Kern County to revisit ban on marijuana sales

News, Page 2

Student success is tied to student involvement

News, Page 3

The Renegade Rip

Kern County sends firefighters and helicopters to aid in natural disasters

Issy Barrientos
Photo Editor

The Kern County Fire Department sent 70 firefighters to aid those who are currently fighting the fires in Northern California.

According to the Associated Press, about 1,000 people are still unaccounted for.

Additionally, Kern County provided aid in the form of a helicopter.

The helicopter’s night vision will provide assistance to firefighters and service people working on the ground.

Providing assistance during a fire is a recurring theme for Kern County, an area that prides itself in its giving spirit.

When fires broke out several months ago throughout Ridgecrest, a helicopter was sent as well Casey Snow, a battalion chief and public information officer (PIO) for the Bakersfield Fire Department, said the department sent one Type-1 OES (Office of Emergency Services) engine.

The engine is from the state government and the department uses for fires outside of city too.

The Kern County Fire Department sent 13 personnel, along with one strike leader and one management leader and three type-3 engines.

The personnel settled there when the fires broke out on Nov. 9. They know they will be stationed there for two or three weeks.

If they are required to stay there then they will come back to watch between personnel.

A request from the state is why they sent the personnel. They determined how many they had and stacked them up.

Snow does not know whether the personnel are needed for evacuations or just for fighting fires. According to Snow, the fire is currently 95 percent contained.

By Katalina Quintanilla

Many students discuss the idea of attending a community college right after high school. Why? The reputation of attending a community college is that many never finish what they start and end up dropping out.

However, Bakersfield College changed that stigma with an increase in their graduation and transfer rates.

According to the California Community College's website, student’s success rates increased by five percent in the past six years.

Bakersfield College hosted their largest commencement ceremony at their spring graduation in 2018.

Nearly 2,000 students walked the stage that evening many of them first-generation graduates.

Also, the first baccalaureate class earning a Bachelor's of Science in Industrial Automation finished strong with several graduates.

Not only are graduation rates increasing, but Bakersfield College has also extended their institution to neighboring towns like Delano, Shafter, and Wasco.

“Offering classes in these rural areas has been huge help too. It had all of the classes I needed for my major and gen ed. “ By Katalina Quintanilla

“One of the biggest obstacles students face. Now, if they saw them struggling for me and my siblings and I also want to finish a Doctorate too so I would push myself to take as many classes as I can finish within two and half years,” said Thanda.

Student Success and Community members that keep students in check while attending Bakersfield College.

“We operate from a strong philanthropic foundation that we must intentionally design systems through which students may not the individual students need,” Ward elaborated.

Completion Coaches start their relationship with students when they are in high school to create a comfortable space when they do attend BC.

They also help students' network with BC faculty and see every resource being offered at BC.

“We have seen result using the guided pathways framework. BC tracks the success of all students at the institution,” said Cazares.

Veteran student Carlos Cazaes paved his education path at Bakersfield College with the help of his family and G.I. Bill offered to inactive soldiers. He is due to graduate spring 2019.

“As long as I’m a student it will give me a monthly allowance. The amount depends on my units,” said Cazaes.

“Veteran Coordinating Committees giving me an education plan was a huge help too. It had all of the classes I needed for my major and gen ed.”

PHOTO BY JOHN FARRAND, 2016 PERMISSION TO USE GRANTED BY BC

Bakersfield College’s graduating class of 2016 walks to their graduation ceremony.
Kern High School District welcomes women trustees for first time in decades

By Miranda Defoor
Web & Social Media Editor

The Kern High School District (KHSD) Board of Trustees welcomes former teachers, Cynthia Brakeman and Janice Graves, as Trustees.

Their addition to the board marks the first time in two decades that two women will be on the board. Both women are now retired from teaching, Brakeman retired in 2015 after teaching at Arvin High for 20 years, while Graves has only been retired for a few months.

Brakeman and Graves are set to replace Mike Williams and Phillip Peters. Williams was previously asked by community advocates to resign after his negative response to community members of color, according to a Sept. 2017 Bakersfield Californian article. The Californian also explained Williams had a difficult and angry relationship with their publication, and called on the KHSD and Trustees to cut contracts with The Californian. The Californian also reported he believed incumbents offered information and experience not found elsewhere but Williams did, however, wish his successor luck during the election.

Both women were supported by financial contributors from the Kern High Teachers Association.

Trustee Jeff Flores said in a statement that the education experience from both women will give the board an advantage. Their dedication and service to students adds value to the entire Trustee Board, according to Flores.

Common goals shared by the women are small class sizes, better and revised disciplinary policies and actions, and an expansion of the Career Technical Education (CTE) program. Brakeman hopes to place additional safety officers on high school campuses.

Both Bakersfield and Kern County to keep ban on sale of marijuana

By Laura Lanfray
Reporter

Kern County, a mostly conservative populous, has voted to keep its ban on medical and recreational marijuana in this latest Nov. 6 general election.

Last year, the Kern County Board of Supervisors voted to ban the commercial use of marijuana within the county. This local ban included both medicinal and recreational use despite the previous year’s legalization of recreational marijuana in California and the “Compassionate Use Act of 1996.” This act allowed doctors to legally recommend marijuana to patients who suffered from diseases such as cancer, AIDS, glaucoma, or other illnesses related to chronic pain.

In an attempt to end the ban, Jeff Jarvis and Heather Epps, with the Kern Citizens for Patient Rights, petitioned for Measures J and O to be placed on the ballot. The other, Measure K, was brought about by Ben Eilenberg with The Committee for Safer Neighborhoods and Schools. Measure J was meant to lift the ban on medical marijuana activity within Kern County but failed to pass by a “no” vote of 60.79 percent.

Measure K would have lifted the ban on recreational marijuana use in both Kern County and Bakersfield, but with a 53.01 percent “no” vote, the ban will remain. Measure O would have lifted the ban on medical use within the city, but it was opposed 53.26 percent “no” to 46.74 percent “yes.”

Cannabis, according to The United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), is classified as a schedule I drug for having no accepted medical use and a high risk of abuse. Substances like LSD, ecstasy, and heroin share this top-tier spot on the drug chart.

Some lower-ranking, but still dangerous, schedule II drugs, such as cocaine and methamphetamine, are on the same level as medically prescribed opioids like Hydrocodone (Vicodin) and Oxycodone (OxyContin) which, according to the California Opioid Overdose Surveillance Dashboard, sent just over 100 people to the hospital and killed 75 people from overdoses in Kern County and 2,196 statewide in 2017 alone.

Many advocates who speak in favor of medical marijuana claim that it has helped them come clean from these opioids which can be highly addictive and potentially deadly if misused. For example, based on reports from drugabuse.gov, cannabidiol (CBD oil), has no psychoactive effects and is used to treat inflammation and pain, has been used for controlling epileptic seizures and even helping to quell other drug addictions.

The research behind the full effects of cannabis are ongoing, and even in areas with full recreational allowance, there are strict restrictions. Anyone purchasing cannabis products must be 21 years or older and show a valid ID. A person is allowed to own no more than one ounce of marijuana at a time, and no more than six live plants kept out of public view. Smoking is only allowed in completely private quarters and out of the car, even as a passenger.

The 28 medical marijuana dispensaries currently open in Kern County are now facing the possibility of shutting down. Since the initial ban back in 2017, the dispensaries are reaching the end of their one-year grace period which granted the owners time to shut down their businesses without losing too much of their investments.

According to reports from the Bakersfield Californian, there was talk among County Supervisors that a ballot measure in favor of medical marijuana which was petitioned too late to get on the ballot during this last election will be added to the March 2020 ballot.
Bakersfield College club holds annual Transgender Day of Remembrance

The BC Sexually and Gender Acceptance club host the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance to honor the memory of those who lost their lives on acts of anti-transgender violence.

By Bryant Lopez

Bakersfield College’s Sexuality and Gender Acceptance (SAGA) club held the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance on Nov. 20 at Levine Hall.

This was started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in 1998. The vigil commemorated all transgender people lost to violence since Hester’s death and has become an annual tradition held each year on Nov. 20.

According to a Hate Violence report from the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Projects, of the victims murdered, 80 percent were people of color, 53 percent were transgender women, and 50 percent were transgender women of color. The Transrespect versus Transphobia (TvT) worldwide team published the Trans Murder Moni- toring (TMM) research project update for Trans- gender Day of Remembrance 2018.

The update revealed that 369 cases of reported killings of trans and gender diverse people between October 2017 and September 2018. With many of the murders being in Brazil, Mexico, the United States, and Colombia.

Bakersfield deaths of transgender people within the last several years due to suicide or violence include Jasmine Sierra, Hunter LeBaron, and Jai Bornstein to name a few. In 2016, Jasmine Sierra was found murdered in her apartment.

Hunter LeBaron and Jai Bornstein committed suicide in part because of the way they were treated as trans people.

Transgender Day of Remembrance was observed for the third year in a row at Bakersfield College, and trans activist and community member Shani Smith officiated the event for the second time.

To honor the memory of those lost to anti-transgender violence, SAGA put together a presentation of the pictures, names, a cause of deaths, and de- scriptions of transgender people who lost their lives in 2018.

Although this was an event remembering the deaths of transgender people, Smith included some positive information about what the LGBTQ commu- nity has accomplished recently.

Smith mentioned transgender officials being elected at the state and local level across the United States.

An expansion to Medicare that largely benefits transgender people in three states: Idaho, Nebraska, and Utah, states that are not normally known to be progressive.

Smith also pointed out that there is better representation of LGBT people in TV today. Smith has been a BC student since fall of 2016 and an active LGBT community member since 2015.

When describing her best and worst experiences as transgender, Smith told that one of her biggest difficulties was accepting herself and coming to terms with how she felt describing how many trans- gender people had felt that way at some point.

Smith commented that attending Bakersfield College was her best experience.

“Our once I started here, I actually felt like I was liv- ing the most open and honest way and it felt really great,” Smith said.

Smith described Bakersfield College as the best experience in her journey as a trans person.

“Everyone here always respected my name and my pronouns and has always made me feel accept- ed,” Smith continued.

Midway through the event speaker Melinda Summer discussed her life before and after transition, the difficulties she overcame, such as alcoholism and gender dysphoria.

“When I heard the term gender dysphoria, I was 50 years old [and] an alcoholic. A lightbulb went on in my head... so what’s that I’ve been fight- ing myself all this time,” Summer said.

“Gender dysphoria made complete sense to me, as I finally identified what I’ve been trying to either run from or understand about myself for as long as I could remember.”

Summer mentioned that she was writing a book about why people choose to become transgender, using herself as an example which will detail the ups and downs of her journey and what she has learned through her experiences.

Near the end of the event, Bakersfield College communication’s professor and SAGA advisor Hel- en Acosta gave the audience some advice on how to be an effective and safe ally to transgender people.

“You don’t have to understand what it is to be gender queer, or non-binary, or trans in order to be kind,” she said.

Acosta said to accept and support them as they are, and not to doubt their identity.

BC hopes to increase students involvement

By Cassidy Eisen

Student involvement in extracurriculars and student activities have been directly correlated to an increase in academic satisfaction and personal success, according to a study in the article “Does Involvement Really Matter? Indicators of College Student Success and Satisfaction.”

Published in the Journal of Student Engagement, author of the article Karen Webber reported “... higher levels of engagement in a variety of curricu- lar and co-curricular activities significantly contrib- ute to cumulative GPA and students’ perception of the overall academic experience.”

The Bakersfield College Student Government Association (BCSGA) has made continuous effort to increase student involvement throughout this semester. Past projects include movie days and Homecoming festivities like the Chalk Art Walk and Board Crazy Painting Night. The success of the activities made to improve student life is depen- dent on the participation of the students.

“We have many events driven to build a BC com- munity and some of the ways that BC students can help to build a better, bigger community is by simply being more aware of the campus itself,” BCSGA Director of Activities Beth Hilde said. “We post on social media, our BC website as well as in various places around our campus. Other things students can do is communicate with the BCSGA on things that they would like to see happening on campus. Or they get involved with the BCSGA to help build a better BC themselves.”

On campus, there are a variety of programs and activities designed specifically to benefit students, including the Renegade Pantry. The Pantry is a program designated to assist students by providing food, clothing, and hygiene products through gen- erous sponsorships and donations.

Please see INVOLVEMENT, Page 10
Cultures explored during International Education

By Katalina Quintanilla
Reporter

International Education Week kicked off on Nov. 13 with two days of celebration at Bakersfield College with the theme, “Passport to the World.”

Bakersfield College International Student Organization (ISO) represented a diversity of countries and cultures.

With the help of ISO, BC students had the privilege to learn about their own international students as well as international students all over the world.

“This program started in the year 2000 and it was an initiative by the US State Department of State and US Department of Education,” said Shohreh Rahman.

“Bakersfield College has been supporting [the initiative] and has been offering activities on The Week of International Education.”

As an International Student counselor, Rahman deals solely with international students and their education.

There are over 60 students from 24 different countries that attend Bakersfield College.

Although numbers of international students have declined throughout the U.S, Rahman and her staff do their best to keep students on track with no issues.

“This event is a celebration of culture,” Rahman said.

On Nov. 13, ISO threw a faculty and staff Mix and Mingle to meet their fellow international students to learn their stories and see how they adapt to a new environment.

Rahman and her student workers are a one-stop shop with international students.

“We assist them with whatever they need,” Rahman said.

Students contact Rahman when they are interested in coming to Bakersfield College. When they are approved, she sends them the F-1 Visa application and helps them with the process to travel to the U.S.

“We assist with as much as we can with obtaining roommates or an apartment. We have established with a few apartment complexes that we can send our students to,” Rahman said.

“We get them connected from overseas, so they can connect to find roommates.”

Once the students show up to BC, Rahman assesses them on their language and skills.

They also get a two-day orientation that provides them a campus tour, campus information, and the resources they offer for them.

The CSS Lawn was a one-stop shop for the students to learn about their fellow Renegades and their culture and traditions.

Representing India, two students were doing henna art on other students while sharing their traditional values with them.

Also, they were young men teaching others how to wrap turbans.

Rahman initiated two programs for the students to feel more involved and comfortable while attending Bakersfield College.

“One program is an advocacy group. I have talked to faculty and staff to establish the advocacy. We have three advocates: Khushnur Dadabhoy, Kalina Hill, and Elizabeth Rodacker,” said Rahman.

“We are happy to celebrate diversity. This is the beginning of globalizing our campus here at BC,” Rodacker said.
Project Series: A celebration of local writers at The Empty Space

By Cassidy Eisen
Reporter

For several seasons, The Project Series has showcased and celebrated the creative visions of local writers. In the most recent rendition of the series, The Empty Space hosted Project: Phobia, a compendium of one-acts each inspired by different phobias, from Nov. 16-18.

On one of the performance nights, a crowd of about 50 people witnessed Project: Phobia. The 45-minute performance consisted of five acts, each based around phobias ranging from comical, obscure fears to eerie and suspenseful ones.

Written by Michelle Guerrero and directed by Carlos Véra, the first act, “Philemophobia,” was a comedic performance focused around Janet (Angela Poncetta), a woman who suffered from the fear of her many phobias. Heights, beards, dogs, flowers, even men — you name it, Janet was afraid of it. To the audience such obscure fears were comical, but it drew light to the fact that even the most seemingly incomprehensible phobias can consume one’s life.

Project: Phobia was a project I had been thinking about for about a couple of years, I just thought it would be a fun show to produce,” producer Guerrero said. “Everyone has something they’re scared of or even just uncomfort-able with. The series is a great way to bring in really experimental theater and performance pieces that a lot of audiences aren’t going to see everywhere.”

The final act, “Paruresis” was written by Alyssa Morrow and directed by Michael Pavodski. For those unaware of the meaning, Paruresis is the phobia of urinating in the presence of others, often associated with public restrooms.

“I had taken a break for a year… This is my first performance to perform in, and it was really fun,” Kimberly Zuniga said. “A lot of the experiences I ever had, and I can’t wait to do it again,” Fernandez said.

In the upcoming season, Guerrero will be producing two additional Project Series Shows.

The first, Project: Writers Workshop, will be a writers workshop for a small group of writers to not only draft but also create one-acts to be performed next April. In August, there will be Project: Revue, welcoming back six favorite one acts from the past Project Series shows.

Dolls from the third act “Pediophobia,” written by Tyler Herzog, out for display after the show for the audience.

Bakersfield College students perform LGBT play “The Boys in the Band”

By Charl Davenport
Reporter

The Bakersfield College Performing Arts Department presented the controversial 1968 play “The Boys in the Band” from Nov. 14-17. More importantly, the cast and crew made an effort to help educate people about the LGBTQ+ community after each show.

“The Boys in the Band” is a play about Michael (played by Robert Montero-Blanks), a gay man who is throwing a birthday party for his friend Harold (played by Ruben Monarrez) when his straight friend Alan (played by Jake Chivington) accidentally crashes the party. Even though Alan is friends with Michael, he is very homophobic and takes issue with most of Michael’s friends, especially Emory (played by Matthew Solito), a feminine gay man who is very flamboyant.

Throughout the night, Michael becomes more and more hostile towards his friends, even being racist towards his friends Bernard (played by Michael Hendrix) and Harold. He eventually ends up getting everyone to play a game that involves calling someone they love in an attempt to tear apart couple Larry (played by Angel Estrada) and Hank (played by Ter- thy Kelsey Zumiga) and to try and prove that Alan is in the closet.

This ends up backfiring and the party ends. The guests leave and Michael is left sobbing into his friend Donald’s (played by Salvador Vidanes) arms.

The plays focus on important themes, such as sexuality and racism, but also has hidden themes like self-love. After the end of each play, BC’s Student Life Director Nicky Derman (playing the cast of the play) and Jenna Fernandez, one of the actresses from the first act, expressed her excitement over her involvement in the project.

“This project was so different from the other plays that I had been in, and it was really fun to be a part of. It was one of the best acting experiences I ever had, and I can’t wait to do it again,” Fernandez said.

In the upcoming season, Guerrero will be producing two additional Project Series Shows.

The first, Project: Writers Workshop, will be a writers workshop for a small group of writers to not only draft but also create one-acts to be performed next April. In August, there will be Project: Revue, welcoming back six favorite one acts from the past Project Series shows.
BC details the history of museums

By Saad Kazi
Reporter

There are approximately 830 million visits each year to American museums, more than the attendance for all major league sporting events and theme parks combined.

“What do you think?” Professor David Koeth asked when listeners gave puzzled reactions to this statement.

Different aspects of museums were shared by Bakersfield College faculty members Duane Anderson, Rae Ann Kumelos, Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg, David Koeth, and Susan Pinza in the last Art, Architecture, and Archetypes discussion on Nov. 14.

The panel members walked the audience through the history of museums, their importance to scholarly values, and their complex architectural builds.

Pinza drew on her personal experiences visiting museums to tell of what she thinks is their main purpose.

“When I go to a museum ... I try to make connections to previous experiences, to other people, to different worlds,” Pinza said.

“Whatsoever the year, whatsoever the millennium ... we’re all very similar. We have a lot of similar interests, a lot of human nature being the same, whether it was 2,000 years ago or now,” Koeth outlined the birth of museums; more specifically, their ties with the rich.

In the Renaissance 1500s, wealthy people would fill their large empty spaces of their houses with expensive art. Once in a while, by appointment, they would let others view their collection for entertainment or educating purposes. Eventually, these sorts of collections would be donated to public organizations, a concept that would soon start to spread.

“We care about art because we value cultural history as much as biological history,” Pinza said. “Its preservation is essential to knowledge and wisdom.”

Kumelos’ fascination was in Greek mythology. She told the audience the story of Mnemosyne, the Goddess of Memory, who mated with Zeus to birth to the nine Muses.

Kumelos, in her own visits to museums, has marveled at displays such as the Magra Carta, an original book cover painting for “The Lord of the Rings,” and a 1608 map of Virginia detailed by Captain John Smith.

Anderson let the audience see pictures of many different museums around the world, including the British Museum in London, Santiago Calatrava’s Milwaukee Art Museum, and Daniel Libeskind’s Denver Art Museum.

A professor of architecture, Anderson wanted to show how the beauty of a museum is displayed not only inside but also in its architectural build, raising an important question for museum-lovers.

“The art in the museum or the museum that’s housing the art; which is more significant?” Anderson asked.

“As an artist and architect, my answer to that question is ‘yes.’”

Final Gadfly Cafe confronts suicide

By Ja’Nell Gore
Reporter

The Gadfly Cafe held its last conversation of the semester on Nov. 14 in the Levon Center. This discussion focused on the topic of suicide. Reggie Williams opened up with some statistics about suicide.

“Around 800,000 people in the world commit suicide in a year,” Williams said.

People. Speakers encouraged participants at the event to look into getting in touch with the right people to help engage everyone in the conversation and find help from a medical professional to end their life.

This, however, is only legal in some parts of the United States.

Looking for signs of somebody contemplating suicide was also mentioned to be very important. They brought up how sometimes when people are planning suicide they will want to complete a list first and to say goodbye to some people.

To some people, this was an automatic yes because someone is dying, but others may see it differently. For example, two audience members offered different viewpoints. What if the person was suffering from an illness and figured they’d just rather end it instead of hurting all of the time?

Koeth outlined the birth of museums; more specifically, their ties with the rich.

“In the Renaissance 1500s, wealthy people would fill their large empty spaces of their houses with expensive art. Once in a while, by appointment, they would let others view their collection for entertainment or educating purposes. Eventually, these sorts of collections would be donated to public organizations, a concept that would soon start to spread.

“We care about art because we value cultural history as much as biological history,” Pinza said. “Its preservation is essential to knowledge and wisdom.”

Kumelos’ fascination was in Greek mythology. She told the audience the story of Mnemosyne, the Goddess of Memory, who mated with Zeus to birth to the nine Muses.

Kumelos, in her own visits to museums, has marveled at displays such as the Magra Carta, an original book cover painting for “The Lord of the Rings,” and a 1608 map of Virginia detailed by Captain John Smith.

Anderson let the audience see pictures of many different museums around the world, including the British Museum in London, Santiago Calatrava’s Milwaukee Art Museum, and Daniel Libeskind’s Denver Art Museum.

A professor of architecture, Anderson wanted to show how the beauty of a museum is displayed not only inside but also in its architectural build, raising an important question for museum-lovers.

“The art in the museum or the museum that’s housing the art; which is more significant?” Anderson asked.

“As an artist and architect, my answer to that question is ‘yes.’”

Transitioning into the next topic they went back and forth about assisted suicide. Assisted suicide is when a patient with a terminal illness is provided help from a medical professional to end their life. This, however, is only legal in some parts of the United States.

Looking for signs of somebody contemplating suicide was also mentioned to be very important. They brought up how sometimes when people are planning suicide they will want to complete a list first and to say goodbye to some people. Speakers encouraged participants at the event to look into getting information on how to see signs in the hope of saving someone’s life.

“From the discussion today I took that sometimes it’s good to look at things from a different perspective,” BC student Ivy Annarandall said.

“I think a lot of times when we develop opinions we just develop them off of what we know or things we learn growing up and I don’t think it’s always right to look at things one-sided. A lot of times developing a more advanced opinion on something takes looking at something from both sides even if that’s difficult to do.”
Bakersfield hosts annual Comic Con

By Taylor Jensen

The 11th annual Bakersfield Comic Con was hosted at the Kern County Fairgrounds to have pop culture lovers rejoice on Nov. 17 and 18.

It was a packed weekend at the Fairgrounds as people crowded vending areas to observe and purchase the merchandise they were selling such as comics, sports and wrestling memorabilia, Pokémon, anime and paintings. Not only were there vendors, but there were special guests such as actress Dee Wallace, artist Buzz, WCW/WWE legend Booker T and many more.

“My favorite movie was Cujo because I feel like I went as far as I could emotionally, and as truthfully, as I could acting,” Wallace said after being asked what her favorite movie was to act in. Besides the vendors and guests, people dressed up as their favorite actors, superheroes, and creatures.

One man dressed as John Coffey from The Green Mile. He was a tall, bald, and muscular built African-American and even carried a fake mouse to play out the character more. Many people recognized him throughout.

Buzz is a comic book artist who draws many things such as Batman, Jimi Hendrix, and the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, which were the examples set out on his table. He’s been an artist for the past 33 years and spoke passionately of his work.

“I just like drawing, it’s gotten to a point where there’s not a favorite thing [to draw] anymore. When you get to a certain age, you start to see your physical limitations and then you say “what if I can’t do this anymore.” I don’t want to look back and regret not doing certain things so that’s why I draw everything,” Buzz said.

One of the main guests was Booker T, real name Robert Huffman, and he was on the badges that people got as they walked through the doors of the Comic Con. He spoke of the Green Frog Market fiasco with Steve Austin and his experience in Bakersfield in the Q&A section of his panel.

“It feels so good to be back. You have made us feel at home like never before. We have a lot of roots and memories here. What I’m going to take away from this is that you have opened your arms for me,” Booker T said.

Anthony Bayne, a fan of Pokémon and Batman, attended the Comic Con.

“My favorite part of the Comic Con was the Hectic Films booth because I could see horror movie memorabilia,” Bayne said. “I would love to be at Comic Con again next year because the experience was amazing.”
The Renegade Rip  www.therip.com
Thursday, November 29, 2018

CSUB'S Dore Theater
hosts Gregory Boyle

By Snaad Kazi
Reporter

“My father played, and his father did... It’s one thing, then been in the family for a long time.”

Kameron Willman was already that much assuring to fall in love with baseball from the moment he first picked up the bat at the age of 6. But the Bakersfield College shortstop has his head filled with ups and downs... doing bad things.

Mendoza was the first to address the audience. He said he was part of a gang in 1999 and "living life fast... doing bad things.”

Despite the obstacles, Lopez faced, he said he has many reasons to live including his kids, his life, and his freedom. Lopez took advantage of the opportunities available to him while at Homeboy Industries, including acquiring his GED, removing gang-affiliated tattoos, and attending Alcoholics Anonymous and anger management courses.

After the speeches, audience members were encouraged to ask questions during a Q&A session. Lopez said it would have helped to know his gang involvement and the loss of his family. Boyle chimed in saying the "secret sauce was [a] community of tenderness."

Michael Burroughs, director of the KIE and a good friend of Lopez attended Homeboy Industries for three years, until he was sentenced to 12 years in prison. Lopez said it was difficult to know his mind at that time.

"It is hard to get out of that hole of darkness," he said.

"We weren't as tall... we didn't have the same power of the Ocarina of Time 3D," said Mendoza.

The evil man, composed as he has to travel between past and future to thwart the evil Ganondorf. The evil man has taken over the land of Hyrule after killing the king and causes the princess, Zelda, to run for her safety.

Link plays with the power of the Ocarina and his fairy sidekick, Navi.

The game was fun back in the day when it first came out, but now fans can have more fun with the remake.

The biggest difference are the graphics which are a huge improvement from the original. Link's hands in the N64 version were pretty blocky but in the 3DS version you can see his hands and fingers.

The game plays as it did back in the day, and Nintendo even kept in all the bugs from the original game for anyone one who played before to experience nostalgia.

As an added feature, after beating the game, the player can unlock a new game mode called “Master Quest,” a game mode that was previously only released in Japan. “Master Quest” is the same game as “Ocarina of Time” but harder. It changes the location of certain items in the game and the player is informed what was left is now right and vice versa.

In 2015, Nintendo released the sequel, “Majora’s Mask 3D” remake. Item locations and even heart pieces have changed, so players who played the original game may be confused. The new remake also changes the way to get all the bosses. Originally, each boss had their own weakness when beating them, now each boss has a different eye somewhere on their body after a few hits.

Both games are still great even after so many years since they first came out. Fans of “The Legend of Zelda” will be entertained for hours. 

Events of “Ocarina of Time” and follows Link as he is looking for an old friend.

On his search, Link gets ambushed by a skull kid who wears the titular Majora’s mask, a mask with dark and possessive powers, and his two favors Tail and Tael.

After a chase, Link is transformed into a small speck as a Deku Scrub and his Ocarina is stolen from him.

The skull kid and Tael take off without Tail and Tael is forced to help Link on his adventure.

Link then meets the Happy Mask Salesman, who tells Link he can turn him back to his true self if Link retrieves his ocarina and Majora’s mask in three days.

The game plays as “Ocarina of Time” did but also has a “Groundhog Day” effect.

Taking place in three days, Link will always travel back to the beginning of the first day and try to beat the skull kid threatening to drop moon on the town in three days unless Link can stop him.

“Majora’s Mask 3D” has more changes than the “Ocarina of Time 3D” remake. Item locations and even heart pieces have changed, so players who played the original game may be confused. The new remake also changes the ways to get all the bosses. Originally, each boss had their own weakness when beating them, now each boss has a different eye somewhere on their body after a few hits.

Both games are still great even after so many years since they first came out. Fans of “The Legend of Zelda” will be entertained for hours.

Page 8
Op-ED: Victoria’s Secret excludes both plus-size and transgender runway models

By Haley Duval
Reporter

Uh-oh. Victoria doesn’t have a secret anymore.

What has been her secret? Transphobia and fatphobia. Which if you ask me it doesn’t look so great on her. Honestly, it would never look great on anybody.

Victoria’s Secret (VS) is a brand well-known for its women’s lingerie, womenswear, and beauty products and of course, their annual fashion show.

This year’s VS Fashion Show and like every other year for the past twenty years consist only of completely skinny models (including Kendall Jenner and Gigi Hadid), push-up bras, a lot of feathers and wings, overly photoshopped photos, and lack of diversity towards plus size and transgender women.

The show was boring and the lingerie worn seemed too forced and fake for anyone to truly buy and wear.

VS’s chief marketing officer Ed Razek made headlines when said, “Why don’t you do this? Why don’t you do 24?”. Statement about the marketing sizing. “It’s like, why doesn’t your show do this? Shouldn’t you have transsexuals in the show? No. No, I don’t think we should. Why, why not? Because the show is a fantasy. It’s a 42-minute entertainment special. That’s what it is.” Razek shared for a Vogue interview when talked about not having plus-size and transgender women models on the runway.

“We market who we sell to.”

But whom do VS sell too? Women. They sell to women. To fat women, short women, trans women, brown women, and women overall. Not just tall, skinny and mostly white women.

The brand has limited a group of women and models to represent them. As a result of being non-inclusive, it can put an image in the brains of women and men of what women should look like.

Which what Razek was implying about the show is a “fantasy” for the male gaze. It’s not 1999, so stop advertising women like it still is.

Although VS still holds the leading sale for U.S. lingerie market, its share of the market has gone down rapidly in the last year. Sales have dropped 41% since 2017 and it’s the first time VS saw a decrease in sales since 2010. VS brand claims they identity sexism, but you don’t have to have a flat stomach to be sexy.

Women do not have to support brands that are not willing to include them.

Let’s support lingerie brands who support female empowerment over male entertainment, like Savage X Fenty, ThirdLove, Torrid, and Universal Standard.

Op-ED: Collecting sneakers is now more than just a fashionable trend

By Cameron Johnson
Reporter

A display of different shoes at SneakerCon.

Sneaker culture has evolved into a phenomenon that now reaches far beyond the typical sneakerheads and Jordan collectors. More and more people across the nation are becoming interested in the world of sneakers, and it isn’t just in big cities. Conventions like SneakerCon and ComplexCon exist to showcase the best releases brands have to offer, but also to expose rare and exclusive sneakers to those who would otherwise have no shot at copping the shoe. Big cities such as New York, Philadelphia, and Los Angeles have specialty sneaker boutiques that regularly release sought after sneakers, but small towns are easily left out of the equation.

It used to be customary that sneakerheads hang out at these boutiques, create friendships with the employees, and gain access to the best releases. I agree that being in love with sneakers comes with discussing them with other people who are also educated, but the old system just isn’t plausible anymore. Far more people who are interested in sneakers don’t have shops like UBIQ or Sneakerstuff around the corner to build these relationships. So naturally, people have turned to the internet.

It began with message-boards and sneaker blogs, but now Instagram and Twitter are the hotbeds for anything and everything going on in the sneaker world. Media outlets like Complex and Hypebeast have capitalized on the shift to the internet by not only covering what shoes are releasing, but have also extended the sneaker culture into the mainstream. One aspect of sneaker culture that people are torn about though is the reselling market.

Reselling gets a bad reputation from sneaker traditionalists and their main argument is that reselling is a way to exploit the sneaker and use it for profit.

It used to be customary that sneakerheads hang out at these boutiques, create friendships with the employees, and gain access to the best releases. I agree that being in love with sneakers comes with discussing them with other people who are also educated, but the old system just isn’t plausible anymore. Far more people who are interested in sneakers don’t have shops like UBIQ or Sneakerstuff around the corner to build these relationships. So naturally, people have turned to the internet.

It began with message-boards and sneaker blogs, but now Instagram and Twitter are the hotbeds for anything and everything going on in the sneaker world. Media outlets like Complex and Hypebeast have capitalized on the shift to the internet by not only covering what shoes are releasing, but have also extended the sneaker culture into the mainstream. One aspect of sneaker culture that people are torn about though is the reselling market.

Companies like GOAT and StockX are now making sneakers available to anyone, anywhere, wheth-
According to Webber’s article, “...many school- 
athletes report that when students actively participate in curricular and co-curricular events, they make 
friends, become oriented to campus quickly, get to 
know faculty members, and make important gains in 
critical thinking.”

First-year student Amanda Grant commented on her involvement. “In high school, I always enjoyed things like pep 
talks and football games because it was fun to in-
teract with and meet new people. I think it’s good 
that many schools are starting to get people involved 
because it creates a way for students to feel more 
connected to the school and create a more positive 
climate,” Grant said.

Continued from Page 3

Involvement: Ties Student Success

Drillers dominate wrestling

By Franco Castello

Reporter

BHS has always done well and achieved ac-
nognition in Wrestling. BHS has won many state 
championships and has qualified in division 
one and state finals for half a century. 
BHS is one of the 
only schools in the country that is known for its success in the 
wrestling community.

Andy Varner, BHS wrestling coach, loves his passion and career as a coach. Varner said 
he loves the experience and the humility that comes with the sport and being part of a team.

Varner wrestled in Bakersfield High School and then went to California State Ba-
kersfield and wrestled there as well.

After college, Varner took over his old coach’s job at Bakersfield High School, which helped him 
with his dad and family life as a wrestler.

“The best thing about coaching wrestling is the relationships,” Varner 
said.

Varner explained that wrestling makes such a positive impact on kids’ lives and that’s a humbling sport.

“These high school students join the wrest-
ling team and become more than just a team. Varner said that they 
become a family and that the bond becomes stronger with the rela-
tionships the students have, the hard work the students in practice and communication they 
have,” Varner said.

“Most of them hang out every day and even go to church to 
grow together,” Varner said. They have their own 
community group. Kids are able to fight through adversity and strive and succeed in this great sport. It’s 
amazing to see how some kids come from little to nothing and are able to thrive,” Varner said.

Varner believes BHS’s diverse student body that creates a posi-
tive environment.

“Bakersfield High School has something that many schools do not have. 
Tradition. Bakersfield High School has built in a 
tradition which makes our athletes thrive and accomplish in sports,” Varner said.

Bakersfield High School has had 16 NCAA division 
one national All Amer-
ican and have placed 
top eight in the country. 
Olympian gold med-
alist, Jake Varner, won 
in 96 kg category at the 2012 Summer Olympics.

Varner is a four-time 
NCAA Division One fi-
nalist, two-time NCAA 
Division One champi-
on and two-time Cal-
hifornia State Wrestling champion for BHS.

Jake Varner is one of 
many Drillers that en-
courage many athletes 
be part of the sport that the drills the Distinguished Speaker Series 
will extend, welcoming accomplished authors and 
speakers to discuss various topics on campus.

One added benefit will be a free book from the 
speaker with the use of one’s Kern Value Card (KVC) Discount Sticker.

“We also have a fun welcome week planned for the beginning of Spring Semester 2019. We have 
the Great Renegade Roll Out [in January], concerts, a free donut on your first day back, Plus, other 
fun events to look out for during that week. They should also be on the lookout for our Renegade 
Cinema where we show movies of interest and fun,” Hilde said.

STDs? No problem.

Sexual Wellness: Sex and your health

By Bryana Lozano

Reporters

For those looking for services that’ll help 
maintain a healthy sex 
life, people can look to the 
education al YouTube channels, clinics, the public health 
department, and the websites 
dedicated to sexual health and sexuality.

“BC students can go to the school’s health center for STD testing, 
three-day courses, testing and birth control.”

The Bakersfield Col-
lege health center does not perform blood tests for STDs on campus but will send results done at the Physicians Automated Laboratory (PAL) to receive results, 
the student must make an 
appointment at the health center and then 
be prescribed by the nurse practitioner will 
go over the results with them.

If tested positive for 
any STD, the next step of treatment plans are 
discussed between the student and the nurse practitioner. 
As for testing for 
pregnancy, the health center does a urine test and results are gone 
over confidentially.

The only type of 
birth control that the health center offers is 
the pill and only be prescribed by the 
practitioner. The Kern County Public Health Department (KCPHD) is another resource 
that can be used.

Appointments are made 
over the phone and 
their clinic provides 
STD testing and treatment, providing their patients with more 
comfortable and private 
for those who are uninsured 
or are income eligible can 
sign up for Family 
Part.

Requirements for 
Family Part besides in-
come eligibility is being a resident of California and 
someone of child-bearing age.

The Director of Dis-
trict at KCPHD Denise Smith recommends people to read the Know Your Risk Campaign. The 
campaign was put to-
gether in 2016 by the KCPHD to bring awareness 
for its success in the high STD rates. 
On the KCPHD’s website, the STD 
has links of information for parents and various information to help those finding 
out more about preventative care. 
YouTube channels such as Sexplorations and 
Watts the Safe Word provide insight and edu-
cation about sex, 

Lindsey Doe is the 
head of Sexplorations, a channel dedicated to sharing knowledge and encouraging curiosity about sex and sexuality.

Her videos are typical of many 
channels and many provide visual-
als and demonstrations. 
On the Sexplorations YouTube channel, 
the founder and 
sexologist and 
holds a Ph. 

D in human sexuality 
from the Institute for 
Advanced Study of Hu-
man Sexuality. 
Watts the Safeword is a channel geared to-
ward the LGBT commu-
nity and those who live alternative lifestyles, such as kink or BDSM.

They post sexual edu-
cation videos that cover 
tabloo topics, LGBT is-

buses, bondage ties, and more.

The Sex Ed podcast is a relatively new web-
cast available on Apple Podcast and on their 
website.

Their shows range from talking about pre-
mature ejaculation and birth control tips on 
cumming and fellatio. 
They have their own 
website that posts articles on various topics and has reputable contributors such as Sunny Rogers, 
a clinical sexologist, sex education, and sex toy 
signer.

ATHLETE: Why one BC student 
sends his days dedicated to baseball

By Amanda Grant

Continued from Page 8

baseball.

“His last good year, he deserved that for sure,” Willman said of his brother.

This upcoming season will be the first in which Willman and Kyle will play for different teams. Will-
man misses his brother, but will see him on television this season.

“Willman is the best kid in the world and he is ready to start getting people involved because it creates a way for students to feel more connected to the school and create a more positive atmosphere,” Grant said.
**Women’s volleyball suffers one loss**

By Cameron Johnson

The 2018 Renegades Women’s Volleyball team is wrapping up a storied season, as they finished the season ranked number 2 in the state of California. With a record of 23-1, they racked up 18 sweeps on the season and properly asserted themselves amongst the best teams in the state. The only loss of the season came against Long Beach in a very close game that ended 3-2, but the Renegades turned up the intensity and haven’t looked back since.

The road to the top of the state rankings has not been easy as well, winning against state-ranked teams such as Golden West, Moorpark, El Camino, and Cypress colleges to name a few.

Head coach Carl Ferreira enjoys the challenge of not only preparing his players to be as well equipped for every game as possible, but preparing them heavily on the preparation and stress a game-day mentality. “It boils down to being great 24 times throughout the season and we’ve executed that approach,” Ferreira also mentioned that teams can not be instantly great - it takes different forms of training.

“Athletes and teams can’t just default to greatness or a champion- ship level,” Ferreira said.

“We’ve made it a point to train our team to be mentally ready for anything that could happen throughout a game.”

Previous years’ teams have proved to be successful but this 2018 team is motivated to set themselves apart from the others.

“We’ve always had talented athletes and this team is no different. I think what sets this group apart and ability to know what each other is thinking,” Ferreira varned.

Although Ferreira’s title is head volleyball coach at the Western State Conference, he is receiving these awards our whole team has to be playing well, even though the awards are outstanding it took a whole team effort. The girls have worked very hard and I’m glad they’re getting the recognition they de- serve,” Ferreira said.

The most important part of this season is now come, and Fer- reira said the team has been locked in during practice leading up to the postseason.

“We’ve really focused on being in sync collec- tively as a group, and we should be able to align mentally on the court,” Ferreira said.

Being ranked num- ber 1 in the state doesn’t come without recogni- tion and the Renegades have plenty of awards to show for it.

Sophomore Sar- ah OPTA were named first-team AVCAC All American while freshmen Lanie Camarillo and Penelo-
pe Zepeda were named Second-team AVCAC as well.

Coach Ferreira is proud of his players but gives credit to the whole team for the accomplishments of those recognized.

“Today is the result of the preparation and the hard work that everybody has put,” Ferreira explained.

Looking back ten years ago I would’ve thought that I’d be in love with wrest- ling as much as I am now, but I truly don’t know that it exists. Most of my family weren’t fans of wrestling and when my sister suddenly handed me this DVD came her way. I took it from her hand and looked at it for what seemed like forever because it was simply amazing. It was the WWE Smackdown vs. Raw 2006 video game and it had John Cena, The Undertaker, and Bobby Lashley on the cover.

I soon realized that the ring was not just a ring. Some kids dreamt to become some- body like those guys be- fore because they looked majestic and intimi- dating.

I had no idea that they were at the time or the WWE. It had intrigu- ed me so much that as soon as I got home that night I popped it into the Xbox 360 and attempted to play. My sister had helped me introduced me to some of the wrestlers and my life was never the same after that night. Then later in 2009, I went to my first WWE show at the Rabobank Arena and the memory is still so fresh.

As I walked down the steps and to my seat, I couldn’t hold in my emotions when I saw what the ring and the people were like. I always thought of the Dream that I’ve held over the years will not be overcome. Now we have the recognition they de- serve and I never expected that the bond between the students and the students has been locked in during practice leading up to the postseason.

“We’ve really focused on being in sync collec- tively as a group, and we should be able to align mentally on the court,” Ferreira said.

Being ranked num- ber 1 in the state doesn’t come without recogni- tion and the Renegades have plenty of awards to show for it.

Sophomore Sar- ah OPTA were named first-team AVCAC All American while freshmen Lanie Camarillo and Penelo-
pe Zepeda were named Second-team AVCAC as well.

Coach Ferreira is proud of his players but gives credit to the whole team for the accomplishments of those recognized.

“Today is the result of the preparation and the hard work that everybody has put,” Ferreira explained.

Looking back ten years ago I would’ve thought that I’d be in love with wrest- ling as much as I am now, but I truly don’t know that it exists. Most of my family weren’t fans of wrestling and when my sister suddenly handed me this DVD came her way. I took it from her hand and looked at it for what seemed like forever because it was simply amazing. It was the WWE Smackdown vs. Raw 2006 video game and it had John Cena, The Undertaker, and Bobby Lashley on the cover.

I soon realized that the ring was not just a ring. Some kids dreamt to become some- body like those guys be- fore because they looked majestic and intimi- dating.

I had no idea that they were at the time or the WWE. It had intrigu- ed me so much that as soon as I got home that night I popped it into the Xbox 360 and attempted to play. My sister had helped me introduced me to some of the wrestlers and my life was never the same after that night. Then later in 2009, I went to my first WWE show at the Rabobank Arena and the memory is still so fresh.

As I walked down the steps and to my seat, I couldn’t hold in my emotions when I saw what the ring and the people were like. I always thought of the Dream that I’ve held over the years will not be overcome. Now we have the recognition they de- serve and I never expected that the bond between the students and the students has been locked in during practice leading up to the postseason.

“We’ve really focused on being in sync collec- tively as a group, and we should be able to align mentally on the court,” Ferreira said.

Being ranked num- ber 1 in the state doesn’t come without recogni- tion and the Renegades have plenty of awards to show for it.

Sophomore Sar- ah OPTA were named first-team AVCAC All American while freshmen Lanie Camarillo and Penelo-
pe Zepeda were named Second-team AVCAC as well.

Coach Ferreira is proud of his players but gives credit to the whole team for the accomplishments of those recognized.

“Today is the result of the preparation and the hard work that everybody has put,” Ferreira explained.

Looking back ten years ago I would’ve thought that I’d be in love with wrest- ling as much as I am now, but I truly don’t know that it exists. Most of my family weren’t fans of wrestling and when my sister suddenly handed me this DVD came her way. I took it from her hand and looked at it for what seemed like forever because it was simply amazing. It was the WWE Smackdown vs. Raw 2006 video game and it had John Cena, The Undertaker, and Bobby Lashley on the cover.

I soon realized that the ring was not just a ring. Some kids dreamt to become some- body like those guys be- fore because they looked majestic and intimi- dating.

I had no idea that they were at the time or the WWE. It had intrigu- ed me so much that as soon as I got home that night I popped it into the Xbox 360 and attempted to play. My sister had helped me introduced me to some of the wrestlers and my life was never the same after that night. Then later in 2009, I went to my first WWE show at the Rabobank Arena and the memory is still so fresh.

As I walked down the steps and to my seat, I couldn’t hold in my emotions when I saw what the ring and the people were like. I always thought of the Dream that I’ve held over the years will not be overcome. Now we have the recognition they de- serve and I never expected that the bond between the students and the students has been locked in during practice leading up to the postseason.

“We’ve really focused on being in sync collec- tively as a group, and we should be able to align mentally on the court,” Ferreira said.

Being ranked num- ber 1 in the state doesn’t come without recogni- tion and the Renegades have plenty of awards to show for it.

Sophomore Sar- ah OPTA were named first-team AVCAC All American while freshmen Lanie Camarillo and Penelo-
GETWorks for me because it keeps me real. I could drive my car, but I’d rather interact with my community. GET helps me connect to my audience.

~ Ernesto Gomez
Comedian, Actor & GET rider

www.GETbus.org  869.2GET (2438)