



# BCC Connections

Barstow Community College District

## Ride For World Health Cyclists Roll Into Barstow Community College

A team of 14 cyclists and three medical/ bike repair specialists, ranging from graduate students headed for medical school to current medical students, cruised into Barstow April 4 around 1:30 p.m. for the first leg of their journey across the



Mary Swyer (left) and Mason Shamis (center) address the current state of health in the United States and takes audience questions during the Ride for World Health presentation in room S1.

country in the name of world health. The “Ride for World Health” organization was founded in 2004 at Ohio State University’s School of Medicine by students wanting to draw attention to health issues around the globe. They accomplish this by raising funds during

their travels and making presentations at colleges and universities along the way, covering an average of 100+ miles-per-day on bike. Each rest stop provides the necessary respite to cover their 3,700-mile journey into Wash., D.C., which the group plans to finish on May 21. Barstow Community College was one of their stops.

Approximately 30 BCC students, faculty and staff listened intently as Ride for World Health students engaged in a Power-



Masters of Public Health and future medical student Mark Pedri discusses the AIDS pandemic with students at Barstow Community College April 4.

Point discussion of startling health statistics that included infant mortality rates by ethnicity/race, access to health care, poverty rates, HIV and other infectious diseases, and preventative health care and nutrition. “These medical students were very

personable and showed us how one small group of people can make a difference on a national and global level,” states Paul de Dios, Dean of Student Affairs at BCC. “We’re honored to host them and are hopeful that they will select BCC as one of their stops on their journey across the country next year.” Audience members were encouraged to participate by signing a statement postcard addressed to their state Senator and locally by volunteering their time or talent within their community. Postcards collected at each stop will be hand-delivered to the Senate offices in Washington and others will be presented to President Bush. To follow the progress of the students as they trek across the country, go to [www.rideforworldhealth.org](http://www.rideforworldhealth.org).

Monies raised during the Ride for World Health 2007 event will support **G.H.A.P.** (Global Health Access Program), a Los Angeles-based organization that primarily focuses on providing services to ethnic



Ride for World Health medical students, repair/medical team specialist pose in the quad at Barstow Community College April 5 prior to their next stop in Kelso where they will camp out.

minorities in Burma and along the Thai-Burma border, and the **Pendulum Project**, a Boston-based organization that funds programs to provide care to HIV infected children in sub-Saharan African including programs in Uganda, Malawi, Ghana, and South Africa.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**APRIL 18** BARSTOW COLLEGE CONCERT BAND SPRING CONCERT INTERIM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER 7 P.M. ADMISSION IS FREE

**APRIL 19** CALIFORNIA POET LAUREATE AL YOUNG POETRY READING/BOOK SIGNING INTERIM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER 12 P.M. ADMISSION IS FREE

**APRIL 21** XBOX GAMING TOURNAMENT 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M. ENTRY FEE IS \$5. CALL 252-2411, EXT. 7210 FOR INFO

**APRIL 23** BARSTOW COLLEGE JAZZ AMBASSADORS CONCERT INTERIM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER 7 P.M. ADMISSION IS FREE

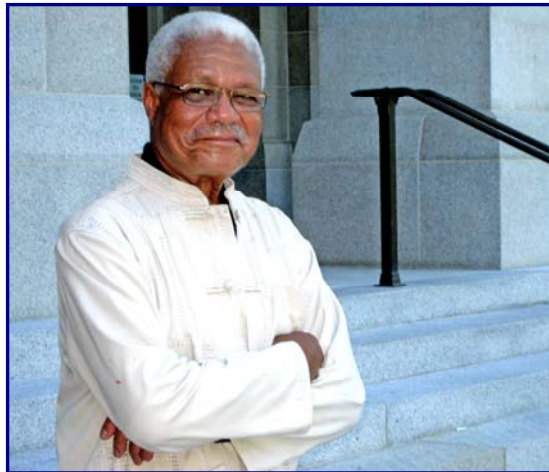
**APRIL 25 & 26** AMERICAN CROWN CIRCUS EAST ENTRY TO CAMPUS. 2 CHILDREN UNDER 12 **FREE** WITH PAID ADULT ADMISSION \$10 AT THE GATE. 6 & 8 P.M. CALL (702) 592-7812 FOR INFO

**APRIL 27** AN EVENING OF SCENE AND SONG INTERIM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER 7 P.M. \$3 ADMISSION, \$2 STUDENTS/SENIORS.

## Viking Briefs

- ◆ In honor of Women's History Month in March, the *Desert Dispatch* featured five inspiring women. **Barbara Rose** from the Instruction Office was one of the five featured as was **Sandy Baca**, BCC Foundation Treasurer. Kudos goes to **Lesia Louro** of the EOPS division of Student Affairs who was nominated from a list of several women in the community.
- ◆ At the March 8 **Board of Trustees** meeting, the BOT approved the recommendations by Academic Senate and the college president of tenure appointment of the following employees: **Bret Sage**, Biology instructor; **Randy Christensen**, Counselor; and **Rich Johnston**, Counselor.
- ◆ On March 1, the **Barstow Community College Trustees and administrative officials** attended the joint board meeting with BUSD and SVUSD to collaborate on educational processes that impact the students of Barstow.
- ◆ ASB President **Daniel Griego** was sworn in as the new Student Body Trustee at the March 8 BOT meeting .

## California Poet Laureate to Visit BCC, Barstow Branch Library



In honor of National Library and Poetry Month, California Poet Laureate Al Young will be on a tour of California and will be in Barstow on April 19 for a poetry reading and creative writing discussion. The poetry reading will take place at BCC's Interim Performing Arts Center at 12 p.m. and the creative writing discussion at the Barstow Branch Public Library at 3:30 p.m. The public is invited to come and hear this award-winning creative writer and poet discuss his life as a writer in this exclusive High

Desert appearance. Mr. Young's work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Chicago Review*, *Rolling Stone*, and the "Norton Anthology of African American Literature." As a screenwriter, Young has worked with Sidney Poitier, Bill Cosby and Richard Pryor. For more information, please call 252-2411, ext. 7350.

## Career Fair Proves Successful

Barstow Community College Career and Job Fair had one of the most remarkable turn outs to date. A host of 78 employers and 614 guests were present at James Park Gym on March 28, with lines surrounding the gym well before the doors opened at 10 a.m. Employers from the High Desert and as far away as Los Angeles were present and eager to fill vacancies within their companies. "I was very impressed with the turn out of this year's event. Several vendors commented on how encouraged they were with the appearances of prospective applicants," states Mike Holtz, Department of Economics Business Resource Specialist San Bernardino County. Some of the employers present at this year's event were Los Angeles County Sheriff, Barstow Community Hospital, United States Army and various contractors from Ft. Irwin. High school students were an important benefactor as well. Many employers who were not able to attend the fair were present via an application's table specifically targeting high school students for summer employment. The high schools present were Barstow, Silver Valley and Baker. The Career and Job Fair is designed to get residents of Barstow and the surrounding areas the opportunity to place their skills and abilities in front of pro-

spective employers. Holtz goes further to say "the chemistry between businesses and applicants was uncanny. The success of the Career Fair derived mainly from applicants being prepared."



Representatives from Raytheon discuss career options with prospective employees at the annual Job and Career Fair March 28 at BCC's James Park Gym.

## Future O'Keeffe and Picasso At Work



Students sit near the S building with their blank canvas in preparation for the student art show to be held on May 3.

## New Faculty Making a Difference

Scott Giordano's background in construction and as a firefighter were the right combination for the launch of the spring semester's career educational courses (also known as vocational education) offered in fire science and building construction trade and technology. Giordano teaches classes online, on campus and at the alternative high school in Barstow. Passionate about what he teaches, Giordano sent out letters of introduction to his students and appeared on a local radio show to drum up interest. However, to get the students at Central H.S. enthused about construction, he organized a field trip to the local Home Depot to learn about hand tools (power and manual) used in construction. "You can only do so much with lecture before interest is lost," states Giordano, who had no problem with securing a bus and permission from BUSD. "The problem was transitioning between departments as they all wanted to learn more about each tool." With a total of 14 students present for the demonstration, Giordano now plans to partner with local businesses to get the students practical experience. "This is the part of my job I enjoy," he adds.

Head coach for the men's baseball team Mike Karpel, who completed his Ph.D. in December from the Brigham Young University, started his career in community colleges as an associate head baseball/pitching coach. He was a baseball player in high school and college, taught physical education courses, and was a scout for the Houston Astros. However, Karpel has a heart for coaching and finds rewarding the chance to improve the playing abilities of the BCC's baseball team. "We've had a great first half and the guys give a great effort and play hard," states Karpel. "Pitcher Enrique Villalobos has done well for the team this

season and 3rd baseman Mike Nash has had a great offensive year. He should be all conference candidate *if* he keeps up his stride." Karpel chose Barstow Community College due in part to the huge recruitment potential and to cultivate great players. He credits the success with the team this season to the support he's received from Athletic Director Ray Perea and Athletic Administrator Lefty Olguin. They currently hold a 8-14 record. Karpel emphasizes academics first and baseball second with his players, making reference to his recently acquired degree.



Dr. Mike Karpel, Men's Head Baseball Coach



BCC Vikings baseball team members during a game against Taft College.

"I view myself as a teacher in a coaching environment," says Karpel, who hopes each player will view their academic accomplishments and educational triumphs as something they can rely upon once their abilities or desire for the sport wane.

## Winners of the Desert Heritage Writing Contest to be Honored

On April 28, winners of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Desert Heritage Writing Contest will be honored at an awards ceremony in the Interim Performing Arts Center, building K. The ceremony will be take place at 2 p.m. Eight hundred entries in all were received and judged by Barstow Community College instructors, local high school teachers, and volunteers from area writing groups.

The winning entries (third place through grand prize) will be published in a book that will be available at the ceremony at a cost of \$8 per book. Entries were judged on presentation, originality, clarity of expression, organization, literacy, quality, appropriateness to theme, correctness and neatness.

Organized by Barstow-area teachers, the Desert Heritage Writing Contest recognizes local students for excellence in writing. Prizes will be awarded for the best fiction, non-fiction, and poetry submissions for students in four age groups – fifth and sixth grade, seventh and eighth grade, high school and community college. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Dale Jensen at 252-2411, ext. 7298.



Scott Giordano stops in the ladder aisle at Home Depot and discusses safety and ladder use with students enrolled in the BCTT courses offered through Central High School.

## Student Recognition Event Honors All

The Associated Student Body (ASB) held their annual Student Recognition Day on April 6 at Straw Hat Pizza on Main Street. ASB President, Daniel Griego was the master of ceremonies for the event that was attended by more than 50 students, staff, administrators, and trustees of the college. Awards presented included community service, athletic and club recognitions, and individual student recognition awards. Highlights included: Graduating Student Leadership and Service —Jemma Stark; Outstanding Community Service Project —ASB; Best Program of the Year—Call Board Performing Arts/Amy Ross; Club Advisory of the Year—Amy Ross; Unsung Hero Award—Lewis Abeita; New Student Organization of the Year—Amy Kauffman; Striving for Excellence—The Big Game II/Corey “Air” Rodgers; Improved Student Organization of the Year—Club Technology; Catch a Rising Star– Adam Klein; Volunteers of the Year—Girls Sports Expo/Women’s Basketball Team.

### UPCOMING EVENTS, CONTINUED...

**APRIL 28** 22ND ANNUAL DESERT HERITAGE WRITING CONTEST AWARDS CEREMONY. 2 P.M. INTERIM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**MAY 1** LITERACY DAY SPONSORED BY PHI THEAT KAPPA NORMAN SMITH CENTER 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M. FREE BOOKS. BOOK DONATIONS ACCEPTED NOW THROUGH APRIL 30 IN FRONT OF LRC. CALL 252-2411, EXT. 7253 FOR INFO.

**MAY 2** READING MARATHON NORMAN SMITH CENTER 8 A.M. TO 8 P.M.



Director of Special Programs and Services Corey Rodgers (left) presents student Adam Klein with the Catch a Rising Star Award during the Student Recognition Day on April 6.

## Community Service Classes

### Certified Substance Abuse Counselor Training

Tuesdays  
May 1—May 22  
9—11 a.m.  
Room S4A  
\$45 enrollment fee  
Register by April 20

### Beginner Guitar Class

Tuesdays  
May 1—May 22  
6:45 p.m.— 8:45 p.m.  
Interim Performing Arts Center  
Room K22  
\$30 enrollment fee  
Age 16 and over

More information can be found at  
[www.barstow.edu](http://www.barstow.edu)

Click on the Community Services Link  
For registration, call 252-2411, ext. 7700  
For class information, call 252-2411, ext. 7223

The last official day of school before spring break didn't detour these players of the Women's Basketball Team from being present to receive the Volunteers of the Year award with Women's Basketball Coach Kim Ensing.



Jemma Stark (center) receives the Graduating Student Leadership and Service Award, presented by President Brock while ASB President Daniel Griego looks on at the Student Recognition Day awards luncheon April 6.

*BCC Connections* is produced by the Public Information Office at Barstow Community College with student support from Joseph Hisquierdo and Sharhonda Johnson. For information, contact Maureen Stokes, Public Information Officer at (760) 252-2411 ext. 7350.