



RUNNING TEAM

Track and field teams finish third. See Page 5

LONG BEACH CITY COLLEGE VIKING

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SIXTIES DREAM

Shakespeare meets the Beatles. See Page 4



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Matt Robinson/Viking

ONLY A TEST: A student runs for safety in one of many simulated shooting exercises at the LAC on Wednesday, March 26. More than 50 students participated as role-players in the simulated shooting exercises with Long Beach Police Department officers during the Spring break.

'Gunfire' echoes through F Building

■ Simulated shooting plays a role in LBCC's emergency plan.

By Fabio Marquez

More than 50 LBCC students participated in a simulated shooting drill in Building F at the LAC on Wednesday, March 26.

The exercise was put together by LBCC risk management services and the Long Beach Police and Fire departments.

LBCC student and American Criminal Justice Association member Daniel Suarez said, "I'm going to be here all day. I really want to see how officers react to

this situation."

Members of the LBPd, Sheriff's Department, and campus police were present to make sure all events went according to plan.

LBCC staff and emergency preparedness committee member Michael Vazquez said, "We go through all the steps to stop the shooter and analyze the different building designs."

"Our No. 1 goal is to provide safety for as many people as possible."

Sgt. Long of the LBPd gave a briefing and explanation of the events before the drill started.

Long said, "This is a monumental event with area colleges. This type of exercise is usually geared just for law enforcement. The reason for these scenarios is

to save lives.

"We will be doing drills all day starting around 10 a.m. Each scenario can last about 8 minutes, but should only last about 1 minute."

Long went on to give participants the options to play roles of victims, injured students and witnesses.

As volunteers were getting into position, LBPd officer Ken Turner said, "On this exercise our mentality is that every shot is a murder."

"This is a seek-and-kill mission. This type of exercise goes against what we have been taught. There is no perimeter to secure, no time to waste."

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History prof leaves 50-year legacy

By Fabio Marquez

Retired history teacher and creator of first African-American History course at LBCC Bob Barger has died.

Barger was a teacher at LBCC for more than 50 years and continued to teach after his retirement. During his career, Barger was a teacher to more than 10,000 students.

Barger was one of the early presidents and leaders of the Academic Senate at LBCC and served as Department Chair of the

History and Political Science Department for more than 12 years.

In an e-mailed statement, LBCC history teacher said, "Bob was a constant source of innovation that still has legacy within the department."

A cause of death was not announced. Barger is survived by his daughter Elizabeth Harwood, his son Gordon Barger and seven grandchildren.

Donations may be made to Doctors Without Borders at doctorswithoutborders.org.



BOB BARGER

Former Academic Senate leader

Mini cars will race to finish

■ Pageants, chili cook-off and bands to combine.

By David Talley

The 32nd Annual Mini Grand Prix will be Saturday, April 12 on the LAC front lawn.

The event starts with the car show at 10 a.m. with the race starting at 10:45 a.m.

Since 1976, the LBCC Mini Grand Prix has brought people together from all around the community for a day of fun, competition and award-winning chili.

The focus of the event is the annual race, where teams from all over design and construct small human-powered cars out of plastic and aluminum.

"Some departments make an educational project out of it, like welding and carpentry classes," said PCC student activities adviser Derek Orice.

The teams are provided with

wheels and axles and must build a frame around them using whatever they wish, just as long as it can seat one person and allow two others to push it along the track.

Many LBCC clubs have participated in the event in the past and are expected to return, including men's social-service clubs Aztlan and Tong and women's social-service clubs Athena and TNT.

In addition to the race, a car show will include awards and recognition and a Chili Cook-Off featuring live reggae and ska music by Long Beach locals The Bredrin Daddys and the Los Angeles sextet Better Chemistry.

A pageant allows participants to compete to become the Mini Grand Prix Queen.

The winner receives a \$500 scholarship, a custom beach cruiser from Nirve and is asked to judge the Mr. Hot Pepper contest, an annual talent show during the event.

All proceeds from the event go to the Gateway to Greatness LBCC Foundation and the Police Athletic League.

Teachers reach tentative deal

By Nicholas Palomino Mendoza

A teachers' strike has been temporarily avoided as, after almost 18 months of negotiations, a tentative agreement between the full-time teachers union and the LBCC District was reached Friday, April 4.

The agreement, which includes a 5.8 percent salary raise in exchange for a teachers' benefits contribution, will be voted on by 350 union members later in April. If ratified, it would become a 3-year contract. If voted down, they would head back to the negotiating table.

Chief negotiator for the teacher's union Adrian Novotny said, "The benefits contribution is minor in my view, but some are objecting to any benefits payment at all."

The contract requires full-time teachers to make a benefits contribution. Some members said the agreement may be the beginning of increased payments.

Novotny said, "Classified employees and administrators are paying a lot of money for their benefits and the fear is that the next time we go to the negotiating table, they are going to ask us for more."

Vice President of Human

Resources Rose Del Gaudio said, "We wish that health care still cost as much as it did 80 years ago. As of July 1, 2008, all of our benefit renewal plans are costing the district an increase of 12.8 percent or \$1,275,121 million.

She added, "We feel it is important that the employee be a partner in managing our health care costs."

Former ASB Vice President Nicole Pena said, "A strike would have hurt LBCC tremendously and settling it is important for the school to keep its credibility."

She added, "The teachers have a right to strike, especially if they are being underpaid in comparison to other Community College teachers, but they should contribute at least a little bit to their benefits."

Novotny referred to the benefits contribution as "miniscule" and acknowledged that all other LBCC employees make contributions to their benefits.

More than 80,000 state employees were laid off in April. Novotny said, "A benefits contribution is the best deal that we could make under the circumstances. I'm hoping that the faculty will ratify it so we can move on, but I'm really not sure how it is going to go."