanded upon the imperialist foreign policies of his predecessor, and made little-to-no progress on economic policies that benefitted regular Americans. And since he's left office, he's partied with Sir Richard Branson on a yacht, signed a book deal, and endorsed a banker running for President of France who wants to cut hundreds of thousands of public-sector jobs.



Dylan Bryant

Much worse than that, he's now chosen to further expose himself to the heartless motivations of the financial industry by accepting a \$400,000 speaking fee from healthcare firm Cantor Fitzgerald.

Now someone might read that and go, "what's the big deal, he deserves it, he worked hard!" And that might be true. To understand why this decision goes against everything a progressive politician should be fighting for in this day and age, one has to understand exactly what he is being paid to do.

These speaking engagements generally last about 30 minutes - meaning he will be being paid roughly \$13,300 per minute he speaks at the event (Lebron James was paid about \$6,400 per minute of gameplay for the 2015-2016 NBA season).

What is it that Barack Obama could possibly say that would make him twice as valuable to Wall St. as Lebron is to the Cavaliers? "You're Welcome."

This transaction merely displays the relationship today's Democratic Party has with Wall St. It shows the consciousness with which a president considers the needs of the finance industry when setting policy, and the consciousness with which a healthcare firm stands ready to thank that president once it becomes legal to do so.

It shows how a President might keep in his mind those relationships throughout his stay in office. Was the thought of courting future engagements like this in President Obama's mind when he decided to gut the public option from the Affordable Care Act? I don't know. But that it could have been is itself cause for great concern.

Bill and Hillary Clinton notoriously left the White House broke, having spent millions in legal fees, and recuperated their wealth through appearing at dozens of events.

This cozy relationship with financial interests rendered irreparable harm to Hillary Clinton's public image. She also suffered from attacks from the Sanders campaign, based on the argument that she should disclose the content of the private paid speeches she gave to the board of Goldman and Sachs.

If a person can be made subservient to the needs of industry through this shadowed bribery, it should be made immoral, and illegal. But more importantly, the Democrats have once again displayed their acute lack of political awareness in this day and age. The appearance of corruption is just as damaging to our public institutions as corruption itself, as it further denigrates the public's trust in our institutions.

Barack Obama should feel ashamed for having accepted the money. A president earns premium healthcare and a yearly pension of \$200,000 for the rest of their life. That alone is more than enough to live very comfortably. President Obama doesn't need that money and knows that he could have set a precedent by turning it down.

Instead, he again chose to follow in the footsteps of those before him, changing nothing.

Renegamers hold Extra Life event

By Brandon Cowan
Reporter

The Bakersfield College Renegamers hosted an Extra Life charity event for the second time, in partnership with California State University of Bakersfield Campus Gamers, to raise funds to help kids that are sick or injured. The event raised \$845 out of a \$2,200 goal in one day, but donations are being accepted until the end of 2017 at www.bcrenegamers.com.

The event had numerous amounts of consoles, ranging from Nintendo Entertainment Systems to Xbox Ones, that were lent by CSUB Campus Gamers to play video games in 13 different rooms.

The rooms were categorized by what type of games would be available, such as first-person shooters, fighting games, board games, and many others.

There was also a raffle that had many prizes donated from businesses in Bakersfield. Everyone who donated \$10 received a ticket to use for a chance to win video games, card-game packs, and other unique prizes. Chad Hidalgo, president of Renegamers, gave insight to how this event started the first time.

He said, "The first time, I



J.R. HENSLEY / THE RIP

Chad Hidalgo makes an announcement halfway through the event that they raised 38 percent of their \$2,200 goal.

was director of student organizations, and we had two clubs that expressed interest in doing something for the Nintendo recognition of some milestone in Nintendo ... the Japanese culture club and computer science club came to the department of student organizations and it blossomed from then, so it quickly outgrew what any one club could do, so we turned it into a collaboration of clubs with the department of student organizations overseeing. And then this year, since I wasn't director of student organizations again, we actually

started the BC Renegamers with the idea of having this club kind of be the director that would get other clubs involved."

Hidalgo is a full-time student at BC majoring in industrial automation and is trying to get his bachelor's degree. Hidalgo said that he has probably been playing video games since he was 10 years - old or so.

Growing up he had an Atari 2600, a Nintendo Entertainment System, and a Sega Genesis. When asked what his favorite video game is, Hidalgo explained that he does not play that many



J.R. HENSLEY / THE RIP

Joe Thornsbery (left) and Mario Hernandez (right) playtest the beta 'Dragon Borne' card game.

video games anymore and now plays role-playing board-games.

He said, "I play 'Star Wars: Edge of the Empire,' which is a multiplayer role-playing game, and I like to be the story-teller, so I take on all the roles of the supporting characters that get the playing characters through the game."

Hidalgo also mentioned that the Renegamers was not only founded for the Extra Life event, but also to create a competitive video game eSport team.

"The Renegamers was founded to oversee this event, but we are working toward forming a collegiate video [game] competition team - 'League of Legends' specifically," he said.

When asked when this team could be formed, Hidalgo said, "We are working on it. We have Information Technology working on opening up the computer ports so we can be able to compete with other schools online."

Hidalgo was also questioned about how the school would go about coaching this professional gaming team for Bakersfield College.

"We are looking at having student coaching. We have some members [of Renegamers] who have expressed some interest in coaching. Right now, we haven't had any active tryouts because we're still working on the necessary structure to be [formed,]" Hidalgo said.

'Border Brothers' premieres at Fox Theater



WILLIAM DUBON / THE RIP

Brian Ross (middle) speaks about his experience working on the film "Border Brothers."

By Ambria King
Reporter

Bakersfield isn't usually the first city in California that comes to mind when one thinks of movie production, but Hectic Films is trying to change that with the premiere of their comedy film, "Border Brothers."

The film premiered at the Fox Theater on April 20 and included a cast and production team full of Bakersfield residents.

The film, which was filmed

over a one-year period in 2011, tells the story of Brian, the owner of a pool cleaning company, who finds himself unable to compete with the new company in town, Hombre Pool Cleaning. Brian, enraged at the loss of his clientele, resorts to joining his family's crime business, and agrees to begin smuggling marijuana over the U.S./ Mexico border in order to make enough money to save his failing business.

Brian is met with a number of unforeseen circumstances after

his product is stolen and he discovers that drugs aren't the only illegal things he's been hired to smuggle into the country.

Brian, along with the two Mexican men who he finds hiding in the false bottom of his car's trunk, embark on a journey to reclaim the stolen drugs, with misfortune and unpredictability meeting them every step of the way.

The film's star, Brian Ross, said the film's premiere was the greatest moment of his life.



WILLIAM DUBON / THE RIP

Man purchases ticket at the "Border Brothers" premiere.

"The whole production was like a yearlong and so many ridiculous things happened in between... I had a great time. I think this was a collection of highly talented people who came together to create a local thing, and I couldn't be more proud," said Ross.

The premiere began with a red carpet event, which gave audience members a chance to meet and take pictures with the cast.

The premiere lasted from 7 to 10 p.m. and ended with a Q&A

session that allowed audience members to pose questions to the cast and crew.

Hectic Films was formed in 2003 by Rickey Bird and Jason Sanders. The indie film company has created a number of films, ranging from action and drama to comedy and horror.

Hectic Films is currently working on a psychological thriller called "Descensus."

The cast and crew are hopeful that Border Brothers may one day get picked up by Netflix.

Renegade Struggles: Sam Moreno

We all have a struggle, and every person has a different story. For the final issue of the semester, Sam Moreno speaks on his own struggle.

By Sam Moreno
Reporter

This year, I met six different people with their own individual struggles. Six strangers shared their lives with me and their willingness to open up is what gave me the courage to talk about my own struggle.

In 2013, I was diagnosed with depression. At that time, I was not even in my 20s yet, so I didn't understand what depression was or how it could affect my life. I thought to myself, "You will get over this, this can't happen to you. You're social, you have friends, nothing can be wrong with you."

I refused to accept that I was depressed. So I chose not to tell anyone about it and not talk about it. I kept this struggle to myself. I always described myself as an optimistic person to others. So accepting depression as my reality was not the easiest thing to come to terms with.

When I was diagnosed as clinically depressed, I didn't want people to think I was playing the victim.

I was a 19-year-old, living in Los Angeles, going to the college of my dreams, pursuing the career I loved and living on my own.

After I got depressed, instead of seeking help, I started relying on alcohol. I used it as my coping mechanism. The problem is, when you have a drinking problem as a college student, almost no one notices that you have a problem.

People around me only saw what I allowed them to see. They saw this fun college student, who liked to drink his liquor with no chaser. But in reality, I was just hiding my true feelings from everyone. Not one person knew, not my family, my friends, or my roommates.

I felt that if I opened up to someone, they wouldn't be able to understand; how someone like me, who has been given all these opportunities, could be depressed.

The truth is many things added to my depression.

From my grandparents' deaths, both just a week apart, to my father being diagnosed with cancer and then my own personal issues. I was struggling to be accepted for being gay by the people closest to me. I was also in a toxic relationship that I could not seem to end. I was told by doctors that my depression would go away.

"Here take a pill, this will fix you," my doctor said. But it didn't "fix me" and it didn't help me. Instead it made me feel different and I didn't like this solution for me, so I finally decided to seek out other options. I finally tried therapy. Quickly I was seeing a change in my attitude and perspective in life. I had anger built up from my entire life. Issues that were never talked about or were left without closure.

Speaking to someone helped me get through depression.

There are moments I still feel down,

but I have to remind myself to get up because everyday is a new day. Of course, I had to accept that depression may be returning to me, my entire life, but that it is going to be OK. People like Beatriz, Alayna, Emmanuel, Joseline, Juan and Jesse all inspire and remind me that we all have a purpose, and we all have to fight to conquer whatever struggle we may be going through.

If there is one thing I have learned from getting to know these six individuals is that we all have something we go through. We deal with struggles everyday of our lives and most importantly that we are not alone. There is always someone out there dealing with the same thing as you, ready to help you out and be your support system.

Sometimes it is easy to identify some people's struggles. Other people's struggles are not visible and others don't ever talk about their struggles. We all have to just remind ourselves to wake up and live everyday to our best potential.



SAM MORENO / THE RIP

Sam Moreno chronicled the struggles of six students.

MEChA hosts first Noche de Cultura

By Lizette Chavez
Reporter

The first ever Noche de Cultura, a BC event that highlighted various diverse dance performances from across the world, was held in the Outdoor Theater on April 21.

The first dance performance was a Hula dance troupe that showcased performers of various ages.

Hula is usually performed by women, although traditionally both men and women would perform. The dancers used many traditional Hula instruments and props like Pu'ili, split bamboo sticks, and Ipu, a single drum made of gourd.

A Christian singing group performed some songs with all the singers taking a turn at a solo. The group consisted of both men and women and were of different ethnic backgrounds. Some of the audience raised their hands in the air and a few got up to sway and dance to the music.

The next culture expressed through dance was Mexico, with Ballet Folklórico, a dance per-

formed by both men and women with tapping steps and costumes specific to a region. The different regions represented were Sinaloa, Jalisco, Chiapas, all with different musical sounds in their dance.

This performance brought many of the audience members to do the shout out or "el grito" as it is known in Mexico, a tradition done by audience members during the dance.

Some guests seemed to find the performance moving and a couple of them shed tears. Dezi Von Manos, newly-elected Student Government Association president and president of MEChA, shared her thoughts on the audience's reaction to the performances.

"I love that, when we can really touch the people because that's what the whole purpose of this night was, especially with everything that's going on around us in the world.

There's a lot of hatred, there's a lot of disrespect, so this honestly was a perfect opportunity for MEChA to bust out with this, because we were creating cul-



LIZETTE CHAVEZ / THE RIP

A group of women perform a dance representing Mexican culture during the MEChA event at the Noche De Cultura at BC on April 21.

tural awareness and acceptance as well as respect."

The final performance was a group of dances from Peru where MEChA member Emmanuel Limaco's family hails from. Limaco shared anecdotes about his family and between the dancer's costume change would regale the audience with Peruvian history, as well as share some of his favorite Peruvian dances.

Von Manos said that the event did fairly well with its turnout for being the first time the event was held. She said that it would hopefully be occurring again and that it was named an annual event because they hope to continue to host it again as a new tradition at Bakersfield College.

"I was grateful for the turnout



LIZETTE CHAVEZ / THE RIP

A group of hula dancers begin a dance from a kneel.

because in all honesty this was one of the first big events that MEChA has collaborated with

other organizations to throw ... we're so appreciative of all the people that came out."



LIZETTE CHAVEZ / THE RIP

Three women perform a Peruvian dance in colorful costumes at the Noche de Cultura event.



LIZETTE CHAVEZ / THE RIP

Audience members clap along to the performers at the Noche de Cultura event.

BC health fair brings in nursing students

By Ambria King
Reporter

The Bakersfield College Health and Wellness Center and the Associate Degree Nursing program partnered with a group of local healthcare providers for the 17th Annual Pulse Health and Wellness Fair. The event took place on April 19 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and provided students with the opportunity to receive a number of services, from blood glucose tests to free massages provided by students from Milan Institute's Massage Therapy program. There were a number of speakers who provided students with facts and information about health care services and the unexpected aspects of society that can affect an individual's health.

"More and more we're finding children with the type of diabetes that usually occurs in adults. We tell them to change their lifestyle, but when we start looking at the community and environment, and we see that there are obstacles," said Dr. Claudia Jones, who is the medical director of Kern County Public Health. Going outside to exercise isn't always an option for individuals who live in areas that are

high in crime. There is also the issue of communities that are under-served when it comes to healthy food choices. Another issue that faces many low income families, is the fact that healthcare often can't be treated as a top priority due to a parent's need to put all of their effort and energy toward simply keeping a roof over their family's head.

"If parents are barely getting by, children miss those vital conversations on how to treat health, on how to treat self," said Planned Parenthood representative, Natasha Belkin. Belkin knows all too well the results of missing those vital conversations. As a representative for Planned Parenthood, Belkin spends quite a bit of time with individuals who have missed out on basic healthcare information in regards to their sexual and reproductive health. Belkin spoke of young women who had no idea that they could access birth control or that pregnancy could occur after only having intercourse one time. Belkin stressed the fact that there are options available to individuals at all income levels.

"Planned Parenthood, Clinica Sierra Vista, Omni, and the Kern County Public Health Department all offer low-cost or



AMBRIA KING / THE RIP

Natasha Belkin speaks about reproductive health at the Pulse Health Fair.

free reproductive healthcare... It's important that people know that those resources are for everyone. They're for you," said Belkin. "As we pushed to make healthcare available, there was this a-ha moment that people who hadn't previously had healthcare didn't know how to utilize it for pre-

vention," said Jones. Many people only focus on their health when they're having health issues. One of the major focuses of the event was to get people to start looking at their health from a different perspective; to get people to start focusing on prevention, as well as treatment.

Two pre-commencement ceremonies to motivate students

By Daulton James Jones
Reporter

The spring semester is finally coming to a close, and for some this adds overwhelming stress because of the upcoming finals. For others it's full of excitement and achievement because of graduation.

On May 12, Bakersfield College will be holding graduation on the football field, and also separate Black and Latino/Chicano pre-commencement ceremonies.

This is Bakersfield College's 23rd Chicano pre-commencement ceremony, and will be held in the outdoor theater at 3:00 p.m. In years past it has always been a big event for the Chicano/Latino graduates and their families.

One of the highlights of this graduation is the fact that it is bilingual, so for the students and their families that may not speak English fluently they need not worry.

Here the students will be able to give 30 minute speeches to

their families thanking them or speaking about whatever they want.

"One of the students participating this year came to me saying she was so excited because her parents weren't able to understand her high school graduation, but at this they will get to do that," said Lisa Kent who is one of the event organizers and works in the equity office at Bakersfield College.

In years prior they provided folklorico dancers mariachis, and consejos (advice) for the

grads. This year due to the event being held before graduation they will not have as much of the activities they had years' prior because of the time constraint.

The African-American students will also be having their own pre-commencement ceremony, which starts at 3:30 p.m. with a group picture of all the graduates.

Then from 4-5:00 p.m., the commencement ceremony will be held. There will be speakers and speeches by students. The

graduates can wear their cap and gowns and any regalia they earned as well.

Following the African American commencement, they will be holding a dinner in the gymnasium from 5-5:45 p.m. before the 105th Bakersfield College Graduation in Memorial Stadium.

"This is important because Bakersfield college is really diverse, and there's a lot of students from different cultures who haven't experienced the same things as their peers in terms of education," said Kent.

Column

'Resist' a word to live by

The Stress Free Tips: For mental hygiene and wellness

It makes me so sad that this is going to be my final column. This has made me so happy being able to write about these topics all semester. During the time between last edition and this one, I was going back and forth with what I should write. I literally had a list that kept growing longer every day, but the one thing that kept coming to mind was the word RESIST.



Daulton James Jones

Toward the end of last year, I wrote in my journal some words that I want to live by, and at the top of that list was RESIST. Considering the events that had been going on toward the end of last year it made sense why I wrote that then, but now, months later, the same word follows me. We're nearing the middle of the year right now, and I feel like we are having to deal with so much bullshit. Whether it be from politics spewing out hate towards middle eastern people or Sean Spicer being ill informed on the atrocities that took place during the holocaust. To observe the ways in which women and minorities are being treated in the public and the media.

It's exhausting how much trash is being thrown our way from every single direction. To the point that I find myself being emotionally exhausted every time I watch the news or go on Twitter. Constantly there's an argument going on between both extremes, but what about the people in the middle? There's this overload of hate circulating from all sides. The liberals hate everything about the conservatives, and vice versa. The religious people are trying to find ways to create their own police to protect their laws, and then there's everyone else trying to decipher the bullshit from the facts.

It saddens me how many people are "drinking the Kool-Aid" these days. They are so happy just going along through life just believing whatever they are being told. Following behind whatever person in power tells them is correct. It is appalling to me how many people are okay with this! For everyone like myself who are not going to stop using our brains to decipher the bullshit from the facts I simply want to tell you RESIST! Don't let this hate spouting Chester Cheetah "president" get to you with all the negativity coming out of his administration. RESIST! "Black Lives Matter" activists DeRay Mckesson and Johnetta Elzie posted a link to resistancemanual.org where it basically just keeps you informed on all the changes that are going on within our country, and becoming aware that harsh changes could be happening to you as well.

I want you all to RESIST the hate circulating around. It's so easy to go online and get some Twitter courage because you're behind a computer screen, and go on a full-fledged attack on someone in 180 character or less.

Bashing people and being negative is easy. It'd be so easy for me to go outside and read somebody down until there's nothing left, but actually uplifting those you have differences with is harder. Trying to understand the contrast between your two ideas, that is way more meaningful than being a troll. RESIST the hate of the world, and protect your magic. (Yes that is a Solange Knowles reference.)

Clothing Review

Hit the gym in style with Fabletics

By Gaiana Latelers
Reporter

The workout attire game is changing. Brands are coming out with their own lines of workout attire, and the competition is getting hot. With Nike releasing their new culturally diverse line of clothing for women, it may be hard to keep up with big brands. Everyone is competing for business.

Big brands are definitely not ones to mess with, but don't forget the little guys. The best offers on sales are usually on websites of smaller companies and stores. This is where I found the deal on workout pants. This past week I looked into a website called Fabletics after seeing their commercial on television.

If you have ever been to Ipsy, a makeup site, it is very similar to that. You choose what brands you like, giving them a sense of what you are looking for, making your overall experience easier. As soon as you hit the home page, you pick your preferences on things you like, such as sizes, colors, and textures. From there, they tailor the rest of your search according to your personal preference.

During the time I ordered my pants from the site, they were running a deal where you could get two pairs for only \$24, plus free



GOOGLE IMAGES

shipping.

Fabletics has anything and everything workout related. Their sizes go from XS to a 3XL. Virtually anyone can shop there, which must be great for business.

I ordered a pair of yoga pants as well as gym workout pants. They arrived two weeks after my order was confirmed. The first thing I noticed when I opened the box was that there was pretty tissue paper in it, almost like I was opening a gift. They even sent me a code to enter to get a discount on my next purchase, which definitely made me want to buy from them again. I can't pass up a deal.

Upon trying on my yoga pants, I noticed that they were very thick and seemed to be well-made. The stitching was really nicely done, and they looked even better than they did on the website. The waist was a little tight, just like most workout pants. They looked so nice I almost didn't want to waste such a good look at a place like the gym.

The other pair I got were plain gym workout pants. They seemed to be just as good as my yoga pants. What I really liked about them was that the areas that were sheer were still thick and well made, unlike other sheer pants I have gotten. Overall, both pairs were definitely worth their price. I will definitely be ordering more things from Fabletics.



Cosmetic Review

A flop of a charcoal blackhead peel

By J. R. Hensley
Photo Editor

Let me just preface this by saying: This review may get gross. How could it not? It's about a face mask touted to remove black heads.

The latest craze to cross my social networking feeds has been this particular mask. The videos are usually short and slow, where the user slowly peels back the black, hardened mask to remove a field of black heads. I was instantly intrigued, because I seriously suffer from a nose constantly filled with the things.

I've watched videos that show one how to concoct one's own with Elmer's glue and some charcoal, however, I am not a DIY kind of guy. So when the opportunity for me to purchase it came up, I did so immediately.

I bought the "Intense Charcoal Blackhead Peel" mask from Parker for Men, based out of Australia. The purchase price was around \$32 Australian. The exchange put me around \$25 and some change.

I even messaged the company on Twitter with some snarky remark about it being for my husband, to which they replied, "We will get this to you immediately."

When it arrived, my husband, our roommate, and I sat down to watch "Drag Race" and test it out.

The instructions say to dry and clean the desired area before applying to the skin.

After 20 to 30 minutes, once the mask has dried, the user is instructed to remove it. Me being



J. R. HENSLEY / THE RIP

J. R. Hensley waits for the charcoal blackhead peel to dry in an effort to unclog his pores.

a sucker for instruction, I was dismayed it didn't explain if it's meant to be done so fast or slow.

Once the three of us removed the slick patches from our faces we examined the objects within.

For our roommate and myself, we excavated nothing. However, I learned I had a good number of tiny little hairs on my nose that were excruciating to remove. My husband on the other hand had two.

I was annoyed. What happened to the mine field of dirt and oil beacons I was promised? Mine were still safe in their cozy little pores.

So I chalk it up to two separate reasons: one, it is a terrible craze product that doesn't do what it's expected to accomplish, or two, my brand of black head isn't made for mask removal.

For further analysis, I tried the mask one more time before delivering my final verdict. Maybe I didn't put enough on and removed it too quickly in my excitement to see the easy extraction.

On my second attempt, I slathered the mask on so much it was oozing down the tip of my nose, forming this frozen-in-time tear-drop. I looked like some other-

worldly villain.

After the allotted time, I removed the mask to find myself once again filled with disappointment. There on the sea of matte black was a single, solitary black head.

Additionally, in lieu of the tiny little hairs was a layer of skin, leaving my nose scaly.

Alas, this is much like all of the other miracle cures thrown onto the peoples of the world over history.



Renegade Events

News

Scribes wanted. Bakersfield College is looking for students to participate in the scribe program to help students with disabilities take notes. Scribes are paid \$10.50/hour. If interested, go to collegecentral.com/bakersfieldcollege to apply.

Campus Events

- May 3:** "A Little Knight Music," Wednesday, 7-9:30 p.m. The event will feature music performed by the BC jazz band, concert band, orchestra, choir, and drumline. Location: Outdoor theater.
- May 4:** The True Meaning of Separation of Church and State, Thursday, 7-9 p.m. Eddie Tabash, chair of the legal committee of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, will be providing the history of the religion clauses of the First Amendment to demonstrate that the Framers really intended for believers and nonbelievers to be equal before the law. Location: The Levan Center.
- May 4:** Art Department Ceramics program pottery sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fine Arts 20.
- May 5:** Honors Celebration, Friday, 7-9 p.m. The event will recognize several hundred students for getting scholarships or awards. Location: Gil Bishop Gym.
- May 6:** CA Latino Leadership Institute, Saturday, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. For more information see: www.calatinoleadership.org. Location: Fireside Room & Cafeteria.
- May 8-12:** Final Exams.
- May 12:** End of the Spring Semester.
- May 12:** 4-5 p.m., African American Student Recognition Ceremony. Location: BC Indoor Theater.
- May 12:** Black Recognition Ceremony, 4-6 p.m. The event recognizes African American students. Location: Indoor Theatre.
- May 12:** Bakersfield College Commencement, 7 p.m., Memorial Stadium.
- May 20:** Energy Academy of 2017, Saturday. Chevron and KCHCC (Kern County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce) are seeking Bakersfield College students interested in the energy sector for their 4-week Energy Academy.
- May 29:** Memorial Day.
- June 12:** Summer semester begins.
- August 3:** Summer session ends.
- August 19:** Fall semester begins.

Around Town

- May 5:** Cinco de Mayo Party, Friday, 6 p.m.-2 a.m. Free admission. The event will have \$1 tacos, tequila specials, and \$1 off all Mexican beers. Location: VIP Lounge, 5460 California Ave.
- May 5-6:** Stampede Days Rodeo, Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m. Admission is \$18 at the gate, children 6-12 \$10, 5 and under are free. Parking is \$5. Location: Kern County Fairgrounds, 1142 South P St.
- May 18:** Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices \$35, \$55, \$65. Location: Rabobank Arena.
- May 5-20:** "The Last Days of Judas Iscariot," Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m. Ticket price \$10-\$20. Location: The Empty Space, 706 Oak St.
- May 21:** Pizza & Craft Beer Fest, Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Admission is \$10. Location: Craft Tap House, 3320 Truxtun Ave. #150.
- May 26:** Lady Antebellum, Friday, 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices range \$42.50-\$62.50. Location: Rabobank Arena.
- June 9, 10, 16, 17:** RAT Offensive Comedy, Fridays and Saturdays, 11 p.m. The show features original offensive comedy scenes. Admission is \$5 and \$2 beers. Location: The Empty Space, 706 Oak St.
- June 12:** Boston, Monday, 8 p.m. Ticket prices range \$28.50-\$68.50. Location: Rabobank Arena.
- June 20:** Alice Cooper, Tuesday, 8 p.m. Ticket prices range \$17.50-\$87.50. Location: Rabobank Arena.
- Aug. 18-20:** 54th Annual Tehachapi Mountain Festival, Friday-Sunday. The event will include arts and craft shows, food, live entertainment, and a carnival. Location: 209 E. Tehachapi Blvd., Tehachapi.
- Sept. 30:** Tim McGraw & Faith Hill "Soul2Soul Tour 2017," Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$66.50-\$126.50. Location: Rabobank Arena.

RENEGADE MINDS "How do you feel about the parking lots, permits and restrictions at BC?"

Compiled by William Dubon



Brandon Van Surksum
Age 22

"The parking isn't bad, but the mornings are hard to find parking. I always had the pass, so I don't park on the streets. The permit isn't much. It's only \$40 and some students might think it is, but it's ... less than a dollar a day."



Elizabeth Villasenor
Age 20

"The permits are fine. It's safer to park in the parking lot by the PAC. We need more parking because, even if you pay for a permit, it's not guaranteed that you'll have a spot."



Fredy Pidilla
Age 21

"I believe parking near the college shouldn't be denied by the new restrictions, but they are not such a bad idea. The restriction came too late and should have been in place early, but now the semester is almost over."



Martine Linoco
Age 22

"I do see the parking lot by the baseball field empty, and I would want to have the permit, but I don't want to pay the extra money because I don't see a need for it."



Paul Orona
Age 35

"We shouldn't have to pay for a permit since some of us are just making it by with Financial Aid. I think the school should focus more on theft since I got a ticket because someone stole my registration ticket."



Rosalinda Lopez
Age 25

"Restrictions are a bad idea because it's harder to find parking in the nice parking lot with solar panels and some students are really busy. I have only an hour to get to school and look for parking since I come from my work."



First place for newspaper in 2011, third place in 2013, 2014, 2015 for CNPA General Excellence
Sixth place for newspaper in 2017 for national Best of Show contest by Associated Collegiate Press

Third place nationally in 2017 for website publication by Associated Collegiate Press

The Renegade Rip is produced by Bakersfield College journalism classes and is circulated on Wednesdays during the fall and spring semesters. The newspaper is published under the auspices of the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees, but sole responsibility for its content rests with student editors. The Rip is a member of the California Newspaper Publishers Association, Associated Collegiate Press, and California Colleges Media Association.

The Renegade Rip

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief.....Morgan Park
Sports Editor.....Sam L. Jaime
Photo Editor.....J. R. Hensley
Digital Content Editor.....Mario Saldaña

Adviser.....Danny Edwards

STAFF

Reporters/photographers: Dylan Bryant, Lizette Chavez, Brandon Cowan, William Dubon, Megan Fenwick, Kylie Hendrickson, Daulton James Jones, Ambria King, Gaiana Latelers, Fernanda Martinez, Sam Moreno, Jesse Najera, Zachary Sullivan

Write The Rip

Letters should not exceed 300 words, must be accompanied by a signature and the letter writer's identity must be verified.

The Rip reserves the right to edit letters, however, writers will be given the opportunity to revise lengthy or unacceptable submissions.

If an organization submits a letter as a group, it must be signed by only one person, either the leader of the organization or the letter writer. Anonymous letters will not be published.

How to reach us

-Address: Bakersfield College,
1801 Panorama Drive, Bakersfield, CA
93305
-Phone: (661) 395-4324
-Email: ripmail@bakersfieldcollege.edu
-Website: therip.com



Humberto A. Lopez and Morgan Crite duel in a scene of the play "Metromaniacs."

Metromaniacs
BC's spring play ran from April 26-29 at the SPARC theater

Photos by Lizette Chavez



Samuel Waite and Lopez contemplate poetry on stage.

LAW DAY: BC event helps students further their law careers and apply for internships in the industry

Continued from Page 1

and they are very honest with students. They are actually very helpful and they are always willing to give great help and advice to every student," she said.

Herrera claimed the panel's insistence that being a good writer was necessary to passing law school was what stood out to her the most about the discussion. "The advice of writing well. Every student who knows how to write and think critically will always be important for them as a law student, and not even as just a law student but as a person, they're able to grasp any information in the future and apply it to everything in life, which is great."

Marilynn Sanchez-Avila, an adjunct professor of political science at BC and Pre-Law program leadership team member, claimed she also felt the event was a success.

"I think the event was very successful, we had a good turnout. The panelists were so down to earth, they were open and willing to help out our students, which makes a huge difference.

Inspiring students to not only pursue their dreams, but to be taken under the wing of professionals who are already successful so they can reach success themselves," she said. "The fact that a lot of the panelists can laugh about some

of the things that they faced and overcame, only because maybe at the time it seemed like they weren't going to be able to conquer whatever they're dealing with and now that they're at the peak of their professional success. They can look back and say, 'you know that was a hard time but if I was able to do it, so can you.'"

David Arredondo, 27, a student at BC, claimed he found the advice from judges and lawyers to be inspiring. "I've learned a lot. It was good getting intake from actual lawyers and judges, so as far as what made them make that decision and the path that they took. All of that was really valuable to me because their stories, not necessarily one but all of them, had something I related to and it motivated me more toward that path," he said. Arredondo said he enjoyed hearing from legal professionals how they dealt and overcame adversity in their lives. "It feels good to know that accomplished judges and lawyers also had these same doubts that I sometimes have, but the fact is they were able to accomplish their goals makes me more motivated."

Arredondo hopes the event happens next year as well. "I look forward to coming next year; hopefully, they keep doing this. It's really valuable even if you don't decide to go into law. It's a good way for you to expand your mentality."

RACIAL TENSION: Professors and victim speak on rising racial tensions in Kern County and U.S.

Continued from Page 1

the possible culprits for the increase in racial tensions.

"You would think we're in a better spot. We have more diversity with our news sources, but research tells us otherwise," said Pruett. "With the advent of social media and blogs, we have so many options that we choose and seek out news that reinforces what we already believe. I think that causes people to become more polarized."

This polarization, in conjunction with the political climate, is what Pruett considers to be the driving forces behind the increase in racial tension. Nae Herring, one of the three women who was targeted in the racially motivated attack that took place outside of the Circle K market on Stine Road, says the incident was the first time she had ever experienced racism in her life.

"People should let the past be the past," said Herring. "Racism is not an OK thing. Black people have had to deal with stuff like this for years and years, and I just think everyone should be treated equal." While equal treatment under the law is a right guaranteed to all citizens of the United States, people of color often do not receive equality when it comes to opportunity.

"We live in a country that is structured to provide more opportu-

nities to white people than people of color," said BC Communication Department professor Helen Acosta. "The tension we are feeling right now is because the traditional structural supports that have protected white opportunity are being crushed by the largest wealth gap in the last 70 years." Acosta points to this disparity in wealth as a key factor in the heightened racial tensions that are currently taking place.

"The wealthiest people in the U.S. hold close to 20 percent of the wealth," she said. "This leaves crumbs, not only for people of color who have always been shut out of opportunity, but for working class white people who expect opportunities to be theirs for the taking. This has led to a white-rage that has been bubbling for a long time." This rage is evident in the fact that the number of hate groups operating in the United States has grown for the second consecutive year. According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, there were 892 active hate groups operating in the U.S. in 2015, and 917 in 2016.

"Racial tensions nationwide have increased dramatically," said Acosta. "The causes are the same complex causes that have always existed beneath the surface, but changes in opportunity for white people have worsened the issue."

Pruett said, "I've had students in my class this semester, now in

2017, who believe that racism does not exist in California, because I think that people's idea of racism is KKK. So they think that if somebody is being aggressive that's the only way to be racist."

According to both Acosta and Pruett, this is not the case. "We all take actions that favor whites over non-whites and most of the time we aren't even aware that we are participating in this cultural favoritism," said Acosta. Acosta and Pruett both pointed to studies that show how traditionally white names, faces, and bodies are preferred, not only by white people, but by people of color.

"It isn't because whites are, in any way, better than any other group of people. It is because the system we live in conditions us to prefer everything that is related to whiteness," said Acosta. With the rise of racial tensions being rooted in both systemic and social issues, improving the situation is no small task. Both Pruett and Acosta point to education as the solution.

"We need to increase our racial literacy," said Acosta. "We need to learn the history of racial suppression in the US and, instead of being 'uncomfortable' and getting defensive about it, we need to learn to talk about it. Own the history, and work to dismantle the system that gives preference to whiteness."

\$20 SUMMER YOUTH PASS

June • July • August

GET YOURSELF to the...

- MOVIES
- POOL
- PARK
- MALL and your SCHOOL

safely AND affordably with your **SUMMER YOUTH PASS!**

\$20 per month for unlimited rides. Available for ages 20 and under.

Win a **FREE Summer Youth Pass!** Use #GETSYP to tell us about your trips!

Visit our website: www.GETBus.org for summer youth pass purchase locations.

Buying a Summer Youth Pass is simple. Passes can be purchased at several retail locations as well as many of the local high schools and colleges. Visit our website and click on "fares and passes" for purchase locations.



For more information visit our website at www.GETBus.org or call us at 661.869.2438.



Beach volleyball has triumphant return

Renegades' success in second year could bring state title to college

By Sam L. Jaime
Sports Editor

The Bakersfield College beach volleyball program is nearing the end of its second season in the Western State Conference.

The Renegades have found continuing success heading into the latter stages of this season, qualifying for the CCCAA State Beach Team Championship, to be hosted at West Valley College on May 5 at 10 a.m. After competing in a WSC Playoff game at Ventura on April 28, the teams of No. 1 Mackenzie Hernandez and Hannah Pope, No. 2 Brooke Horack and Jourdan Muro, No. 3 Alex Paris and Reece Stevenson, and No. 4 McKenna Baameur and Savannah Cano qualified for the CCCAA State Beach Individual Championships on May 6 and 7, also at West Valley College, beginning at 10 a.m.

According to Gogades.com, the Renegades have a 6-4 overall record, including a 2-2 record in conference play as of May 1.

While the Renegades seek to capture the conference's highest honor, a feat accomplished last year by El Camino College, the Renegades highest ranked duo took time to reflect on their two-year journey through the program.

Sophomores Hernandez and Pope have been in the program since its 2016 inaugural season, taking on a leadership role throughout their progression to this point.

"I think it's great being part of a young program, setting the example for the upcoming athletes that will go through the program. It's exciting being a part of something brand new, you set the tone. I consider myself a leader just because I am a sophomore, and my partner [Hannah Pope] and I are the number one team, and we have the personalities of leaders," said Hernandez.

Pope echoed a similar sentiment saying, "It's so much fun getting to learn the sport together and develop the program. Yes, I would definitely consider myself a leader. I think a lot of sophomores have stepped up as leaders in beach [volleyball] because we learned so much about the game last year and have been able to relay that knowledge both in words and in actions."

The tandem has also starred as part of the indoor volleyball program, helping to lead the team into the playoffs where they were eliminated in the opening round.

The loss would signal the end of the sophomore pair's BC in-



JESSE NAJERA / THE RIP

Sophomore Hannah Pope is part of BC's top-ranked team.

door volleyball careers, making beach volleyball their last semester of intercollegiate volleyball competition at BC.

The value of this finality is not lost on Hernandez. "It's been very important because every season helps me develop my skills even more and I love all the relationships I have developed here at Bakersfield College. It's also given me an opportunity to be with my family another semester," she said.

The sentiment of family and unity is a major ideology of the beach volleyball program, one that has been cultivated by head coach Carl Ferreira.

Ferreira, who is also the head coach of the BC indoor volleyball program, began his coaching career as an assistant coach at Fresno State University from 1991-1992, and at Stanford from 1993-1994.

From there, Ferreira became a head coach, with stops at Cal State University of Bakersfield, the University of Idaho, and the University of Oregon before taking the reins at Bakersfield College in 2006.

The effects of the culture developed by Ferreira, on the program and its players, has gone much deeper than stat sheets or scorecards.

"Coach Carl [Ferreira] has had a huge impact on me as an individual. He's taught me so much about not just volleyball, but life as well. He gave me confidence in every area of my life beginning with on the court. He believed in me my freshman year when I had lost belief in myself after a rough senior year [in high school]. He looked at me like I could achieve anything and made me feel like that was true. Along with that, he taught me to be confident in every area of my life. As for the beach [volleyball] program, he has had a huge impact on that as well. Not many coaches can transition from indoor to beach the way he did, and it is such a cool experience to see him learning some things right along with us," said Pope.

Hernandez and Pope had some adjustments to make of their own when shifting from indoor to beach volleyball.

"It's a completely different dynamic. Especially since you only have one other person on the court with you, you're touching the ball every single play. You're involved in every play and it's much more important that you're at your best every single game. Your chemistry with your partner is essential too. In indoor, you can get away with having



JESSE NAJERA / THE RIP

Sophomore Savannah Cano launches a serve against Cal State LA on April 22.

at least four [out of six] girls in sync and on the same page, but in beach, you both have to be in sync and on the same page no matter what," said Pope.

Those adjustments have paid huge dividends for the pair, resulting in a third-place finish on April 28 at the WSC State Individual Championships in Ventura, and the possibility of team state championships on the horizon.

Both attribute their success to their ability to thrive together. "Being Hannah's partner is awesome because she's such a strong athlete and she helped me so much on my defense and I help her on her offense. We listen to each other and trust each other so much. I believe the key to beach volleyball is to have a partner that has the same goals, work

ethic and hustle on the court. We always remember to cheer each other on, and we forgive each other if someone makes a mistake. I'm so blessed to have such an amazing partner for beach [volleyball]," said Hernandez.

Pope offered a similar take, saying "It's amazing being part of that dynamic. I think our relationship is a very unique one. We always say we think our brain waves are intertwined. I think our communication is what makes us such a powerful pair. There's not a play that goes by where we aren't talking to each other about the game and communicating what's happening. I think our ability to see the game and tell each other what is open and what is changing is what makes it flow so well."

While the curtain has yet to

drop on their final season, Hernandez and Pope can already attribute their experience in beach volleyball to a hopeful future.

"I think playing beach volleyball has helped my court game so much. It will help me move forward when I play for the University of Arizona. Being able to see the court so much faster will definitely improve my court game," said Hernandez.

For Hannah Pope however, it appears the future will take another path. "A lot lies in store for me after this. I will be getting married this May and living on Camp Pendleton while going to school at CSU San Marcos. Though collegiate volleyball will be over for me, I look forward to using everything it has taught me in my next adventure," said Pope.

Freshman Acevedo highlights young core as BC women's tennis resets for next year

By Daulton James Jones
Reporter

The Bakersfield College women's tennis team had a lot of bright spots this season, and one of the brightest has been freshman Ariana Acevedo.

With her doubles partner Serena Contreras, the two did not lose a doubles match all season until the final tournament they played in.

Acevedo has done a lot in her first season with the Renegades. She earned first-team honors for doubles with her partner and longtime friend Contreras (Acevedo nicknamed them Venus and Serena).

It was during high school when she decided to try something new. That something new was tennis.

"I realized I wanted to try something new with my friend and now doubles partner, so we ended up trying out. And we made it to varsity our freshman year," said Acevedo. "I ended up really enjoying the sport and only wanted to get bet-

ter."

From her first season playing tennis in high school, she decided she wanted to solely focus on tennis, so she quit playing softball and devoted her free time to playing tennis.

After high school she decided that she wasn't quite finished with Tennis yet, so she came to Bakersfield College to further her tennis career.

"Coming to BC, and continuing to play tennis was one of the best decision's I've ever made," Acevedo said with a smile. "This has been the best year of my tennis career yet, and only more to come next year."

As a freshman, Acevedo had to adjust to class and practice schedules, but she has found her footing in the academic and athletic worlds.

"It has been an amazing experience playing at BC to working hard in and out of the practice," she said. "It was definitely a struggle trying to fit tennis and school since we were so wrapped around

tennis pretty much all days throughout the week. Weekends and late nights is when studying and homework took place."

Acevedo, along with five other freshmen, will be returning to play next year.

"Only five of us will be returning next year while our three sophomores are out. It's going to be different without those three. They were a big part in our wins this season, and a big loss in our tennis family, but as freshmen we're ready to even go further than we did this season and create an even stronger bond," Acevedo said.

On April 27-30, the women's team participated in the State Tournament-Ojai Tournament as their last competition of the season.

Acevedo and her partner Contreras participated in this tournament as well as Brittany Aguilar, Paige Darstein, Kaylee Defrees, and Riley Tucker. Acevedo-Contreras won their first doubles match but lost the second.



JESSE NAJERA / THE RIP

Freshman Ariana Acevedo is half of BC's most dynamic tennis duo.

BC athletes advance to SoCal track meet

By Rip Staff

Bakersfield College's Mason Grantz placed first in two events and second in another during the Western State Conference Finals track and field meet April 29 at Moorpark College.

The meet served as a qualifier for the Southern California Prelims scheduled May 6 at Cerritos College.

The prelims are a qualifier for the Southern California Finals on May 13, and that meet serves as a qualifier for the State Championships May 19-20 at American River College in Sacramento.

Grantz placed first in the hammer throw at 127 feet 4 inches and first in the shot put at 46-10.

He placed second in the discus with a throw of 160-2.

Teammate Cesar Patino placed first in the 1,500-meter run with a time of 4 minutes 6 seconds, and he took fifth in the 5,000 with 16:07.67.

BC's Jacob Bookout took second in the high jump at 6 feet 8 inches, and Jacob Franco was eighth in the 10,000 in 34:41.57.

BC's men's 400-relay team placed third and the 1,600-relay team took fourth.

For the women, Asia Counts placed third in the long jump with 17 feet and seventh in the triple jump at 33-5. Jasmine Green took third in the 100 in a time of 12.50 and eighth in the 200 at 26.18. Alyssa Morales placed eighth in the 5,000 with

19:21.35 and eighth in the 10,000 with 41:26.28. Zariah Marr was eighth in the 100 at 13.00.

BC's Celia Hickman placed fifth in the javelin at 98-6 and seventh in the 100 hurdles in 16.52.

Chelsea Downs was sixth in the javelin in 96-2. Veronica Slade was eighth in the high jump at 4-7.

The women's 400-relay team placed third and the 1,600 relay team was sixth.

In team competition at the WSC meet, the Renegades finished eighth in men's (57 points) and women's (39 points) competition. Glendale won the men's team title with 131 points, and West L.A. won the women's title with 173.5.



J.R. HENSLEY / THE RIP

Jasmine Green prepares to land her long jump attempt.

Column

'It ain't over 'til it's over'

E9: What you wouldn't believe about sports.

As Marshawn Lynch readies to don the silver and black of the Raiders after a two-year sabbatical retirement, I can't help but consider his chances of success. I've seen my share of hangers-on and the gone-too-soon. I'm old enough to remember when Michael Jordan came out of retirement in the early parts of this century, and Brett Farve refused to go quietly into the night, making things awkward in Green Bay. It was a joy to see both return, despite Jordan playing for the abysmal Washington Wizards instead of the Chicago Bulls, and Farve being exiled from Green Bay, finishing his career in Minnesota.



Sam L. Jaime

Jordan came back for the 2000-2001 season, he was 38, a full 11 years older than the league average of 27.4. He averaged over 21 points per game throughout his two-season return, securing a few "oldest to"-type of records, and an easy selection to two all-star teams. Of course, who doesn't want to be like Mike, even in his 40's?

It's crazy that a decade has passed since Farve took snaps as a Packer. Farve's retirement stints lasted a few seconds when compared to the three entire seasons Jordan sat out, especially because they were only a few days or weeks. Unlike Jordan though, Farve was able to make a return to the postseason, taking Minnesota to the second round in 2009. But the game caught up with him, as it always does. Injuries became too much, and his career became final in 2010 at 41-years-old.

Lynch is 31. Obviously coming back on the wrong side of 30 doesn't do Lynch any favors, but don't be fooled into thinking this is anything other than a win-now type of move by the Raiders anyhow. Lynch is not the halfback of the future for the Raiders; this is a two-year loan. Nobody should question Lynch's ability to excel in the team's offensive scheme. While the Raiders ground-game wasn't terrible last season, ranking sixth in the league with 120.1 rushing yards per game, adding Lynch will help their cause, considering he averaged 81.6 yards per game in 2014 and 59.6 yards per game in 2015. As Lynch played in Seattle where quarterback Russell Wilson is known to moonlight as a halfback himself, amassing 1,402 rushing yards during the same span.

Lynch won't rank among the top rushers next season, his carries and yardage will undoubtedly increase; and might be the final piece in a Raiders Super Bowl championship. Yet, despite any amount of resurgent talent left in Lynch's proverbial tank, father time will still remain undefeated, continuing to reign as the universe's most effective prize fighter.

These moments, when our displaced heroes again step into the limelight, are fleeting. Perhaps that's why we do our best to savor them, grasping at what was, in hopes that their defiance of time's regression might yield a few more drops of magic from the bottom of the bottle. For time is a funny thing, one that gives and takes in such odd proportion. Eventually we must all walk away, whether it's from a sport, a job, or even a column. Goodbyes might be the hardest thing we have to give or receive, but like everything else, this too shall pass.



J.R. HENSLEY / THE RIP

Freshman Jennifer Quan has been swimming competitively since she was 9 years old.

Quan making a splash in women's swim program

By Mario Saldaña

Digital Content Editor

The Bakersfield College women's swimming season is coming to a close with one more meet to go, though there is one swimmer who has been improving and been racking up points with each meet, and her name is Jennifer Quan.

With every meet Quan has competed in, she has been competitive and working hard to get the best times she can in her events.

She believes that she is reach-

ing the goals she set for herself with the huge help of Coach Matthew Moon and her teammates.

"I had the chance to have an amazing and dedicated team this year. Everybody got along, which is always good since we spent so much time together. Knowing that everyone is working hard, motivates me to push my limits a little bit further at every practice to not disappoint the rest of the team. Coach Moon is a very patient person who knows how to listen and is always positive, which are qualities that I

look for in a coach," said Quan.

At just 7 years old, Quan was learning how to swim, and two years later she began to swim competitively and loved it instantly.

She continued swimming in a club when she attended Bakersfield High School to stay in shape so she could be able to compete during off season.

The reason why she loves swimming is because she finds it to be very therapeutic and has been a part of her life for a long time, so she gained a lot of experience, and with years of swim-

ming she knows it's the right sport for her.

"My parents signed me up for swim lessons, and I simply never thought about doing, or playing other sports," she said. "Being in the water helps me to clear my mind, it is where I am the most comfortable.

"For me the pool is a very peaceful environment where I can be in my way, in my own world. Also, I am not very coordinated so I cannot catch or throw a ball, and I do not like running, which do not give me a very wide selection of sports I can do beside swimming," said Quan.

"I grew up with this sport. It always has been part of my life. Swimming taught me a lot of things throughout the years. It helped me gain experience in many domains. Traveling often with a team for sometimes two or three weeks at a young age taught me how to be independent, and responsible.

"Swimming can be a very boring sport. Waking up at 5 a.m. to go to practice, and looking at the bottom of a pool for hours twice a day is honestly not really fun, but the satisfaction at the end of the day and the thought of knowing that each practice will bring me closer to my goals is what gets me going. Therefore, swimming also taught me to work hard, and be perseverant not only in the water but in everything I do in life."

Out of the pool, Quan is going to school and majoring in political science and is planning to go to a four-year college, and if the opportunity came up, she would definitely like to keep swimming after transferring from Bakersfield College.

Though apart from swimming and school, Quan likes to hang out with her friends and go watch a movie with them, or

just enjoys a quiet night at home watching television.

Out of all the meets Quan participated in, the Western State Conference #3 on March 31 was her favorite one this season, because of the competition and gave her a better understanding of how her season is going.

"[Western State Conference #3] was my favorite. Since we trained and got ready the entire year for this meet, it is very satisfying to see all the work put in finally paying off. In addition, it is the last meet of the year, so it is at this point that I draw an overall conclusion about the season, and take the best out of it, but I also look at what did not go as planned to make sure to not do the same mistakes next season."

Quan took a look back at the season and believes that the goals she has set for herself for her freshman year from the beginning have been met, and is excited to come back next season to reach more goals that she couldn't complete this year.

Jennifer Quan placed third in the 400-yard IM with a time of 4:59.53 at the latest swim meet at the Western States Conference Championships that started on April 20 and ended on the 22.

In the men's swimming team, the most noticeable placements were Brian Bender placing second in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 58.70 and third in the 200-yard breast with a time of 2:12.70. Andrew Martinez placed third in the 400-yard IM with a time of 4:28.91.

Out of 10 schools including BC, both the men's and women's teams combined ended in third place with a total of 682 points.

The last meet for both the women's and men's swimming team will be the CCCAA State Championships at East LA on May 4 and will end on May 6.

Freshman Solis proves she's double threat; BC knocked out

By Mario Saldaña

Digital Content Editor

When it comes to the Bakersfield College softball team, Alexis Solis has made a huge impact throughout the season.

As the season came to a close with their last game on April 25, Solis played in 37 games and finished with a .386 batting average with 50 hits in 129 plate appearances. She had six home runs, all in conference games, and 43 RBI. On the mound, Solis pitched her way to a 6-7 record with a 2.99 earned run average while striking out 31 in 91.1 innings.

Solis joined the game of softball her freshman year of high school and has loved it ever since. She felt very blessed to have received MVP, best offensive player, and all-league multiple times throughout her high school career. She still remembers the first game she played that had her fall in love with the sport.

"I chose softball because the first time I've ever played that season, for me, was so great and memorable that I had to go back for more," she said. "Ever since then I've been coming back for more and more each season to learn and progress. I grew up playing multiple sports but playing softball was just so much more exciting and fun on the field compared to others."

As a Renegade, she described her most memorable game of this season against Cuesta College. "My favorite game this season has to be when we played Cuesta because the game was so intense throughout every inning and my team and I were the most pumped we have ever been this season. We all just bonded so well and supported each other's backs, as well as never let that intensity go

down one second in that game."

Before starting a game, she loves to listen to music and getting into any kind of shenanigans she can think of with her teammates. Solis felt like she had a good season and got closer to all her teammates, who helped her achieve what she did. "Throughout the season, I've definitely strengthened my trust and dependency within my team," she said. "On the field, I know they have my back on any ball in play and offensively, I try my very best with swinging the bat and getting on base because I know my team depends on me just like I do them."

With the stats she has throughout the season, she also thanks her coach Christine Hill for support that helped her throughout the season. "Coach Hill and my team have helped me improve by the support and advice I get from them every day. We may not all get along all the time, but when we do, we surprise so many teams with the teamwork and ability we have towards winning games. Potential has been shown throughout my entire team and envy at least one thing in every one of my teammates."

Solis is looking to major in biology, planning to develop a career in nursing, and is looking to go to a four-year college after finishing up Bakersfield College. She is hoping to keep on playing at a higher level, but for right now she will be coming back for the next season at BC.

Out of studying school and playing softball, Solis has two different jobs that help her go to school and to live in the adult environment as she goes to school. She is always busy whether she likes it or not. The season has ended, and the BC softball team did not make the playoffs, losing their final four conference games, which prevented them from grabbing a playoff spot. Overall, they ended their season 17-23 and 13-11 in their conference.



J.R. HENSLEY / THE RIP

Freshman Alexis Solis readies to deliver a pitch in a game on March 11. Solis is also an accomplished hitter for BC.

R.A.D. TRAINING DAYS

STORY BY **AMBRIA KING**
PHOTOS BY **LIZETTE CHAVEZ**



Left photos: Ambria King practices her Rape Aggression Defense blocks and kicks on foam pads. Training took place over two days, with day one as an educational day covering defensive practices, and day two focusing on physical training and defensive moves.



Ambria King is instructed on how to break loose of a debilitating hold at R.A.D. training.



Ambria King trains in defensive punches and blocks at R.A.D. training on April 22.

Growing up, my grandmother would always tell me that I would sooner see an ant in the sky than an elephant on the ground. I'm a bit of daydreamer, and all too often I pay little-to-no attention as I stroll from one location to another. I've always known that my habit of ignoring my surroundings put me at greater risk of running into poles or tripping over curbs. I did not, however, realize that it put me at greater risk for becoming a target of sexual assault.

When I decided to attend the Rape Aggression Defense class for this adventure, I expected to learn a bunch of fancy physical defense moves that could be used if the unfortunate event of becoming the target of sexual assault ever took place, and I did. But the main lesson I took away from the class was that there are things I have been doing for years that greatly increase my risks of becoming a victim in the first place.

"Ninety percent of rape aggression defense is prevention." That was the message drilled into my head on the first day of training. As I sat in a conference room with the four other women and one eleven-year-old girl who attended the class, Jason, one of the instructors, brought up the point that the predators who target women for sexual assault aren't looking for a fair fight. In fact, they're looking for an easy target.

This point seems so obvious when I think about it now, and yet, how often have I meandered around in dark parking lots after sundown, completely absorbed in the act of reading a text message or thinking about my seemingly never-ending to-do list, without paying the slightest bit of attention to my surroundings? Too many times to count. I think it's something quite a few of us do without ever giving it a second thought.

Day one of R.A.D. training was an unsettling, albeit eye-opening, experience. Four hours of my Friday afternoon were spent learning about proper safety techniques, from how to properly secure and light my home to what to do in the event that I'm followed in my car. I learned that I always need to have my head on a swivel and watch my surroundings, and to trust my intuition when something gives me a bad feeling. We discussed the recent slew of attempted rapes and kidnappings that have taken place at or near Bakersfield College in the past few months, and nearly all of the women at the class cited them as a major reason for attending.

After prevention, I learned that my second strongest weapon against sexual assault is my voice. I grew up in a household that always stressed the importance of being polite and "ladylike." While I don't think that politeness is a bad quality to possess, I must admit that there have been times when

I have failed to speak up for myself out of fear of being impolite. There have been times when unfamiliar men have sat too close to me or said things that bordered on inappropriate, and instead of firmly telling them to get away from me, I've smiled weakly and looked for any reason to escape the situation as quickly as possible. In essence, I've acted like an easy target.

As I drove home from day one of training, I realized that I felt more paranoid and unsafe than I did before attending training. I thought about all of the times I've been in unsettling situations with unknown men and how often I've been completely oblivious to my surroundings, and I thanked my lucky stars that I've managed to avoid being a victim. Before going to bed that night, I double checked my locks, made sure all my blinds were closed, and promised myself that I would start speaking up for myself and stop neglecting my safety.

Day two of R.A.D. training started at 9 a.m. the next morning. We met with the trainers, Christina and Carlos, in the A.S.L. lab inside of the language arts building, and started in on the fun part of training: physical self-defense.

Growing up, I took Tae Kwan Do, had an older brother who was a wrestler, and a father who was an amateur boxer. It's safe to say I enjoy a bit of sparring. As we began going over basic stances, blocks, kicks, and strikes, I started to really feel like I was in my element. We learned how to break free from certain holds, and what to do if we're knocked to the ground. Christina demonstrated each move and encouraged us to shout, "no!" with every strike. I can't express how stress relieving it is to take out all of your aggression on a large padded bag. It was awesome to watch as even the eleven-year-old girl really started to get into it. As the day rolled on, the feelings of fear and paranoia that had plagued me the day before fell away, and I started to notice a different sensation coming over me. I felt strong. I felt capable. I felt empowered.

Sexual assault is still something that can happen to anyone at any time, but after taking R.A.D. training, I know there are steps I can take to reduce my risks. I plan on attending more R.A.D. training sessions, and luckily, as long as I hang on to the booklet I was given at this training session, I can get into any R.A.D. training event anywhere in the country for free.

BC will be holding another free R.A.D. training event May 17 and 18. I strongly suggest that all female students attend. You can even bring your friends and family members. It's a ton of fun and has given me a sense of empowerment when it comes to safety and security.

Transfer to University of La Verne in Bakersfield

Attend an Information Session
May 17, 2017
Wednesday, 6 PM

Earn Your Bachelor and Associate Degrees at the Same Time

- Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral Programs in Business and Education
- Now offering the B.A. in Accounting
- Accelerated Degree Programs, Four Ten-Week Terms Per Year
- Flexible Scheduling, Online Course Options
- Affordable, Non-Profit University Since 1891

Find Out More: Rebecca Murillo | (661) 861-6800
laverne.edu/yourpath | laverne.edu/locations/bakersfield



Natalee Garrett
BS '14, MSW '16
Manager, Kern Legacy Health Plan

Kern County Regional Campus
1201 24th Street, Suite D-100
Bakersfield, CA 93301