Join Bakersfield College in Welcoming Olympic Medalist Jim Ryun

(World record set for the outdoor mile, with a time of 3:51.1 at Bakersfield College’s Memorial Stadium at the 1967 Track and Field Championships)

Meet and Greet at the Sheraton Ballroom

Thursday, May 17, 2018 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Join Bakersfield College in welcoming Jim Ryun, Olympic Medalist and former member of the U.S. House of Representatives, back to Bakersfield. Bakersfield College will be hosting a Meet and Greet on Thursday, May 17, 2018 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel Ballroom (5101 California Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93309). Cost will be $20.00 at the door, and photo opportunities will be available. This event is in conjunction with the California Community College Track and Field Championship (May 18 & 19), which will be hosted at Bakersfield College’s Memorial Stadium, the very place Ryun set his world record in 1967.

About Jim Ryun

Jim Ryun was born in Wichita, Kansas. As a high school junior in 1964 he became the first high school athlete to run a mile in under four minutes. In 1965, his time of 3:55.3 was a high school record that stood for 36 years. Just a few years later in 1967, he set a world record for the outdoor mile, with a time of 3:51.1 at Bakersfield College’s Memorial Stadium at the Track and Field Championship. A year later he would go on to win a silver medal in the 1,500 meters in Mexico City. His return to Bakersfield College for the 2018 Track and Field Championship celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the world record he set at Memorial Stadium.

Accompanying Jim on his trip to Bakersfield is his wife, Anne. Jim says, “My wife and I look forward to our time in Bakersfield to celebrate an event from 50 years ago that left an indelible mark on our lives.”

Meet and Greet

Prior to the Track and Field Championship, Ryun will be holding a meet and greet for fans and the community at the Sheraton Hotel in Bakersfield. During the event, he will be discussing and signing his book, The Courage to Run. Cost will be $20.00 at the door, and photo opportunities will be available.

Bakersfield College offers a rigorous and supportive learning environment that fosters students’ abilities to think critically, communicate effectively, and demonstrate competencies and skills to engage productively in their communities and the world, while simultaneously contributing to the intellectual, cultural, and economic vitality of the communities it serves.

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