Alleged Assault Under Investigation

Story and photo by Roderick Gray
Managing Editor

Additional Reporting by Evan Spears
Editor-in-Chief

Students have been advised to take safety precautions at all times by the Victor Valley College administration officials after an alleged sexual assault occurred in the library March 4.

According to a story that appeared in the March 6 edition of the Daily Press a female student was allegedly assaulted in a study room on the lower level of the VVC library.

Beatriz E. Valenzuela, a staff writer for the Daily Press wrote, “Detectives with the Victorville station identified Christopher Michael Faherty, 19, as the possible attacker.”

VVC Campus Police would not provide details. “An investigation on the incident is being conducted by the San Bernardino County Sherriff’s Department,” said Chief Leonard Knight.

Witnesses are encouraged to contact detectives Jeremy Martinez, or Brett Zour with information to the case. The telephone number is (760) 241-2911. The Rampage was unable to interview either of the investigating detectives by press time.

Continued in Assault on Page 2

Fewer Classes Make For Crowded Classrooms

Story and photo by Roderick Gray
Managing Editor

Enrollment numbers for spring 2010 at Victor Valley College are down 1,020 compared to what they were a year ago.

According to statistics released through the Dean’s Office of Institutional Effectiveness, spring enrollment numbers for 2009 were at 13,560 students while spring 2010 to date is 12,540. One of the reasons for the drop in enrollment maybe the fewer number of classes offered this spring semester.

This year VVC offered 1,188 classes compared to the 1,218 classes that were offered spring 2009; this is a 30-class reduction, but one of the ways the administration and the faculty compensated for the drop in offered sections is to allow the enrollment numbers to swell in currently offered sections.

In a Human Sexuality and Intimacy class that is filled to capacity, adjunct faculty member Benn Johnston said, “Back when I started in 1986, this would have been close to 5 or 6 classes. I have well over 50 students, and some aren’t even here today.”

“Being in a large class is not a problem,” said student Jasmin Gonzalez. “The problem is having such a small room; there are great advantages to having a big class, especially with the topics that we have to discuss, and of all the different options. The administration should have opened more sections, because there were so many people who were denied the chance to be in this class due to lack of space.”

Students who were denied a chance to register for sections online were able to be put on the waitlist, and many were added once the semester started.

“I don’t care what the class size is. As long as the instructor can teach me what I need to know I’m Ok with it,” Blaise Mueller said.
Scholarship Deadline Rapidly Approaching

The financial aid office is calling the attention of all students attending the 2010 spring semester. The deadline for the 2010 scholarship drive is March 26. The application is available through the financial aid link on the VVC website, or on the Victor Valley College Foundation website at http://www.vvcfoundation.com. The application is only accepted online.

Submit art, get pizza and pop

Artworks from students from middle school through college are being accepted in the Ninth Annual Painting from the Heart Children and Celebrity Refrigerator Art Show. Those accepted will be displayed at The Paint Lab, 2912 Main St., Santa Monica, on April 10.

Entries are due at 1 p.m. March 20 at Valentini Pizza, 14562 Seventh St. in Victorville; call (760) 241-1400 or (760) 949-1501.

This is not a competition but rather a chance to showcase local talent. Acceptable media include pencil, ink, acrylic, oil, charcoal, pastels, crayons, markers and watercolors. Photography and collage are also OK. All entries must be 8x11, 9x12 or 11x14 inches.

The first 50 people to submit material fitting the parameters will get a free slice of pizza and a soft drink, a flyer said.

4th Annual Cesar E. Chavez Day celebration planned

For Chavez Day, everyone is invited to hear Yvonne Reyes-Hester, public information officer for the City of Victorville, who will be the guest speaker March 25 in the Student Activities Center. However, people are asked to RSVP to Bejarano-verap@vvc.edu or (760) 245-4271 extension 2580. Her speech is set for 11:15 a.m., but the celebration runs 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first floor of the SAC, a flyer said.

The annual holiday commemorates the achievements of the famed labor leader.

Assault from Page 1

“It was conveyed at the latest ASB meeting that there was a need for students to be more aware of their surroundings. I completely agree that something like that is necessary to increase the safety of the campus,” said Associated Student Body Council Allied Health Senator Sheri Schmoll.

Emergency call boxes are located at parking lots 2, 6,8,12, 21, 16 and 18. However, the devices located in lot 8 at the Student Services II building and in lot 16 on the lower campus adjacent to the tennis court are out of order.

“The call boxes were inspected last week and (two) were found to be out of service,” said Director of Maintenance and Operations Christopher Hylton. Hylton says they are to be repaired soon as possible.

“Incidents like this should never happen and we want our students to be vigilant,” said VVC Public Information Officer Bill Greulich.
The VVC Women’s Tennis team has struggled this season, managing only 1 win in 7 matches thus far. They are 1-2 in conference play and their chances of finishing the season with a winning record seems slim. However, despite her team’s difficulties, women’s tennis Head Coach Marites Killion points out the positives from her group.

“They’re fighters. I have a team of scrappers,” said Killion.

Although their play this season has not resulted in many wins, giving 100 percent effort in every match can only benefit the team. The women are playing hard but they are extremely inexperienced.

“Four of the six (players) have never played competitive tennis, not even during high school,” said Killion. “We’re a very young, yet raw group of players. They’re all freshmen so we should have a stronger year next season.”

When asked to name players whose performance has been above and beyond expectations, Coach Killion mentioned Breanna Wood and Veronica Vonkirk.

Effort cannot be taught. Professional tennis players Serena and Venus Williams are known for their tremendous success on the court, but even they admit that their performance is largely due to effort.

Venus Williams once said, “I always give 110 percent in my matches. Effort is most important.”

While the season hasn’t gone as well as some had hoped for, the team’s youth, hard work and commitment should pay off in the future.

“We should have a stronger year next season,” said Killion.
**Story by**

**Lili Berni**

**Reporter**

The Victor Valley College English Department is having their 23rd annual writing contest and encourages students to submit their pieces to Tim Adell in the ATC or electronically by the deadline of March 26, 2010. Winners get monetary prizes and their writing in a magazine featuring winning art submissions on the front and back cover.

Students who are eligible to compete are those who have been attending VVC since the Spring 2009 semester. They may turn in up to five submissions in either of the following categories: short story, short-short, personal narrative, essay, poetry or artwork. Each submission must have a cover page indicating category, title of the work, student’s name, address, student ID number, phone number and email if possible. The student’s name should not be on the actual work being submitted. Each piece can be submitted to Tim Adell in the Technology Center room 140 or via email at adellt@vvc.edu. Adell can also be contacted at (760) 245-4271, extension 2691.

The judges are comprised of several different teachers on campus and; 1st, 2nd and 3rd place writers will win $75, $50 and $25 respectively.

Also, artwork displayed on the front cover will win $50 and artwork displayed on the back cover will win $35. The judges will also select honorable mentions and although they do not win money, they will get published in the magazine.

“We will judge based on the merit of each work. Originality, freshness of approach—however they happen, they will weigh heavily. If we see something that interests us, for whatever reason, that will work well,” said Adell, VVC instructor and coordinator of the contest.

“Anyone who wants to write better needs first to read. Anyone who doesn't want to read has no genuine desire to write—just a desire to force people to listen. And that's fascist not interesting. People should read as a writer, paying attention to details of punctuation, grammar, technique and other methods as they go,” said Adell on students who want to improve their writing skills.

The past four years of publication has also included a section for faculty members. They do not qualify to compete nor do they compete amongst each other, but instead are given the opportunity to be published alongside the students. Diane Wollan, VVC counselor, submitted poetry to last year’s edition.

“The VVC Writing Contest is a wonderful opportunity for students to show off their written work and perhaps win a cash prize. I publicize the contest in my Guidance 55 and 56 classes and encourage other faculty to share the information in their classes. Seeing the artwork and listening to the students read their pieces at the award ceremony which is held in the VVC Library in June, always leaves me inspired and optimistic,” said Wollan.

Leandra Moreno was the winner of the cover art from last semester.

“It felt really good winning, even though I still haven’t seen the finished product. I might submit some of my writing this semester because I haven’t had the chance to work on too much of my artwork,” said Moreno.

Magazines from last semester’s contest are available for purchase in the library for $.50 each.

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**Little Women cast; musical to be staged in May**

Professor Ed Heaberlin has announced via campus email that all roles have been chosen for the production of “Little Women: The Musical,” based on the Louisa May Alcott novel.

Principle roles are Marmee, Dianne Wollan; Jo, Kara Woodward; Meg, Brooke Woodward; Beth, Ammiel Hamrick; Amy, Katelwyn Grebel; Aunt March, Cynthia Meade; Laurie Lawrence, Caleb Green; Professor Bhaer, Matt Thomas; Mr. Lawrence, Giovanni Maldonado; and Mr. Brooke, Johnathon Race. Ensemble roles have also been assigned.

More information will be released in the coming weeks.

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**Two faculty members honored in wider community**

Dr. Marc Skuster has been selected by the Teachers R Heroes program, campus spokesman Bill Greulich announced. Skuster received the award at the March 9 Board of Trustees meeting.

Separately, Jaye Tashima was the subject of a lengthy profile article in the March 8 edition of the Daily Press as part of its Outstanding Women. It is still readable on the paper’s website, www.vvdailypress.com

**Briefs Compiled by Adviser/Instructor Judith Pfeffer**
The Vagina Monologues to Premiere March 25th

Eleven women will talk about the deepest, darkest fantasies and fears of women in a play about sex, violence and their vaginas in the upcoming Victor Valley College production of The Vagina Monologues, directed by Claudia Basha.

The Vagina Monologues was created by playwright Eve Ensler. She spoke to women from different cultures to gain an insight to thoughts that stay hidden away. She mainly spoke about women against violence towards fellow women.

Ensler heard stories from about 200 women and made monologues from them. These women had serious issues that couldn’t be discussed with anyone else they knew.

“People might be put off by the title, but this play is both funny and serious about women’s issues and has an important message for men and women,” said Basha.

The play will feature women of different races, sizes and ages. They will deliver their own monologue to illustrate different women’s issues, ranging from the intensely personal to the universal.

Performer Dee Ramsey’s monologue touches on vagina mutilation.

“It is an honor to give a voice to those vaginas that are unable to or afraid to speak for themselves,” said Ramsey, a professional performer and standup comedian.

Another performer Joellen Rissland delivers a monologue called My Vagina is my Village, discussing the plight of women in Yugoslavia.

“The cast is great and everyone in it is an individual who will bring all sorts of flavor to the table.” said Rissland.

The play is scheduled to premiere on March 25th, with successive performances on March 26th, 27th and 28th, and on April 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th. The performances start at 7 p.m., with the exception of the shows on March 28th and April 4th, which will start at 2 p.m.
The Brett Side:

Hell No, We Don’t Know!

Column by Brett Diaz
Contributing Writer

People protesting probably pisses you off. Yeah? Me too. Well, that is to say that people protesting for no good reason pisses me off. “Oh,” you say, “But what's a good reason, then? What about education?” Yeah, that's a good one, I guess. But then they actually went and protested on my campus—and on a day I was actually there, no less! And the worst part about it is that I can't seem to comprehend why.

Now, as I am told, these recent protests were about the funding cuts made to the CSU-UC systems. I can only understand one thing if this is the case: these folks know little about the state budget (or I don't, one of the two). The group wants the cuts to stop, campus furloughs to cease, courses to remain open and so on, but for tuition and fees to stay the same.

Just where on the Governor's green astro turf do they suppose such money comes from? Surely it is the dastardly Republican government, with their evil schemes siphoning off our education dollars. Maybe it's the education-hating commies. I just don't know. But it surely is not the natural result of a failing economy, sinking faster than any bucket can bail.

What is really going on is no less than the natural result of a failing economy, sinking faster than any bucket can bail. In fact, if anything, the fault is with our voting habits. That's right, the other possible problem is we, the voters.

While young hippies everywhere are crying for their education, their parents, friends and neighbors voted for a high speed train! “But that train will go fast as #@$!,” one young man exclaimed. Yes, my friend, it will, but with what money will construction costs be paid?

“Stay off my lawn. And stop chanting. I beg of you.”

“'But that train will go fast as #@$!,' one young man exclaimed. Yes, my friend, it will, but with what money will construction costs be paid?”

“Stay off my lawn. And stop chanting. I beg of you.”

“'But, we're already stretched too thin,' you cry? Well now you know how the Governor and his super corrupt group of elitist legislating cronies feels.

Protests against a severely over drawn state government and Regents do nothing but annoy people. Instead, educate our voters about government spending before voting on initiatives, perhaps. Or even acknowledge that in the current situation, it's better to lose a few classes and pay a few more dollars, than it is to lose it all. Just maybe. If not, we can just blame the federal government, right?

Either way, stay off my lawn. And stop chanting. I beg of you.

This rant brought to you by: Protest the Hero - “Blindfolds Aside” and “Common Sense” by Thomas Paine.

Brett Diaz is a former reporter for the VVC RamPage Student Newspaper. Diaz currently studies Political Science at Cal State San Bernardino, but mainly his life revolves around death metal, video games and sushi. Emphasis on the sushi.
GENERAL INFORMATION

The RamPage is a newspaper published as an educational exercise and First Amendment Public Forum by students at Victor Valley College in Victorville, Calif. Issues come out approximately twice a month in the two full-length semesters, generally each February, March, April, May, September, October, November and December, for a total of 14 issues each calendar year.

The views expressed by the RamPage are not necessarily those of VVC, its board of trustees, its administration, its faculty, its staff, its Associated Student Body Council or its students.

The RamPage welcomes press releases, story ideas, letters to the editor, guest articles and guest editorials. Submit proposed items to the on-campus mailbox of RamPage Adviser Judith Pfeffer — clearly marked as being submitted for publication. Or, email them to vvcrampage@gmail.com or mail information to RamPage, Victor Valley College, 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395 or leave a message at 760-245-4271 extension 2773.

ADVERTISING

The RamPage generally accepts as advertising only 8 1/2 - by -11-inch flyers as inserts. The cost is $100, which covers insertion/distribution of 1,500 copies. The cost and responsibility of designing, reproducing and delivering the 1,500 flyers to the RamPage is borne by the advertiser.

To discuss display advertising options or to purchase any form of advertisement, call Assistant Director of Auxiliary Services Deanna Murphy at 760-245-4271 extension 2707.

Acceptance of any advertisement in the RamPage does not constitute endorsement by the paper, college, district, board, council or student body.
Eve Ensler's

The Vagina Monologues

Directed by: CLAUDIA BASHA
Celebrated as the bible for a new generation of women, The Vagina Monologues has been performed in cities across America and at hundreds of college campuses. It has inspired a dynamic grassroots movement—V-Day—to stop violence against women. Witty and irreverent, compassionate and wise, Eve Ensler's Obie Award-winning masterpiece gives voice to women's deepest fantasies and fears, guaranteeing that no one will ever look at a woman's body, or think of sex, in quite the same way again.

BLACK BOX THEATRE

March
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7:00pm 7:00pm 7:00pm 2:00pm

April
1 2 3 4
7:00pm 7:00pm 7:00pm 2:00pm

Order your Tickets Online: www.vvc.edu/tix
Ticket Info: 245-4271 ext. 849

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Adults $10
Seniors/Children $7

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