ASB Elect Preparing for 2009/2010

Voices of the student body are being heard. Students attending Victor Valley College can take part in ASB elections.

A prospective candidate must pick up an ASB election packet from the ASB office. The packet contains information involving every facet of ASB, including instructions on how to run for certain positions, the ASB constitution, the application and all rules and guidelines.

Once a candidate applies, he/she must collect 150 signatures to get on the ballot. Then there’s an orientation, reviewing the steps one has taken and what steps one still needs to take to be elected.

Candidate forums were held May 6 and 7 in the Student Activity Center. On both days there were two forums, one at noon and the other at 5 p.m. The candidate’s forum provides an opportunity for the candidates to introduce themselves to their fellow students and plea their cases in the hopes of gaining support and votes.

To apply for a vacancy students can ask any member of the council what needs to be done. “ASB can only hold three appointment processes per semester to vote on and place a student in a vacant position,” said Gabe Treuhaft athletics senator.

The most important issue that ASB is currently facing is that they have only filled three of 16 positions. “The ASB positions need to be filled by hard-working, dedicated people. Students who are qualified and passionate about the Associated Student Body,” said Dan Zucker, co-chair of the election committee.

For further information and details, contact the ASB office at (760) 245 - 4271 extension 2331, 2278, or Victor Valley Community College announced today that a Dual Admission Transfer Agreement has been arranged with California State University, San Bernardino.

The agreement guarantees transfer admission for Victor Valley Community College students to Cal State University San Bernardino to upper division classes in the major and in the term that they are eligible to enter, excluding impacted programs.

Transferring students, under this agreement, must have completed the requirements no later than the term preceding entry. The $55 admission application fee is also waived.

Information regarding the
ATC Director Hard at Work for Students

Story and Photo By
Anastasia Osorio
Reporter

Director of Evening Operations Tim Johnston, Ed.D. (doctor of education) is a new asset to Victor Valley College. He oversees the Technology Center from 12:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

He can serve as an administrative contact for any campus need in the evening. There are times when a busy instructor needs someone to help with class related issues, and Johnston is there. He can serve as an administrative contact for any campus need in the evenings.

“He is wonderful. We are so fortunate to have him. We really needed him,” said Terrie Armstrong, the Technology Center instructional assistants Armstrong and Susana Jimenez are very happy to have him. Jimenez said Johnston is the administrator responsible for the evening operations for the entire campus.

Armstrong says since the former director of the technology center retired in June 2008, they have needed someone to assist.

Johnston works with the Instructional Support Programs within the building, the math lab, basic skills lab, writing center, graphic design, teaching learning center, business education technology lab, English as a second language lab, help desk and the improved peer tutoring that is available.

Johnston has his hands full and he has the impressive credentials to back him up. Johnston acquired his bachelor's degree with a double major in history and political science from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. His master's degree and Ph.D. were received from UCLA.

Johnston has been with VVC nearly three months, and he said the most challenging and exciting part of the job is that this position is brand new and allows him to define the job.

There are many aspects and benefits within the Technology Center and its programs. The math lab has an instructional assistant to help students with problems. The writing center deals with all writing disciplines where students can receive aid with English and writing skills.

The help desk can answer questions related to black board and online issues. They are available by walk in, phone and email. The ESL lab has the most advanced and latest language technology. The help desk is open from 7:45 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Mac computers are used to support digital design and graphic art students.

There are basic skills classes held here that update new students for college disciplines.

In the north east corner is a newly utilized space for peer tutoring. Tutors are employed through human resources and checked for sufficient qualifications.

“Take advantage of what this building has to offer,” said Maurilia Mendoza, a student who capitalizes on the improved peer tutoring and benefits within the building.

“The building has to offer,” said student Maurilia Mendoza.

的学生Maurilia Mendoza.

Curriculum Offers More Than Nursing

Story By
Chantall Armstrong
Reporter

A prestigious Health Program at Victor Valley College formally known as Allied Health Services is now known as Health Science and students are awaiting admission for two years in advance.

On the VVC campus for the past 31 years, Health Sciences programs have been available for students that are interested in health careers. “We have excellent counselors here that guide the students and help them plan to take the courses that we offer,” said Dean Patricia Luther of Health Science during an interview.

There are a wide variety of courses offered by Health Science services that prepares students to become predominate men and women in the career of their choice. Health Science gives the opportunity to train as a Registered Nurse, Respiratory Therapy, Medical Assistant, Nursing Assistant, Phlebotomy Technician Certificate course, and medical Insurance classes are just some of the services offered to current students.

The health Sciences programs are geared towards providing quality education to meet the needs of the community.

There is financial aid that students may qualify for, such as scholarships, grants and Extended Opportunities, Programs and Services assistance that Health Science acknowledge.

After completing the desired courses students will have the opportunity to work hand in hand with patients at hospitals and medical offices. The first hand experiences that students enjoy will give them an unforgettable opportunity that leads to in-demand careers in the community.

"Health Science services have been the best decisions that I’ve made as a student!" said Jennifer Hudson a student of the Health Sciences Program.

The nursing and Medical Assistant programs take roughly two years and will cost a student about $5,000 depending on which program is of interest.

Students are encouraged to take classes available during enrollment while waiting to be accepted into Health Science. A career in health science is more than just a warm feeling of helping someone.
Bettye Underhill Remembered

Story By: Joan Beinschroth Paustell
Guest Contributor

Members of the Victor Valley College community gathered together at the Performing Arts Center Sunday evening, May 17, for a memorial to honor the long life and many contributions of Dr. Bettye Underhill.

Dr. Underhill served for 15 years on VVC’s Board of Trustees, watching the college’s enrollment double during her tenure. Her most recent achievement was as a strong advocate for the successfully passed Measure JJ, which was designed to continue this expansion.

In addition to Dr. Underhill’s many activities involving VVC, she was also a member of Toastmasters International, Rotary International, Seniors with Enquiring Minds, and the American Association of University Women.

Rev. Garrett Mettler of St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church, where Dr. Underhill was a member, described her as “almost always on the move.” “She was everywhere throughout the Victor Valley working to move forward the opportunities for education and to encourage those with whom she came in contact. As a person with vision, drive, and inspiration, she sought to enrich lives around her,” he said.

Jackie Wendling, Dr. Underhill’s daughter, told those attending the memorial about how her mother wanted her children to grow up experiencing all kinds of things. Those things included a household that at times was home to a pelican, a coyote pup, a scorpion, and a lost snake discovered in the sofa cushions by a visiting friend.

Wendling described her mother as a person who was rarely on time and who literally spit polished her children when they arrived somewhere. “Being out with Mom in public was like being out with a rock star. Mom’s drive was to empower people to change for the better. She always looked for the best in people,” said Wendling.

Wendling listed the many firsts in her mother’s life, including being one of the first women to enlist in the United States Coast Guard in 1942 and later to establishing the first Head Start program in Santa Ana.

Heena Mehra, former ASB President and now a VVC graduate, told the audience how she met Underhill at an ASB retreat. Speaking about Dr. Underhill, Mehra said that “education was her mission.”

To honor Dr. Underhill’s service to her country during World War II, members from the Apple Valley Fire Protection District participated in the posting of the colors at the beginning of the memorial and at the flag procession at the end. “Dr. Underhill deserves that kind of honor. She was beloved throughout the Valley,” said Ginger Ontiveros, VVC foundation director.

Dr. Underhill continued her service as a trustee board member until her passing. The vacancy she left behind must be filled within 60 days, per board by-laws. Interviews will be held and processed by the remaining board members.

The Dr. Bettye Underhill Memorial Scholarship is being established at VVC. Donations can be made to Victor Valley College Foundation, 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395.

Thomas Elder Remembered

Submitted By
Dr. Thomas Elder III
Guest Contributor

Thomas McKey Elder, Jr. died Sunday, April 26, at his son’s home in Apple Valley. He was 88 years old.

Tom was a lifelong resident of So. Cal, graduating from San Bernardino High School and Valley College.

He served four years as a photographer in the Army Air Corp. After his discharge in 1946, he married Elizabeth Meador of Oklahoma City, who preceded him in death in 2004, after 58 years of marriage.

After graduating from the School of Theology at USC, Tom realized his true calling was in education. He obtained a BA and Teaching Credential from Whittier College, an Administrative Credential and MA from Long Beach State University, and completed his coursework for an RSW and Ed D from USC.

For 30 years, Tom worked as a teacher, principal, and assistant superintendent for the Hesperia School District.

He was a founder of the Hesperia Teacher’s Association, began the state’s earliest computerized instruction program in the 70’s, and worked tirelessly to improve teacher-training and curriculum.

He was involved with Boy Scouts, Wranglers, Little League, Kiwanis, Phi Delta Kappa, SB Co. School Administrators Assoc, and Retired Teachers Assoc.

After retiring from the school district, Tom served for 20 years on the Victor Valley Community College Board.

He was a founding board member of High Desert Homeless Services.

He was able to spend more time on his love of gardening, photography, and sailing and he read scientific books and magazines profusely -- even deciding to study calculus at age 80.

Tom was deeply involved in education his entire life and felt that “learning how to think and act in a positive manner is the most important job a person ever has.”

Tom is survived by his children, Thomas and Cindy Elder, Christopher and Candee Elder, Patricia and Tom Radi, Diane and Don Sill, 9 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandsons.

A celebration of Tom Elder’s life will be held on Sunday, May 31, at 2:00 pm in the Regency Room at Sterling Inn, 17738 Francesca Road, Victorville.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Thomas and Elizabeth Elder Scholarship Endowment administered by the Victor Valley College Foundation, 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395.

This fund has been established by the Elder grandchildren to provide scholarships in perpetuity for students majoring in Education at VVC.
Nurses Hold Rummage Sale Fundraiser for Grads

Story By
Jennifer Andrews
Reporter

The class of 2009 nursing students hosted a rummage sale on the Victor Valley College campus on April 30 to help cover their graduation expenses. Their graduation ceremony is set to take place on June 6.

Thanks to the extra help from family and friends who contributed their unwanted resalable goods. The money being raised is going to help cover expenses such as senior photos, nursing caps for females, ties for males, venue fee, decorations, yearbooks, pins for the pinning ceremony and ceremony photographer, to mention a few.

According to fourth semester nursing student Elsa Ibarra, the students set a goal of $4,000 by the end of Thursday’s rummage sale. $200 was raised, bringing their grand total to $2,700. The first rummage sale was the most successful with $2,000 raised and the second rummage sale raised $500. All of the proceeds get put into the VVC foundation which goes specifically towards nursing graduation.

“Young you to all the students who helped with the sale and/or donated items and our families who helped make every day successful. Thanks to Katie Weinberg, a fellow nursing student, who helped us every day of the sale and her husband, Dana, who lent his truck on the last day. We would also like to thank the gentleman in the white Ford pickup. He made three trips to donate a lot of items in excellent condition that were in his storage unit. We unfortunately did not get his name, but it was very generous of him to give us so many great items, many of which were brand new. Thanks to Priya Holmes for selling snacks and drinks and loaning us her trailer and hauling it to the college, and to Cynthia Schuetz and her husband for selling chili dogs to help raise extra money. The rummage sales were a lot of work, but we were able to raise a good chunk of money to go towards our class,” said fourth semester nursing student Courtney Ricks.

The Registered Nursing Program here on VVC campus is fully accredited by the state of California.

The estimated cost for a student in this program is just over $5,000.

Any questions regarding the nursing program should be directed to Diane Wollan at (760) 245-4271 extension 2296.

It’s not too late to apply for August 2009 graduation as the deadline is June 1. Applications may be picked up and turned into the admissions and records department or downloaded from the admission and records link at http://www.vvc.edu

Stuff You Really Don’t Want to Miss

May 22       Ready Rams held its last meeting for 2008/2009 school year. Jessica Vera named new club president
May 29       E.O.P.S. transfer ceremony for students going to four-year schools
May 30 and 31   American Cancer Society “Relay for Life” at 10 a.m. on lower campus field
              Poster says “Form a team, be a sponsor, volunteer your time or walk our lap of hope as a survivor. This is family-based, 24 hour team event to fight cancer. Contact event chair Tony Colver (760) 843-9335
• PTK is fielding a team to participate
• Bookstore Manager Maria Rempfer is also sending a team

Model United Nations, whose purpose is to advance understanding in an ever-divergent world; to promote a better understanding of the world in which we live through research and cooperation; to evolve the perspective of students and the High Desert Community into an international perspective. Meetings are Wednesday at 6 p.m. in Liberal Arts Building 30 Room 18

Campus Police Like New Wheels

Story and Photos By
Roderick Gray
Reporter

The Victor Valley College Campus Police Department recently received two three wheeled, electric powered vehicles from the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District.

At a cost of $10,000, these two patrol vehicles will replace two patrol cars and lower carbon monoxide emissions, and reduces the college’s yearly fuel expense.

“The grant AB2766 is a competitive grant that is derived from a portion of DMV registration proceeds, and that these vehicles were awarded to VVC,” said Violet Roberts, (MDAQD) Community Relations & Education Manager.

The T3 has a maximum speed 25 miles per hour and a zero degree turning radius it has the capacity to fit inside an elevator.

Chief of Police, Jon Schorle commented on the diverse capabilities of these new vehicles, saying “They are ideal for patrolling a college environment.”
VVC Relatively Free of Vandalism

Story By
Anastasia Osorio
Reporter

Victor Valley College has a serene atmosphere for efficient learning. Students seem to appreciate VVC because the school is relatively free from vandalism and graffiti.

Yet there are incidents of disrespect of property, including gum under keyboards in the Technology Center, according to instructional assistant Terrie Armstrong.

When asked whether there were many incidents of destruction of property in the library, "surprisingly, no," said Librarian John Akins.

Armstrong says the ATC men’s restroom has random issues of minor graffiti with marker that must be addressed by the custodial division once every couple of months.

Graffiti appeared outside the Student Activities Center, and a hole was punched through an mtvU.com poster and into the wall in the main elevator shaft that takes students to lower campus.

VVC custodial employee of 13 years, Pete Flenna, says that vandalism on school campus has fluctuated over the years. "Restrooms in the Performing Arts Center, the Technology Center and the Student Activities Center are usually hit the hardest," said Flenna.

Flenna said the destructive behavior most common is tagging in the restrooms, and recently there was a needed repair in a restroom where a student sat on a sink and it broke off the wall.

There are minor daily issues for custodians to deal with.

Campus police officer Rick Etheridge said the gang graffiti that are words scribbled is the tagger’s name.

If someone is caught vandalizing or destroying school property, "we kick them out, ticket them and they see a judge" said Etheridge.

Speech Contestant Makes Surprise Move

Story By
Daniela Lozano
Reporter

The Communications Club had its first event Thursday, May 14 in the Student Activity Center. A stage with a microphone at the podium allowed six student contestants to share their enthusiasm and speak their minds.

The choice in topics and presentation made the event rewarding and entertaining.

The contestants’ panel made up by Ruben Flores, Roderick Gray, Mathew Finch, Tomaris Gambrel, Dan Zucker, and Brittany Harter, offered a variety of entertainment, from magic to semi-nudity.

First place winner Brittany Harter, 17 years old, presented “Now for something completely different.” It highlighted how an opportunity in life should be taken and not passed up. Harter prepared her speech the day of the contest. “It was slightly prepared in my mind,” said Harter.

Harter was influenced to participate in the contest when she sat in on Dr. Greg Jones’ class presentations.

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Second place winner Dan Zucker in the SAC. Photo by Noel Herron.

“It was a spontaneous opportunity, so I took it,” said Harter.

Communication is her passion and Harter would definitely participate again. She didn’t expect to be first place winner, although “I did expect to place in the top three. I don’t like to let things pass me by because one day I might look back and say, I should’ve done that,” Harter said.

Second place winner was taken by Dan Zucker, 21. Zucker made jaws drop with his presentation. He removed garments as his speech progressed. The end result was Zucker standing in his underwear on stage.

Zucker’s choice of topic was “Why nudity should be appreciated.” It is a topic that is often overlooked and that’s why I chose it,” Zucker said. His topic was controversial, generated interest and drew the crowd.

Much like Harter, Zucker was inspired by Dr. Jones. “I had a great teacher, an inspiring one for Public Speaking, CMST-109, Dr. Greg Jones,” said Zucker.

Zucker has an interest in politics and hopes to get into politics down the line. “Speaking is one of my greatest assets and skills. I’m not afraid to talk,” Zucker said.

His advice to everyone is to “take a public speaking class. Every single employer in the field will ask you if you’re good in a crowd and not afraid to speak. By taking a public speaking class you are helping your future,” said Zucker.

Third place went to Tomaris Gambrel, 21. Gambrel is currently involved in Mr. Rudee’s Interpersonal Communication class. “I got the flyer from my teacher yesterday, and decided to join the contest,” said Gambrel.

Gambrel enlightened the audience with his speech on “Success.” Gambrel said, “I chose the topic because people need to know how to choose success. Success is about taking a risk. I didn’t expect to place in the top three, I just came to have fun,” he said. Gambrel’s participation was merely for a good time.

Contest prizes were donated by the Rams bookstore, ASB, and Dr. Greg Jones.

Third place was rewarded $10 cash by ASB, a keychain from the Rams bookstore and a CD from Dr. Jones.

Second place was the proud winner of a watch and keychain donated by the Rams bookstore and $25 cash.

The contest’s grand winner took home a silver stationary set donated by the bookstore, $50 cash and a CD from Dr. Jones. Finch, Flores and gray were also rewarded for their participation. The event was a success.

Zucker made jaws drop with his presentation. He removed garments as his speech progressed.

The end result was Zucker standing in his underwear on stage.
New Center Helps Students Transfer

Story By Jacleen Janzer
Reporter

The Victor Valley College Career/Transfer services center has been split into two separate centers that will benefit VVC students. They will be the Career Center and the Transfer Center.

The purpose of Career/Transfer services has been to “assist all students, faculty, and the community in exploring career goals and making a smooth transition from Victor Valley College to a four-year university,” as stated on the VVC website.

A short time ago, when VVC was in danger of losing its accreditation, several aspects of the college were examined. It was found that VVC’s Career/Transfer services program was not quite up to par.

“When accreditation was rocky, Career/Transfer services was noted as needing improvement.” said new Career/Transfer Counselor Lorena Garcia.

Improvements were certainly made. What was formerly known as Career/Transfer services in Building 55 is now the Career Center. Right across the hall is the Transfer Center, where the switchboard was once housed.

In the Career Center, students can explore careers and career fields and be assessed for them. They can become aware of what certain careers require and of what steps should be taken in becoming qualified for a certain job. It is also home to a computer lab, which students can utilize as a resource for their career research needs. Career Guidance classes have also made use of the room.

The new Transfer Center will address the specific needs of students intending to transfer to a four-year university. The center arranges university campus tours and hosts representatives from several universities. More importantly however, the center is able to provide transfer students with specialized help and counseling that were not previously available to them through Career/Transfer services.

“Now, there’s a designated person here to help students in their transfer needs,” said Garcia, who is glad to serve that role.

Workshops for students are offered by both centers. According to a new brochure for the Career Center, such workshops are offered as application review, career inventories, mock interviews, and others. Additional workshops are in the development process.

The Transfer Center will offer workshops in transferring to the California State University and University of California systems, transferring to private and out-of-state universities, and Understanding Career Majors, and more.

Garcia has high hopes for the new system, and says that many more services and information will be available to students with its implementation. She is especially optimistic in regards to the Transfer Center. Visits have been made by the Transfer Center to Math 90 and English 101 classes throughout campus.

One point Garcia makes is about the Transfer Center’s potential ability to assist students through the entire process of transitioning to a university. “The center can help students even after they’ve been admitted,” Garcia said.

Along with improvements made to the Career/Transfer services program itself, Garcia plans to improve the website, making it more efficient for students seeking online information. She believes that the new system of separate centers will hold the prospect of more structure for those exploring careers and universities, giving students the right help at the right time.
Riverwalk Marathon Invites Walkers, Runners, Bikers

Story By
Helena Reed
Reporter

The Riverwalk Half Marathon 5k and Tri-City Bike Tour has returned for its third year to not only offer the community tips that lead to a healthy lifestyle, but to send a public invitation for people to come and experience a new motivation. With bike tours, a marathon, a child’s run and much more, this event approaches with an essential message.

Darrel Courtney, race producer, explained that the primary goal of this marathon is getting the community healthy. Courtney believes that the marathon is a way for parents and kids to accomplish this goal.

The Riverwalk Half Marathon is a half marathon run beginning at Victor Valley College. With its interesting route, runners will be able to see much of Spring Valley Lake’s community as the completion of the run will end back at VVC.

With the marathon being presented by St. Mary Medical Center, targeting prominent aspects of health and wellness will be a significant message at this event. “I think it’s really important everyone knows it’s for everyone,” said Randy Bevilacqua, vice president of marketing and communications at St. Mary Medical Center. “It’s for promoting a healthy lifestyle from birth to senior years,” said Bevilacqua.

Not only does this event focus on the community’s state of health, but also on the success of its youth. Two major benefactors of this event will be VVC’s cross country team and the Apple Valley “Storm” Youth Soccer Program.

Courtney explained that there are normally two entities per event, and they are awarded two or three thousand dollars. Due to budget cuts to VVC’s cross country program, the marathon is in support of helping the organization get back on its feet.

VVC student Jeff Pace, 18, a second semester criminal justice major, explained why he felt the race was such a good motivation for the youth. Pace says that being a criminal justice major makes him more aware of the likelihood of kids getting into bad things from hanging with the wrong crowd.

Caherie Wine, 19, a nursing major at VVC, exuded much excitement about the idea of the marathon. “It’s awesome, I would actually do it. It’s a great idea,” said Wine.

The marathon will take place at VVC June 28. Fees for the bike tour and the half marathon will be between $30 and $40, the relay between $45 and $55, the 5k run/walk, and the kids’ run between $25 and $35. Fees will vary with time, so it is suggested to sign up early.

The entire marathon is expected to last from 6a.m. to 10:30 a.m., including the award ceremony. Hopes are high that the community will not only take away information on how to lead a healthy life, but to give the incentive to put one into action. “I kind of walk away with a sense of accomplishment. We’ve helped the community and hope to change lives,” said Courtney.

For more information on the event go to www.libevents.com.

Rainforest Trip Planned for AGNR

Story By
Jennifer Andrews
Reporter

Eleven hundred dollars plus the cost of airfare is all it will cost a student who would like to spend 10 days in the developing country of Costa Rica. As part of a sustainable development project, students get the chance to learn about the Geographic Information Systems within the cities of Playa Palo Seco, Alajuela Los Volcanos, along with a sustainable development reservation.

This summer’s planned trip to Costa Rica will take place from July 22, 2009 through August 2, 2009. Deadline for application to be turned in is Tuesday, May 26 at 5:00 p.m. Students who are accepted will be notified by Friday, May 29 and will attend orientation on Wednesday, June 6:00p.m in the Liberal Arts building room 18. For more information call Neville Slade at (760) 245-4271 extension 2698 or Dino Bozonelos (760) 245-4271 extension 2791.

Costa Rica is recognized as one of the few countries known for Ecotourism. Ecotourism can be defined as a trip to a fragile, pristine and sometimes protected area with a conceptual enriching experience to those who take the time to understand research and truly care for the environment around them.

Sustainable development has an array of different views but can be defined as a pattern of resources aimed to meet human needs while preserving the environment, not only for today but for future generations. Information gathered is then integrated into the GIS which is a sophisticated software used to visualize, measure, and analysis of features or phenomena’s that occur here on Earth.

There are a variety of certificates that a student can earn in the department of Agriculture and Natural Resources here at VVC. Geospatial Technician is one, the course is designed to train and provide students with unique natural resource knowledge and skills that are then applied towards GIS software. A Floral design certificate is also available to students who are interested in pursuing a career in a floral shop. Natural Resource Management certificate is also available and is designed for a student to gain knowledge on designing, installing as well as maintaining irrigation systems.

For a complete list of degrees and certificates with exact certificate requirements visit the Victor Valley College website at vvc.edu.
Police Blotter

Story By Keith James Reporter

April 15 - Graffiti and Vandalism
April 19 - Graffiti and Vandalism
April 20 - Traffic Accident
April 21 - Medical Aid Report - Campus employee experiencing chest discomfort
April 22 - Fire at the SAC - Discarded cigarette butt set fire to dead vegetation next to SAC
April 22 - Vandalism - While a person was doing donuts in his or her vehicle in the dirt lot next to Excelsior, rocks were flung at a nearby car and caused window damage
April 22 - Graffiti and Vandalism - In a restroom on campus, gang related
April 30 - Two people drunk in public - disorderly conduct - one ended up in hospital for high alcohol level
April 30 - Grand Theft - Tailgate stolen off of a truck
April 30 - Assault and Battery - Custodian was assaulted by a student after complaining about the cheerleaders taking up too much space and making too much noise in the SAC.
April 30 - Traffic Accident
May 6 - Solicitation to Engage in Lewd Conduct - Student was approached by another student in a men’s bathroom and asked to engage in inappropriate sexual behavior.
May 13 - Disturbing the Peace - Fight in the SAC.

Tools, Tutors Offer Students Math Help

Story By Richard Dominguez Reporter

The Math Lab is designed for students to use at their own convenience. At the Math Lab students who are enrolled in any type of math course are able to log-on and work. They can be tutored, submit practice quizzes, and take their tests online. If a student is really struggling, live tutors are available for hands-on help.

The Math Lab provides DVDs and CDs to review the lessons in Basic Math, Pre Algebra, Elementary and Intermediate Algebra and Calculus. They are useful for students who miss a class. Computer tutorials that can be used for practice are “My Math Lab”, “Interactive Math” and “Eleks”.

The collection of computers at the west end of the mall inside the Advanced Technology Building is in fact the Math Lab. The “lab” is not actually located in a room or separate building.

It can be used at the student’s personal convenience, within the lab hours. Monday through Friday it’s available from 12:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. and closed on Saturdays. For further information and details, call the Math Lab at (760) 245-4271 extension 2788.

VVC Campus Ready for H1N1 Outbreak

Story By Keith James Reporter

Victor Valley College is prepared for an outbreak of the H1N1 virus, or Swine Flu, with an emergency preparedness plan. “We have a plan to address just about any kind of emergency that might come upon us,” said Jon Schorle, Chief of Police for VVC.

Closing the campus is a part of the plan but certain requirements are needed before the campus can be closed.

Since students in college can legally make their own decisions, as opposed to students in kindergarten to 12 grade, the college campuses need to meet specific criteria in order to close.

“We used input from the World Health Organization, the California Department of Health, and the secretary for the California Department of Schools who works directly for the Governor,” said Schorle.

Governor Schwarzenegger declared a State of Emergency on April 28 regarding the Swine Flu. The president of VVC then put the emergency preparedness plan into action.

The president, along with the three vice presidents, the incident commander which is usually the chief of police, and others involved with VVC policy determination discussed what should be done should there be a confirmed case on campus.

“We followed the guidelines set by the Superintendent of schools for the county of San Bernardino and the director of the county of San Bernardino health department. We were in contact with all of these people, and had someone said, ‘you have a case, or a couple of cases of confirmed H1N1 on campus,’ we might have closed it,” said Schorle.

If the decision was made to close the campus, it would have to remain closed for a minimum of one week, but could close for up to 12 days.

After discussing the issues involved with the Swine Flu, the president and vice presidents of VVC established a procedure that will be used with the emergency preparedness plan.

The plan is in rewrite, as it has been for several months, but should the flu come back in the near future, the college will be prepared to deal with it.

The Center for Disease Control put on their website, “Because this is a new virus, most people will not have immunity to it, and illness may be more severe and widespread as a result.”

There have been seven confirmed deaths in the United States attributed to the Swine Flu, but it is not considered as deadly as was originally reported.

The San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, Gary Thomas, has taken the position that the campus would most likely not be closed if there was a confirmed case of Swine Flu on campus.

“It was a good exercise for the administration of the campus to go through. I think a lot of things were learned, and a lot of hard work was put in behind it.”

Our public information officer Bill Greulich and the IT staff did an outstanding job in updating the web page, providing links to the World Health Organization and the Center for Disease Control,” said Schorle.
Just Give Us Some Peace

Opinion Submitted By
Anastasia Osorio
Reporter

As a grateful Victor Valley College student, I take advantage of all the conveniences this campus has to offer. I enjoy the quiet atmosphere for studying that the library has to offer, and I try to exhaust any time I can spend there.

During spring semester 2008 my laptop broke. Fortunately, I can go to the VVC, where there is a great Technology Center where a student may use computers for one’s school work.

Since I am considered a starving student, I can not afford to purchase a new PC; I have to make sure I stay on campus to finish my homework, including the work I do for this wonderful newspaper.

I come to the Technology Center before and after work and before and after class. I am here all the time. My most crucial and extensive projects, assignments and dreaded term papers are born in the Technology Center.

Like most VVC students, this place is a sanctuary for study and concentration for me. Yet, sadly, there are times where I feel like blowing a gasket, because some students think this is a place for social gathering.

Loud bantering, laughing and making-out are for environments less conducive for learning. It seems to be difficult to concentrate when a fellow student sitting close is humming and singing along with their MP3 player. It’s really annoying.

Instructional assistants Terrie Armstrong and Sussana Jimenez work at the east end of the Technology Center. Both women are pleasant and helpful in every way. Armstrong said that the Technology Center is busiest between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and usually slower after 3 p.m.

Asked if there were many occasions of disruption where there needs to be intervention, “Oh yes” said Armstrong, when asked whether there are many complaints about disruptive behavior, she said that it is very rare and students are afraid to report nuisances.

Jimenez reflects back on an incident where there was a violent attack within a group of known rowdy students. There was a fight and Jimenez thought they were playing, and in fact it was serious. Jimenez was kicked, but there were no injuries.

Jimenez said that the campus police would be involved every day, if she and Armstrong did not allow the disruptive students to make the decision to leave after being warned.

Another problem in the Technology Center is students who think they can use the computers for personal and disturbing uses. Improper videos and stupid internet searches for tattoo ideas are irresponsible and really moronic when you know someone knows what you are looking at.

“They have too much free time and are not serious about their work,” said Jimenez. I absolutely agree.

So, next time you are talking on your cell phone loudly, you are being Inconsiderate. When you are congregating with your friends to giggle about something half-witted, go outside and laugh. People are actually trying to get something pro-

NoelSH Blurb

Read the thoughts of Victor Valley College’s RamPage Video Editor Noel Herron by visiting his blog at: http://www.noelsh.com

NoelSH offers commentary that only an 18-year-old self-described genius can offer.

Read about subjects that range from politics to movies to video games to the procreative significance of the month of May. Be offended by his stance on the Americans with Disabilities Act, and revel at his jokes that you probably won’t get.

If you are anything like Noel, you’ll like his blog. Noel enjoys science, first-person shooters, sci-fi movies that he’s sure your dad saw when he was in school, soppy romance and mocking people for their opinions.

Noel uses his blog as a creative outlet because he knows no one ever listens to him in person. He was reluctant to write this column for the RamPage because he knows no one pays any attention to that either; not that he’s bitter.

Other than having to write columns about himself in the third person and pimping his blog, Noel also detests small dogs, belittling science teachers, and emos—little bastards, hanging outside Barnes & Nobel, blocking the door. Such are also topics for his blog.

Any attention directed towards NoelSH will help to feed the narcissistic desire of what could potentially be the making of an evil genius, if otherwise left un-flattered.

The Joy of Being a Journalist

Opinion Submitted By
Kathleen Allen
Managing Editor, Online Editor, Board Secretary and Interim Marketing Director

I have been in the journalism class offered at Victor Valley College a total of three semesters, in two of which I have been an integral part of the editorial staff.

For all of you who enjoy writing, meeting people and learning what goes on at VVC, please consider joining the class and becoming part of the school paper.

Recently I was in Arizona when my great granddaughter was born and, of course, I took pictures. I got many compliments on those pictures from my in-laws. It made me very proud that I took the class to teach me how to take good photos for my certificate in journalism.

I have also learned more about page layout through taking the Publisher class and how to make good use of the internet through classes and by using MySpace and email.

I have gained knowledge on how to be concise, sell and place advertising, stay organized to keep the advisor informed in my position as board secretary and my resume’ looks really awesome.

I even got to write my own obituary as an assignment in this class.

I strongly encourage the pursuit of your interest in this field of technology.
How important is school spirit in raising the morale on campus?

Story and Photos By Roderick Gray Reporter

“Spirit is very important on campus. It makes everyone closer and shows the importance of togetherness.” - Brittany Johnson.

“Extremely important. When students are happily united the social atmosphere can be so much more welcoming and enjoyable.” - Matthew Toner.

“When students are together the social atmosphere turns into a great experience.” - Kevin Patterson.

“Extremely important!” - Kerry Myers.

“School spirit is essential to raising the morale on campus.” - Christopher Dustin.

Find and circle all of the words and names from *Oliver Twist*. The remaining letters spell the title of the first chapter of *Oliver Twist*.

**AGNES FLEMING**
**BARNEY**
**BEADLE**
**BLATHERS**
**BOLTER**
**BRITTLES**
**BROWNLOW**
**BULL'S-EYE**
**BUMBLE**
**CHARLEY BATES**
**CHARLOTTE**
**COACH**
**COURT**
**DICKENS**
**DOCTOR**
**DODGER**
**DUFF**
**FAGIN**
**GALLOWS**
**GAMFIELD**
**GILES**
**GRIMWIG**
**GRUEL**
**HANDKERCHIEF**
**HARRY MAYLIE**
**HOUSEBREAKER**
**INHERITANCE**
**JAIL**
**LEEFORD**

Find and circle all of the words and names from *Oliver Twist*. The remaining letters spell the title of the first chapter of *Oliver Twist*.

**LIMBkins**
**LOCKET**
**LONDON**
**LOSBERNE**
**MAGISTRATE**
**MONKS**
**MR. FANG**
**MRS. BEDWIN**
**MRS. CORNEY**
**MRS. MANN**
**NANCY**
**NOAH**
**OLD SALLY**
**OLIVER TWIST**
**ORPHAN**
**PICKPOCKET**
**PISTOL**
**ROSE MAYLIE**
**SIKES**
**SOWERBERRY**
**SURGEON**
**TOBY CRACKIT**
**TOM CHITLING**
**TRAPS**
**UNDERTAKER**
**WAISTCOAT**
**WILL**
**WORKHOUSE**

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**YAHOO’S TOP TEN MOVIES**

1. Angels & Demons
2. Star Trek
3. X-Men Origins: Wolverine
4. Ghosts of Girlfriends Past
5. Obsessed
6. 17 Again
7. Monsters vs. Aliens
8. The Soloist
9. Next Day Air
10. Earth

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**SINGLES**

1. The Black Eyed Peas “Boom Boom Pow”
2. Lady Gaga “Poker Face”
3. Jamie Foxx featuring T-Pain “Blame It”
4. Pitbull “I Know You Want Me (Calle Ocho)”
5. Kid Cudi “Day N’ Nite”
6. Beyonce “Halo”
7. 3Oh!3 “Don’t Trust Me”
8. Flo Rida featuring Wynter “Sugar”
9. Jeremih “Birthday Sex”
10. Soulja Boy Tell’em “Kiss Me Thru the Phone”

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**ALBUMS**

1. Green Day “21st Century Breakdown”
2. Soundtrack “Hannah Montana: The Movie”
3. Cam’Ron “Crime Pays”
4. Lady Gaga “The Fame”
5. Rascal Flatts “Unstoppable”
7. Taylor Swift “Fearless”
8. Chrisette Michele “Epiphany”
9. Rick Ross “Deeper Than Rap”
10. Ciara “Fantasy Ride”

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**WHAT’S THE MATTER?**

**VENT!! TELL US!!**

**AIR YOUR COMPLAINTS!**

**MUST BE VVC AFFILIATED**

**INDICATE AGE AND GENDER**

vvcramitout@yahoo.com

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**SUDOKU**

http://www.websudoku.com
Student Athlete Camp Teaches Football, Focus and Discipline

Story and Photos By
George Lewis
Reporter

The Victor Valley College football team began the second annual Student Athlete Camp, where the unspoken motto is “Play big or go home.”

The camp is everything a football camp should be and more. The energy is high and the competition fierce.

The camp started May 2 and 3 for grades 1 through 6, May 16 and 17 for grades 7 through 12, and June 6 and 7 for grades 1 through 6. The cost for all campers is $50.

The camp is held on VVC football field from 8 a.m. to noon. To register for June go online to http://www.vvc.edu/academic/athletics/camp_register.htm.

The coaches oversee the camp but the student athletes are heavily involved with the drills and motivating the campers. Head Coach Dave Hoover stated a theme which runs through all the coaching staff.

“Football is a great game, but what about life after football when all the cheering stops? What is more important than the game is education. A whole bunch of cats that can play football are a dime a dozen, but cats that can play football and have good grades that’s a whole different breed. If I go 0-10 and all my sophomores got scholarships I’m doing my job,” said Hoover.

The same attitude can be found from the head coach throughout the entire coaching staff.

The campers learn the basics, starting with the proper stance. Either four points with two hands on the ground, a three point stance with one hand on the ground, to a two point stance with no hands on the ground.

The position of the player determines the stance. Leverage is explained and demonstrated; showing the campers it’s not always the size of the player which will win the battle but usually the technique of the player.

Campers learn and work on proper footwork, ball handling skills, how to pursue using angles, and if being pursued, how to take angles away from the pursuer.

“Keeping a kid on the field keeps him off the streets,” said Frankie Vega Sr. The Sr. Vega is the father of first time camper Daniel.

Young Vega is a freshman and plays for Sultana High School.

“Not only are the kids learning football they are
also learning respect, and discipline,” said Hoover.

Danny Quinnoes, father of camper Ezi-dania, who is also a freshman and plays for Sultana High School stated, “This is what the community needs.
A new school spirit has come back onto campus with the introduction of Victor Valley College’s new and improved Spirit Cheer club. After six years down, the club had funding issues and they were not able to perform, Victor Valley Rams Spirit Cheer club returns.

To bring the club back this year, Captain, Brittany Johnson jumped through many hoops. In the beginning the Spirit Cheer club had to be approved and chartered by the ASB council.

Having started March 2009, VVC Spirit Cheer club consists of 15 young women aged 18 to 20. Club members need to have charisma, personality, maintain good spirit, and wonderful dance skills. Being in the Spirit Cheer club requires that the members stay out of trouble, gain experience and cheer.

During various sporting events, the club will cheer for VVC’s various school teams while performing their dance routines and receiving quotas. Practicing four days a week allows the club to work hard and effectively. "I’m happy and ecstatic to be a member of the Spirit Cheer club this season, it’s something that I’ve always wanted to pursue," said spirit cheer club member Karina Selano.

After the club adviser was determined, the team began their process of uplifting and promoting school spirit around campus. This year’s Spirit Cheer club President Tabitha Walls, has come up with some spectacular and exciting fundraising events. Club members held a car wash last month raising approximately $300. “Thanks to all of our students and our event were sold prior to the event on campus and also sold at the door for $8.60. The club received half of the admission price.

"The real story here is not the money that was raised, but rather the fact that the hard work of these young ladies paid off, and there weren’t any volunteers. Everyone had a good time," said Roderick Gray, ASB executive senator.

The skating event came as a fun and exciting place for students to communicate with peers and meet new ones. "Lively like a club!" said Adrience Bluitt, student at VVC. The New Boys band performed and got the crowd hyped, as they sang their smash hit, "You’re A Jerk."

The club is planning to host more fundraising events in the near future. According to the club members, future fundraising events include a fashion show and college barbeque.

The club’s aim is to bring a better social life among the students on campus while supporting the athletes during sporting events. "We’re here to stay: Don’t misjudge us. This season we’re prepared to bring the students together by motivating them with our presence and creativity," said May at their practice.

The women are excited to go out and create a vibrant environment for all of the students. "Come out and support Victor Valley College Rams Spirit Cheer club," said Karina Solano, after practice on Wednesday.

Strength, hope, pride, and loyalty are a few words that describe the Spirit Cheer club. Their motto is: Strength to hold dance routine positions, hope for the future challenges that the cheer club faces, pride for one’s self-belonging and loyalty for the commitment to practice with reliable effective performances.

"Go, fight, and win! Go to the games and support the athletes," said club member Dominisha Moore.
**LGBTQ Club Seeks New Leadership**

**Story By**  
Noel Herron  
*Reporter*

The Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Association held a meeting at Victor Valley College on May 1 to discuss the accomplishment of being chartered by the Associated Student Body, along with issues of fundraising and flier and logo design. The meeting began on a positive note when LGBTQ adviser James Comer mentioned that Maine’s state senate passed a bill that could make it the fifth state to legalize gay marriage. “Our time is coming,” Comer said.

Five days later, Maine’s gay marriage bill passed when Gov. John Baldacci (D) formally signed it into law.

Club president Michael Murphy wants the LGBTQ to be: “A social group, or a source of relaxation for struggling students who are discovering themselves. I honestly believe that the purpose of this organization is to help bring diversity back, to help educate and to give back to the community. But most importantly, we are here to have fun.”

“The impressions that I’d like to leave on the community are all positive, whether it is charity drives, walks/runs for charitable events or community involvement,” said Murphy.

The meeting resembled that of a starting-off group. Turnout by the end of the meeting was 14 people.

 Members voted on a new activities director, but they still need to elect a vice president. Part of the meeting was dedicated to logo design, another fraction to fundraising ideas.

When attendees were asked how accepting VVC was of the LGBTQ community the consensus was moderate.

“It’s a mixed atmosphere. Some don’t care,” said Dawn Clifford. “There are some that are going to be haters toward it,” said Event Coordinator Joe Parker.

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**Clubs Focus on Success and Service**

**Story By**  
Daniela Lozano  
*Reporter*

Victor Valley College added a few new campus clubs this spring semester. A few of these include the Respiratory Therapy 2009 and 2010, Paramedic 2009, the Communications Club and the Web Communications Club.

Any student can join any club of interest, with the exception of the Paramedic Club 2009 and the Respiratory Club 2009 and 2010. Throughout the semester these clubs hold fundraisers to pay for an exclusive and separate graduating ceremony from that of the entire VVC graduating class.

Campus clubs are generally established upon students’ interest. Many of VVC campus clubs give back to our community. The Bio Club is involved in cleaning local lakes with the help of other clubs.

Ready Rams is approaching its third year and is one of the top clubs on campus. It began with Tammy Brown, who is currently the ASB ICC Representative.

Brown said “The Ready Rams has reached out to our community by adopting a portion of I Ave. in Hesperia. It is also responsible for the success of the Green Leif Project including planting trees in the forest and around Lake Arrowhead,” said Brown. Jacaranda St. is also adopted. It allows the club to help maintain clean streets. Maintenance clean-ups are required twice in the semester.

“I believe that 20 percent of students involved in a club on campus will stay in school,” said Tammy Brown ASB/ICC senator.

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“I believe that 20 percent of students involved in a club on campus will stay in school,”… said Tammy Brown ASB/ICC senator.

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Brown is extending participation journey in campus clubs she has earned her title of ASB ICC representative. Brown said, “I am a student for the students. I want other students to know what I have learned and the advantage over knowledge I have gained. So that students can have the same opportunities that I have had. That will help take them through life in the right direction to that higher education.”

The Communications Club is new this spring and with Professor Greg Jones as their coordinator, the club is sure to be an interactive success, giving students a medium to express themselves.

President Jaime Gonzalez said, “Expression has a negative connotation, but everyone has a thought, an opinion or an idea with the upcoming activities, such as the speech contest and open debate. Students can display their ability to speak and present topics of their choice, demonstrating that expression is creative, emotional and intellectual.”

Gonzalez said that the general benefit of a campus club “is the potential for enlightenment and expanding horizons of interest.”

Some older clubs such as A.W.A.R.E. is extremely helpful in supporting students. A.W.A.R.E. supports non-traditional re-entry students and their adviser is a counselor for E.O.P.S., which helps low-income students with educational services such as books.

Establishing a new club is easy. Basic requirements include having five club officials, which include a president, vice president, treasurer, secretary and at least one ICC representative. Club officers must be ASB cardholders. The club is required to have a faculty staff adviser represent them.

Clubs hold two monthly meetings, and the Director of Auxiliary Services, Robert Sewell’s signature is a requirement in establishing any club.

Once the club is chartered, ASB funds the club with a $100 deposit to assist them in starting on the right foot. It is then the club’s responsibility to stay active and continue to hold fundraisers to fund its purpose.
Journalist Melds With Schizo in The Soloist

Review By
Monique Hoover
Reporter

“The Soloist,” starring Jamie Foxx and Robert Downey Jr. may be full of great acting moments but falls short of a five star movie rating.

Foxx does a great portrayal of the character Nathaniel Ayers in his struggle being a schizophrenic homeless man.

His absolute love for music brings joy to your heart, while captivating your senses, creating a character to remember.

Downey’s character, Steve Lopez, is a journalist looking for a story, and along the way he crosses paths with Nathaniel.

Lopez uses this relationship as solely an attempt to get a good story, yet he finds himself developing a friendship with Ayers.

Although casting was done brilliantly, Director Joe Wright may have had too much on his plate with “The Soloist.”

The movie was slightly drawn out and sluggish. The plot would’ve been better if Wright had focused more on Nathaniel Ayers and his struggles, rather than trying to drag the story line on with insignificant additions to the plot.

Issues in Lopez’s life were touched on, yet not resolved.

Homeless issues of downtown Los Angeles were brought to light, and although very informative, their inclusion was overplayed to simply establish a setting.

These plots may be excellent by themselves, yet the three together make you wonder what the director was trying to accomplish.

I believe one plot would have made for a better movie experience.

In a nutshell, my mixed feelings conclude that although the acting was phenomenal, the plot was mediocre and lacking focus.

I give “The Soloist” 5 out of 5 stars for acting, and 2 out of 5 stars for the plot.

The PAC Holding Willy Wonka Auditions

- June 4 and 5 at 5 p.m. in the Black Box Theatre
- Call backs are June 6 at 10 a.m.
- Bring 16 bars of up-tempo sheet music, acting resume, and head shot
- Roles are for ages 10 and up
- The production will run the second and third weekend of August 2009

‘Ghosts’ Is a Fun and Romantic Ride

Review By
Isabel Llamas
Reporter

Jon Lucas and Scott Moore have put together a phenomenal movie about a so-called ladies man who is being haunted by three ghosts from the past.

Matthew McConaughey as Connor Mead and Jennifer Garner as Jenny Perotti, star in “Ghosts of Girlfriends Past.”

Director Mark Waters made it brilliantly obvious that this movie comes off as a romantic comedy that couples should not fail to watch.

Although it didn’t hit big at the box office, I believe that this truly is a wonderful movie and anyone who loves to laugh and say “aw” should put this movie on their to-watch lists.

For those of you who don’t have that special someone to spend that movie moment with, grab a girlfriend, a cousin or a sister and go enjoy this movie. You will wish your life were a story like this, I know I did.

Connor Mead is a bachelor who is in no hurry to be in a relationship. Even as he keeps his dating options open, he still has eyes for that one girlfriend from his past.

He is in attendance at his little brother’s wedding weekend when he is then confronted by three ghosts of his past.

As he is taken through the journey of how he became the man he is today, he realizes how love hurt him and how love can complete him.

His past experiences make him distant from relationships, and he finds himself growing older and still in doubt of being in a relationship.

Jenny Perotti is the girl next door who has always had that kind and good heart. She plays Meads ex-girlfriend, who tries to keep him from ruining her best friends wedding.

As she stumbles into awkward situations and emotional moments from the past, Perotti tries to block out the past and make her best friend’s wedding perfect.

In the process of it all Perotti takes the time to see if her first love was always her only love, while Mead focuses on past mistakes that he is trying to fix.

From a scale of one to ten I’d rate this movie with an eight.

It has one of my favorite actors Matthew McConaughey who is absolutely gorgeous. His sense of humor and great looks make this movie so much more interesting.

As envious as I was of Jennifer Garner in this movie, I have to admit she played a hell of a good role. They make a great couple. Camila Alves better watch her back.

The release date was May 1 and the film is rated PG-13 for sexual content throughout, some language and a drug reference. Sources tell us that this movie is everything they expected and more. The humor was great, the love was what we all dream of and the actors did a perfect job.
Wolverine Flick Fun, Not Great

Review By
Jacob Rugh
Reporter

Xmen Origins: Wolverine turned out better than what skeptics had foreshadowed, but was it truly a triumph? I’m going to say no. It satisfies both newcomers to the series of Xmen and veterans alike, but not to the point of sheer amazement.

As the opening credits roll “Wolverine” played by Hugh Jackman, is seen fighting in just about every American war, showing off Wolverine’s mutant ability to heal quickly and age very slowly. I have to admit this is probably my favorite opening credits scene of the recent comic book adaptations. The movie starts off strong but you will be finding the pace of action a little unstable.

One minute the action will be immense with rage, emotion and claw dropping mayhem followed by tranquil scenes of some of the characters in the woods. This dynamic from action to tranquility and then back to action again, helps us to understand why Wolverine is the way he is, but it will undoubtedly leave some begging for more action. The decent acting and the constant plot twists thankfully keeps your interest going.

Although Xmen Origins: Wolverine stands on its own, it does not stand out among its predecessors Iron Man, Spiderman, or The Incredible Hulk. Perhaps it could be said that it did not go in depth enough on the intricacies of revenge. The pure revenge theme of this movie is fun, but not fantastic. I’m giving it a 3 out of 5 stars.

Bands at ‘Grind’ Feature VVC Musicians

Story By
Ana Rosales
Reporter

Night at The Grind was the theme of the night at The Grind, featuring singers and bands. It started off with the cute and charismatic personality of Lauren McCaffrey.

She had the audience sing along to “Hey, Ya” by Outkast, “Toxic” by Britney Spears and “Can’t Buy Me Love” by the Beatles. “I felt pretty comfortable,” said Whitecotton.

The band has great stage presence and influence over the audience. Whitecotton will be attending VVC this fall.

Losers of the Year, also VVC students, is a band composed of four brothers singing rock, alternative pop punk music.

With their unique style, lead guitarist Justin Barkdull and bassist Jason Barkdull, leather jacket rocker-style drummer Jeremy Barkdull and their lead singer/guitarist Josh Barkdull performed their song “Get out.”

They dedicated a special song to parents who support their children called “Making it up to you.”

Their most exciting and amusing song of the night was the theme song of the Power Rangers.

The band has been playing for six and a half years now; Josh and Justin are the ones who write the lyrics for their band. “We want to open people’s minds to music,” said Justin when asked what their main goal is in their music.

The most popular band of the night was Subvert, composed of Nick Riggis, Jehiah Tonnessen and Robby Harper.

The crowd went crazy with their punk, ska, hardcore music, singing songs “Take off your Crown” and “The Revolution will be TVO’ed,” among others.

“Good!” yelled Tonnessen, full of excitement explaining how he felt after performing. “I’m just not thinking about anything.

You have to become like water and inspire people to think about love,” said Harper after explaining what the purpose of their band was.

The closing band was The Tygers of Wrath with only two band members, sounding like they had a full-loaded band.

This band is also comprised of VVC students. Their goals are to make records and incorporate other band members in the future.
At press time, two campus police officers ran out of the Victor Valley College police department, jumped in their cars and sped off with lights flashing.

The Editor-In-Chief, Bill Buttler and Photo Editor, Evan Spears were in hot pursuit. Story and pictures are below.

An unknown individual was evacuated by a Mercy Air helicopter unit after being brought to Victor Valley College’s football field on the lower campus. The injured had experienced an unknown medical emergency at 2:50 p.m. on May 22.

It is not known whether the victim was a student of VVC. In medical emergencies occurring near campus, victims are often transported to VVC. The football field provides an advantageous evacuation spot for helicopter landing, with its wide open area. Because the location is relatively remote, police have an easier job securing the location from traffic intrusion.

VVC campus police officers quickly established a road block on a section of Fish Hatchery Road. “We were told to evacuate the area immediately,” said Officer Skip Ceres.

The Mercy Air unit landed on the football field at 3:03 p.m. Officer Art York said, “The injured party was likely being transported to either Loma Linda Hospital or Arrowhead Regional Hospital.”

VVC campus police were not informed of the nature of the emergency and very little is known. Other details were unavailable at press time. The RamPage staff will continue to gather information as it becomes available.

Letter From the Editor

Written By
Bill Buttler
Editor-In-Chief

This issue of the VVC RamPage is our next-to-last of Spring 2009. On these pages are examples of what the RamPage staff works to accomplish best, which is to provide a good and accurate accounting of events that affect or take place on campus.

In that mission we aim to cover a wide variety of activities that make news. We hope our efforts interest, inform and, perhaps, amuse our readers.

When we report entertainment, such as sports and theater events, we only need first-person witness and reaction, generally fun work.

Obituaries need a more serious, sensitive approach.

Often we have time (a luxury in the news business) to consider articles we publish. On occasion we are compelled to cover breaking news that affords less time to report. Two such instances recently called for instant action, when journalistic instinct kicks in. We will drop everything, grab a pen, paper, camera and run to the scene.

April 22 RamPage staff did just that. Editor Evan Spears and reporters Ana Rosales and Monique Hoover responded to the brush fire behind the SAC to get on-the-scene story and pictures.

Similarly, May 22, Spears and I pursued campus police to the football field and witnessed a medical evacuation unfolding. Spears shot a million pictures, while I took notes and talked to personnel involved at the location.

Sometimes it’s reviewing a movie. Sometimes it’s taking in the music and color of Cinco de Mayo. Sometimes it’s an adrenaline-rush happening. Whatever the case, we do what we do because we love what we do.

We hope you enjoy our words and pictures. The stories aren’t always what we like, nor do they necessarily reflect our opinions, but Constitutional First Amendment rights provide for the free expression we use and value.
Lady Rams Earn All-Conference Honors

Swinging into first place and batting for success, Victor Valley College women softball players are pitching for their dreams, but hitting beyond the stars.

For Lady Ram’s softball players Anita Espinoza, Stephanie Perez and Lisa Ingram, winning has been defined on a whole new level by being deemed All Conference winners of 2009. Taking a new title says a lot about these ladies but it is undeniably their passion for the game that keeps their hearts at home.

“It’s a privilege. I feel like one of the lucky ones,” said Espinoza, 20. “There are a lot of girls that work just as hard as me,” she said. Espinoza, who plays third base, outfield and pitcher, says that softball is a lifestyle, and that stepping out on the field to her is like home, a get away and her safe place.

All Conference is when seven softball teams, Victor Valley College included, play one another for first place. In that competition the best players’ and performers in the conference are chosen by the head coaches.

“We rate the players by their performance on the field partially looking at individual stats,” said Donell Thomas, head coach of VVC Lady Ram’s softball team. Although playing ability plays a large role in choosing who will claim this title, Thomas says that it’s also a player’s love for the game, dedication to the team and work ethics that mean a lot.

Although many of these ladies have 12 to 13 years behind them in playing softball, a solid support system for many of them has proven to be a huge aid for each of them. “My parents were my coaches pretty much up until high school,” said Lisa Ingram, 20.

Ingram, who works and goes to school full time has proven not only to her team-See Softball page 20

Basketball Star Gordon Headed for UC Riverside

Gordon began playing basketball when he was seven years old. “I just fell in love with the game,” said Gordon.

He played for the Fontana High School basketball team his freshman year, and then transferred to Los Ojos High School for the remainder of his high school years. “My favorite aspect of basketball is the competitiveness of it,” said Gordon.

Gordon was unable to attend his first choice, California State University at Fresno, but after looking into the basketball program at UCR he said, “Riverside will be the next best thing for me.” He is looking forward to playing and said that UCR “should be a little more competitive since it’s a higher level of college basketball.”

See Gordon page 20
mates but to her younger siblings that anything is possible. Though she admits that her parents and coaches motivate her, the fact that her little sisters look up to her is a primary motivation.

Many would agree that having joy is a significant part in the heart of the game. “Softball to me is just love. Just being on the field with my friends and competing is fun. Getting dirty is really fun,” said Perez.

Perez, who plays outfield, says that while growing up she loved the game so much that when no one else would play with her she’d even have her dog chase the ball. “I’m excited, I never thought I’d get a special award like that,” said Perez.

The girls explained that each of them have known each other since little league and that softball has helped them out in forming the friendships they now have with each other. “If you’re a good team that has good chemistry you’ll build friendships that are like sisters,” said Ingram.

Each of the ladies plan on going to four year colleges and will be graduating this year. Thomas says that if she had one overall thought about her team this year it would be perseverance and that it’s the girls’ selflessness that she’s admired.

“It’s harder to stay on when you’re losing rather than when you’re winning. On our team we play with class and these girls never give up even when the going is down,” said Thomas.

The girls explained that each of them have known each other since little league and that softball has helped

Gordon enjoyed playing for VVC and said “I was close to all of my teammates.”

The 6’2” Gordon was the leading scorer and rebounder for VVC, and had his record high-scoring game of forty-one points in the last game of the season.

Desean Stacy, Gordon’s teammate at VVC, said that when Gordon plays he is “quick, explosive, real savvy with the ball, and plays with finesse.”

Stacy enjoyed playing basketball with Gordon because “he understands the game, his basketball IQ is pretty high.”

Amy Wilkin, an athletic trainer for VVC’s athletic department, said, “Dwight will be an asset to any program, and will succeed in both school and basketball. He works hard no matter where he’s at, and he has
great control both physically and mentally on the court,” Wilkin said.

VVC’s athletic director, Jaye Tashima, also believes in Gordon’s abilities and said “Dwight will continue to do great things at UCR and will have the support of his family and coaching staff there.”

In the future, Gordon wants to play for the NBA, but if he doesn’t do that he would also like to play basketball overseas.

“The most valuable lesson I learned through basketball is how to work with others and how to deal with adversity,” Gordon said.

While it remains to be proven whether Gordon will play in the NBA, the UCR basketball team will welcome the skills he brings while he works towards his ultimate goal.

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Baseball Rams Aim to Spoil Foes’ Seasons

Story and Photo By
Al Chinchilla
Reporter

Victor Valley College’s Rams baseball team came up swinging and missing against the Rio Hondo Roadrunners baseball team April 23, on VVC’s home field.

Trying to play the spoiler, behind the outstanding performances by Chris Evans, who went 4-5 with two singles and two triples, Allan Brace who went 3-5 with two doubles and a single and Trevin Cano 3-5 with three singles.

The Rams still couldn’t contain Rio Hondo’s Roadrunners explosive hitting, as they scored eight of their 26 runs in the seventh and eighth innings of the afternoon’s 26-3 victory over the Rams.

When asked before the game what the strategy would be against the Roadrunners, “I told the guys to go out and play hard. Give it all you got and that’s our role right now. We’re not going anywhere as far as playoff contention, but we can definitely mess up their season. They’re a game out of first and any loss to us can really hurt their chances for a playoff spot, so we’re going to have to play spoilers. Have fun,” said Coach Robert Smith.

Also when asked how the season has turned out so far, he said, “Ups and downs. It’s not as well as I anticipated it to be. We lost two or three starters that quit because they have to go to work... We lost some tough games, but we’re just going to play hard every game.”

Although it has been a tough baseball season for the Rams so far, one key attribute Smith has benefited from is finding outstanding players on his team.

He said, “Zane Ridings has been throwing the baseball pretty well. His record doesn’t show it. He’s kept us in a lot of ball games... Allan Brace has hit the ball real well for us. Andrew Anthony has played a couple different positions and Chris Evans has played real well for us as our lead-off hitter and also a guy who comes out and works hard.”

When asked before the game how the team felt about their season so far, “The season has been kind of a disappointment but we’ve had a lot of injuries...”

See Baseball page 22
Swinging into first place and batting for success, Victor Valley College women softball players are pitching for their dreams, but hitting beyond the stars.

For Lady Ram's softball players Anita Espinoza, Stephanie Perez and Lisa Ingram, winning has been defined on a whole new level by being deemed All-Conference winners of 2009.

Taking a new title says a lot about these ladies but it is undeniably their passion for the game that keeps their hearts at home.

"It's a privilege. I feel like one of the lucky ones," said Espinoza, 20. "There are a lot of girls that work just as hard as me," she said.

Espinoza, who plays third base, outfield and pitcher, says that softball is a lifestyle, and that stepping out on the field to her is like home, a get away and her safe place.

All-Conference is when seven softball teams, Victor Valley College included, play one another for first place. In that competition the best players and performers in the conference are chosen by the head coaches.

"We rate the players by their performance on the field partially looking at individual stats," said Donell Thomas, head coach of VVC Lady Ram's softball team.

Although playing ability plays a large role in choosing who will claim this title, Thomas says that it's also a player's love for the game,

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and a lot of people quit on us and it's kind of tough to put a team together like that. "If we get our bats going we can beat Rio Hondo today," said sophomore Freddy Antuna.

"This year is not going as planned. Not nearly as good as what we thought it would be. We have a good team, it's just a matter of hitting the ball and fielding it that's all we got to do," said second-year player for the Rams, Louis Martus.

When asked before the game on how he felt about this season, "The season is going pretty good. We lost a couple tough games but other than that the season is going pretty well. It's been better than the past couple years. Where we've only won three games a few years ago and 10 games last year and this year, we won 12 games so it's a big improvement," said assistant coach, Clyde Williams.

"In the past Rio has been a tough team to play. We're just going out there to spoil someone's season. Right now they're in the thick of the playoff race and conference title hunt," said Williams.

When asked whether they belong in the playoffs, he answered, "We should be, but we're not. Talent-wise we should be in the thick of things in the playoff race; a lot of injuries and a lot of players have to quit to make money for their household due to the economy and all of this has affected our season," said Williams.

VVC's last home game of the season was April 30, against Cerro Coso College.

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