



## BC Archives Association Director's Report

The archival community of the United States is almost always under-funded, under-staffed, and underestimated as to the benefit of archives to a society. We in the United States, with our relatively brief history and our passion for creating paper and photographic records, have tended to discount the value of archives. Fortunately, several organizations, such as the Society of American Archivists and the Society of California Archivists, exist to instruct us on how we might best document our vital history.

We created the Bakersfield College Archives as an operation that would adhere to the high standards of the archival community. We also believe that Bakersfield College has stood at the front lines of the community college movement. In our 90 years

of operation, this college has been an intellectual and cultural gem for this community, just as other community colleges have helped elevate the lives of millions of Americans over the past century. We are proud that we are being recognized nationally for creating an archive when few community colleges have an archival program, and it is because of your support that this project continues in these difficult budgetary times.

Thank you,

Dr. Randal Beeman

Professor of History/Archives Director

## Renegades Baseball Continues a Winning Tradition

By Chris Clowers

The Bakersfield College Renegades baseball team has had a long tradition of producing talented, young players who have moved on to four-year schools and or have played in professional baseball. Since 1956, there have been six BC baseball coaches, Garrett Arbelbide (1956-57), Gerry Collis (1958-1967), Walt Johnson (1968-1977), Pete Lango (1978-1985, 1987), John Moncier (1986, 1988-1995), and current baseball coach Tim Painton, who has been on board since 1996. All of the coaches have been a major part of building and maintaining a great tradition of BC baseball.

The BC baseball program has seen close to 200 former Renegade players move on to play professional baseball since 1956. Also, since 1993, 76 former Renegade players have moved on to four-year schools.

According to Painton, coaching at the community college level has various challenges such as fundraising and working with a roster that has numerous overtuers due to the community college being a two-year program. The community college programs have the players practicing in the fall, which allows the coaches and the players to develop continuity with each other before the baseball season starts. As far as fundraising goes, Painton has enjoyed great support from former football and baseball coach Gerry Collis, former Renegade player and major leaguer George Culver and many other people in the community.

George Culver pitched for the BC Renegades from 1962 to 1963 and he also played in the major leagues from 1966

to 1974. Not only has Culver contributed the Renegade baseball program as a player, but he also has been a major supporter of the Renegades over the past several years as one of the community's icons. Coach Painton gives credit to Culver for starting up the Hot Stove Dinner 13 years ago as way to help upgrade the BC baseball field with

lights, score boards, and club house improvements, which were implemented over 10-year period. Furthermore, Culver has given his support to other community projects and has helped local high schools with their baseball programs too.

In recent years, the baseball team has continued with the tradition of developing great young players in Kern County. In

1997, outfielder Kyle Ursery had a BC single season hitting record of 90 hits and had a batting average of .441 in 204 at bats that year. Also, current major league pitchers Phil Dumatrait and Colby Lewis posted over 100 strikeouts in a season while playing for the Renegades. Left-handed pitcher Dumatrait was a first-round draft pick of the Boston Red Sox organization and was traded this past season to the Cincinnati Reds organization, in which he made the 40-man roster for the Reds, right-handed pitcher Colby Lewis won ten games this season with Texas Rangers and 2001 second round draft pick left-handed pitcher Jake Woods was just called up by Anaheim Angels in November. Also, former Renegade players Sean Barker, Octavio Martinez, Anthony Acevedo, Jeremy Wedel and Craig Green are currently playing professional baseball.



The Renegade baseball squad of 1951 was made up of Don Mydland, Boyd Hartle, Charles Rose, Larry Vallenbois, Don Cauble, Don Lohr, Manager Lloyd Williams, and Coach Earl Sargent (back row), and (in front) Jack Towery, Leo Hagiwara, Ronald Reese, R. C. Kaylor, Eny Wilcox, John Stokenbury, Max Watts, and Ron Kavern.

## News Briefs

### Open House-Fundraiser

We have yet to have an "official opening" for the archives, and we are planning to have an event in late February. We hope to have some wine and cheese and other refreshments, followed by speeches, a silent auction, a tour and video guide of the archives operation. It will be your chance to help us identify old photos and perhaps find yourself in an old yearbook.

### Volunteer Opportunities

We have had some interest in helping out in the archives. Perhaps you might help us gather "testimonials" from old-timers, help scour the campus and community for old records, do research, or help with audio-tape transcriptions. Please call Dr. Beeman at 395-4028, or drop by the archives during our operating hours, 1-5 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Please note the archives will be closed during winter break from December 6th through January 26th.

### Web Site

Please visit our web site at [www2.bakersfieldcollege.edu/bcarchive](http://www2.bakersfieldcollege.edu/bcarchive) for additions to the web site, as delivered by our Webmaster Douglas Dallam.

### Oral History Project

Volunteer coordinator Jerry Ludeke has continued to work on oral histories relating to BC. Here is a quote from the oral history of former BC President, Professor, and founder of the Bakersfield College Foundation Dr. John J. Collins in his discussion of the student protest era in the 1970s:

"One time in the midst of it all we also had a student radio station on campus . . . there was some issue over there one day . . . and I sent Jack [Hernandez] over. Well, they took Jack hostage and he was over there for six to seven hours and they wouldn't let him out. He didn't lose his cool, and he didn't say intemperate things to them that would cause the situation to be even worse. So finally, he got it settled. We were fortunate to have him there during that difficult time."

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## The People Behind the Names

“If there is a heaven, Adele Schafer is there,” according to one of her close friends, who was blessed to be influenced by this fascinating woman. A Canadian whose family came to California. Adelaide (Adele) Schafer came to BC in 1938. During the war she was one of a group of mostly young female pilots who ferried planes across the U. S. for the military. (It has been said that she learned to fly long before a BC student taught her to drive and she got a driver’s license!) During her early tenure at BC, study of the German language was still a requirement for science majors, and she enjoyed high-caliber students in that discipline. She was welcoming and gracious to international students, and would frequently give financial assistance to students out of her own pocket, along with heavy doses of inspiration. One former friend said simply, “She was BC.” After her retirement,

she continued to live in her above-the-garage apartment on “A” Street (close to the old BC on the BHS campus) that she had rented for the same \$40 a month for decades. In retirement, she continued to tutor students until her age and illness took her to a rest home on the coast where she passed away in 1998. (Schafer Hall is named in her honor.)

Theron McCuen was an Engineer from Stanford who taught Engineering at BHS and BC beginning in 1928. He became superintendent of both the college and high school districts in 1945 where he remained until the high school and college broke in to separate districts in 1968.

McCuen continued on with the high school district after 1968.

“Mac” McCuen was instrumental in building the new campus “on the hill” that opened in 1956. He successfully lobbied the community to fund the college. Today the administration building, where most students first enter our college, is appropriately named in his honor.

## Classic Horror at Bakersfield College

By Phillip Kopp, Student Archivist

He was known as the “King of Terror.” With an aristocratic voice and a power of presence, Vincent Price has become a legend in the world of film bringing a darkness to the big screen that made him a monarch amongst the great actors of his time. Knowing him as the scientist in Edward Scissorhands and the narrator in Michael Jackson’s Thriller, I was familiar with Vincent Price but did not know of his true talent until I saw such films as The Raven, The Ten Commandments and The Abominable Dr. Phibes. This stylish actor, who seemed more Shakespearean than gothic, proved to be a master of suspense that would even haunt Wes Craven in his dreams.

Through his 125 films and such television shows as Batman and The Carol Burnett Show, Vincent Price became a household name, and in 1963 he visited BC as part of Bakersfield College’s “BC Presents,” a gathering of various talent from around the nation. On his visit, Price read a speech entitled Three American Voices, a speech he delivered on college campuses all over the United States. In this speech, he paid homage to a poet, a painter and a playwright.

## “Hair, Hair, Long Beautiful Hair . . . “

by Angelina Saldana, Student Archivist

In the spring of 1993, Randall Messick’s theater class decided that, in honor of the 25th anniversary of the Broadway production Hair, they would perform the musical hit for their spring production.

Hair was first performed on Broadway April 29, 1968 and ran until July 1, 1972. The play is set in the sixties and focuses on a group of hippies in Greenwich Village, NYC. Throughout its run, Hair was the subject of constant criticism because of a four-second nude scene. People involved with the play stressed that the context of the nude scene was not obscene but about freedom. They further stressed that without the nude scene, the point they were trying to make in that scene would not be as profound.

The nudity was optional for the cast of 18 at BC. The orchestra opted to not perform and a five-member rock and roll band replaced them. At least two weeks before production, the controversial nude scene was leaked to the public and caused uproar with local citizens. School officials determined that it came down to the First Amendment rights issue and allowed the play to proceed. Police were needed to separate the protesters from the attendees. Hair was the most attended play in BC’s history and sold out every night. In a recent interview regarding the 1993 production, Randall Messick commented that the play was “a rebellion against established convention.”



Angelina Saldana,  
BC Student Archivist

From the words of Walt Whitman he read such prose as Salute Au Monde! and I Hear America Singing. Illustrating the rise of the nation’s creativity through the words of one of the greatest American poets. Price ended his speech by recognizing a playwright known throughout the world from stage to motion picture, Tennessee Williams. He chose to first read the essay On a Streetcar Named Success that Williams wrote just before the opening of A Street Car Named Desire. In that essay Williams describes his struggle for success and the hatred he developed for it later.

It is difficult to describe the overwhelming power contained in this speech. I am proud to say that this speech will be available in the BC Archives for viewing so that others may also see and feel a glimpse of what took place here on this very campus over 40 years ago!

## H2O No More

By Whitney Marsh, Student Archivist

In 1980, going to a Bakersfield College swim meet was an exciting event. The smell of the highly chlorinated pool, the energy from the swimmers and the liveliness of the crowd was in the air. Sadly, the swim team hasn’t been in action since 1983.

Both the women’s and men’s swim teams did fairly well in the last years of the program. In the 1980 swim season, the women’s team won the metro title by beating Pierce 68 to 63. Jill Foshee earned a triple victory in the 200 Individual Medley, 1000 Freestyle, and the 1000 IM. Dar Fugitt won the 50 and 200 Freestyle, and 5000 Freestyle, providing the winning margin for the team. The last record set on the women’s team was in 1980 by Jill Foshee in the 50-yard Freestyle with a time of 25.03, and in the 50-yard Butterfly coming in at 28.70.

Both of my parents, Scott Marsh and Kathy Morrison-Haddock, as well as close family friend Wayne Aldean, were on the swim team in the late 1970’s and during the last years of the team in the 1980s. They all had a great time on the team, and they recall enjoying the spaghetti dinners and shaving parties, among other activities they partook in back then. My parents and Wayne each mentioned that they would love to attend a swim meet at the college again someday.

Maybe someday we can have a swim team again, and bring back the fun times that were once experienced by the college swimmers and the fans who rooted them on.



Phillip Kopp  
BC Student Archivist



Whitney Marsh,  
BC Student Archivist