Rams Outmatched in Exhibition Game
Spirits Still High Despite Defeat

The Victor Valley College baseball team travelled to Adelanto to face off against the High Desert Mavericks on Tuesday, April 6, 2010. The game opened up the renamed Stater Bros. Stadium for the first time to start off the season for the Mavericks. The exhibition game between the two teams is an annual event held in an effort to raise money, and for the Rams to gain experience in a Major League environment.

Before the game, the ceremonial first pitch was thrown out by 11-year-old cancer survivor Madison Marzano. Once the game started, the Mavericks wasted no time to start hitting the ball out of the ballpark. Mavericks shortstop Juan Diaz opened up the first inning with a two-run homerun down the right field line.

It wasn’t just the Mavericks’ hitting that was overpowering, but the pitching also kept the Rams in check. “We broke eleven bats,” catcher Thomas Bagwell said after the game. In the fifth inning the Rams finally got on the board when right fielder Mike McAllister scored the Rams’ first run.

The Mavericks never let up on the Rams by scoring ten runs in the last three innings. The Mavericks ended up winning with a final score of 27-2.

“We were overmatched in the game,” Rams third baseman Chris Senn said.

“The Rams gather before the game to take a team photo. Photo by Joseph Ciulla, Reporter.

Spring Dance Concert Set to Amaze Audiences

The upcoming Victor Valley College Dance Concert is a sure-to-amaze Broadway themed spectacle involving student dancers and is choreographed by Lynn Guardado and Nancy Helms. It will be a two-night production in the Performing Arts Center, June 4 and June 5 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is $10 for adults, $7 for seniors and children and is free for ASB cardholders.

Past shows have incorporated many elements of dance to songs by popular artists ranging from Enya to Gwen Stefani. However, this semester will be a Broadway theme with numbers from Lion King, Moulin Rouge, West Side Story, Nine, Phantom of the Opera and Oklahoma.

Continued in Dance on Page 3
Students’ Choice Awards Give Recognition to Staff and Faculty

Story by Marie Rogers
Reporter

The Third Annual Students’ Choice Awards will take place as a luncheon the second week of May in the Student Activities Center and will honor Victor Valley College faculty and staff members. Those being honored will be chosen by nominations that VVC students send in. The nominations must be sent in by 5 p.m., Friday, April 30, 2010 to Music Vernola’s email mvjarny@gmail.com, or to any Associated Student Body Council member who has nomination slips for students to fill out.

Each nomination, emailed or not, must have the students’ name, the nominee’s name, the nominee’s title/position and a brief reason why they are being nominated. “Students should base their nominations on someone who has made a difference in their learning experience. We’re trying to change the categories and make it an impact in the lives of our students. Quite often we lose track of students and never hear back once a semester is over. Teachers always appreciate knowing that they’ve touched their students’ lives,” said math professor Stephen Toner. Toner was recognized in the First Students’ Annual Choice Awards and said the ceremony was a great surprise.

The ASB is funding the event and paying for any awards given to the chosen teachers. The purpose of the ceremony is to recognize excellent staff and faculty.

Traffic Light to be Installed at Fish Hatchery Road

Story by Julie Bridenthal
Reporter

Within six months, officials say, a traffic light will be placed at the corner of Fish Hatchery and Bear Valley roads, aiming to make getting onto Bear Valley road safer for drivers. Fish Hatchery road is the entrance to lower campus.

“I think the light is long overdue. It was originally planned approximately seven years ago as part of an agreement with the City of Victorville and a proposed park-n-ride also to be located on our campus,” Steve Garcia said in an email. Garcia is the director of Facilities Construction and Contracts.

The new traffic light is being put up on the eastern side of Fish Hatchery Road. When asked if this traffic light will make getting onto Bear Valley Road safer, Garcia’s answer was “Yes, much safer. Students and visitors to the college will now be able to leave the campus exiting Fish Hatchery road in an easterly direction without having to fight oncoming traffic.”

Getting onto Bear Valley Road is “a nightmare,” Victor Valley College student Dennis Black said. “I think this light will help with getting onto Bear Valley Road much safer. It always takes a long time to get onto Bear Valley Road with all the oncoming traffic. It’s about time we have a light to help with this problem,” Black said.

“The city of Victorville had a grant that would fund the project. The funding fell short by approximately $128,000. Our Associated Student Body contributed $20,000; the city of Hesperia and Excelsior Ed Center all contributed to the $128,000 shortfall,” Garcia said.

Garcia says the new traffic light will not make traffic worse. “The project has been bid and awarded. The light is on order and should be delivered within five months and installed by the end of September,” Garcia said. The new light should be up and ready just in time for the beginning of Fall 2010 semester at VVC.

Blood Driving Coming This Month

Story by Marriah Eve
Reporter

Victor Valley College is partnering with Life Stream to hold a Blood Drive and Bone Marrow Screening on Monday, April 19. The blood drive will be held in the blood mobile outside the Student Activities Center between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Life Stream holds a blood drive at VVC once every semester. The blood donated at this event will benefit our community. Life Stream is hoping to reach a goal of at least 300 units of donated blood during this event according to Cody Jones who works at Life Stream.

“It will go to helping this community as well as others,” said Kristy Heisser who also works at Life Stream.

“It renews your blood cells, and makes you feel really, really good after donating,” said Heisser about donating blood.

Children 15 and 16 can donate blood with a parent permission form. Ages 17 and up can just drop in to make donations.

According to Heisser at least 95 percent of Americans will need a blood transfusion sometime in their lives. Blood donations are used in transfusions that save lives every day, so it is important that people participate in blood drives like this one.
Dance from Page 1

The primary style of dance in the performance is musical theatre and jazz, but in certain numbers like Phantom of the Opera and Lion King, balletic and modern dance elements are used.

“The one dance everyone should look forward to is the ‘hand jive’ from Grease,” said performer Marsha Toy.

Those performing will be students enrolled in the physical education dance classes. The material for the show is introduced after the first day of class and roles are cast by the instructor based on technique and experience. Many of the performances are very technical and caution must be practiced as at one rehearsal there were two different injuries, though no one was severely hurt.

Regardless, dance instructor Lynn Guardado says it is very fun and an excellent source of release and exercise.

“You have to be very hard working, dedicated and patient, but make sure you have fun otherwise there’s no point,” said performer Shaun Cardenas.

Funding for the dance concert comes from the P.E. department’s account. Also, money earned from ticket sales go right back into the funds for next semester’s dance concert.

VVC Women’s Tennis Team Gives Their All Against COD

VVC’s Women’s Tennis team had a good game on Thursday, April 8 against College of the Desert. This was the second round that VVC played against COD the first round ended in COD’s favor, and that made them a tough competitor.

VVC dug in and got their hands dirty.

The day started out with doubles matches. Each match unfolded with the usual Tennis action; one server hit the ball over the net to the other team retaliated with a hit. The first team to reach 10 wins the match. Back and forth the balls went over the nets until the match was over.

The score for each match was: 1-10, 2-10 and 3-10, COD won all doubles matches.

VVC’s Breanna Wood played a tough game. “I thought I did good, and I don’t feel too bad because they were just really good,” Wood said. She said that she wanted to work on her serves more and be better prepared for another day of competition.

“I need to learn to use my feet more and not over think,” said Ram’s Naroly Castellanos.

VVC had another chance for a comeback in the singles matches. Scores were as follows 0-6 1-6, 3-6 3-6, 0-6 0-6, 3-6 4-6, 0-6 1-6, and forfeit. VVC won two matches. VVC will have another chance to beat COD next week.

Ram’s Head Coach Marites Killion said, “I tell them I don’t care about losing, as long as they’re trying their best,”

“I love my team; they are so much fun. They are vivacious and I love their energy,” Killion said. Clearly, there were no losers today.
Rams Softball Bests College of the Desert

Story and Photo by David Lopez
Reporter

It was another close game in the home of the Rams on Wednesday, April 7, when the Victor Valley College softball team took on Rio Hondo. Before this conference game, the team had a conference record of 4-6 and an overall record of 13-16. Before the game, Head Coach Donell Thomas says that the team has been working on hitting and fielding for the match up against Rio Hondo, and also working more with the pitchers.

During the game team leaders Sophomore starting pitcher Cereena Marquez and Sophomore catcher Alex Griffin lead their team an impressive win after being down 4 to 1. Marquez had another outstanding game with eight strikeouts and an RBI late in the sixth inning. The turning point of the game was when Griffin hit a 3-run home run to tie it and send it into extra innings.

The team showed resiliency to come from behind and steal a win from their conference opponent with a 5 to 4 victory. After the game, Marquez says she was happy to get the win.

“It was about time,” Marquez said. Marquez says she prepared for Rio Hondo by working on not floating her pitches. Griffin says she worked on her defense and offense for the match up against Rio, and that the win was the most felt win she has had this season.

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**Cast of Godspell Aims to Put Audiences Under its “Spell”**

**Story and Photo by Chris Galvan**
**Reporter**

Director Karla Franko is set to blow the roof off of the High Desert Center for the Arts with her version of the hit off-Broadway musical Godspell on April 23.

The musical, written by three-time Academy Award winner Stephen Schwartz, was originally released in the 1970’s, and is based on the gospel of St. Matthew, which chronicles the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This contemporary fast paced pop rock musical stars Victor Valley College’s own John Paul Vargas as Jesus, and Don Johnson as Judas. Along with 22 other VVC students, and many others with ages ranging from 8 to 23.

Although the musical’s cast is mostly made up of VVC students, Standing Room Only Productions is producing the musical. SRO’s founder is also the director Karla Franko, who started the organization in 2005. Since then, Karla has put on a number of musicals while trying to build awareness towards the performing arts.

“I have to have SRO because kids are growing up without arts, and are illiterate, and that’s terrible to me!” said Franko.

Franko has been teaching dance at VVC for 14 years, and has made performing arts a passion in her life. In 2005, the first musical SRO had ever done was Godspell, and Franko decided she wanted to do it again. Along with the cast are three members of the first Godspell.

With the premiere just a couple of weeks away, the cast has had little time to rehearse, but it seems as though they are not worried. “It would be better if we had more time, but we’ll be fine”, said Franko’s daughter, Chelsea Franko, who is also in the musical.

Along with getting ready for their big day on April 23, additional pressure is being put on the cast. They are set to put on a performance during the 7th inning stretch at Mavericks’ game on April 18. These hard working performers don’t care much about the pressure of time that has been put on them. All they seem to care about is putting on a great show.

“This musical is family friendly, and has lots of good lessons. So people should just come out and see it. It’s going be great!” said Vargas.

Godspell is set to premiere on April 23 with performances on the 24, 25, and 30, along with performances on May 1, 2, 7, and 8, at the High Desert Center for the Arts in Old Town Victorville. Performances set to start at 7:30 p.m., except on April 25 and May 2, which will start at 2:30 p.m. Also on April 24 and May 1, there will be two showings at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $12 for the general public, and $10 for seniors, students, and children, and can be reserved by calling the High Desert Center of the Arts at (760) 243-7493, or can be purchased the day of the performance. Will Call tickets can also be reserved by emailing pertinent information to srohighdesert@yahoo.com. The High Desert Center for the Arts is located on 8th Street and C Street in Old Towne Victorville.

**Cross Country Teams Gear Up For Upcoming Season**

**Story by Adreana Young**
**Reporter**

Adreana Young

The Victor Valley College cross country team ended their last season with the women’s team placing 13 in the state championship and the men’s team placing 22 out of 28 in the state championship.

“We did great last year and we’re looking to do better next year,” said Kevin Barda, the cross country team coach and college recruiter. Barda would like the teams to place in the top ten in state for their upcoming season.

VVC’s cross country team has worked hard for their past records. The team runs between 6 and 12 miles a day according to Barda.

Even with all the hard work put in, there is no shortage of high spirits and positive attitudes on the team. “I think we’re an awesome team. We stick together,” said Maria Magallanes, one of the returning cross country runners.

“Last season was fun,” said Andrew Rivera, another one of the teams returners. “We have a great coach,” said Rivera. Barda won Foothill Conference Coach of the Year for women’s cross country in 2009.

Though, the team has had success in their past seasons, they are still always looking towards the future.

“(We’re) constantly trying to recruit your team,” said Rivera. “I should be a lot better. I’ve been training really hard,” said Rivera.

“I want to be in 18 to 19 minutes,” said Magallanes, regarding her performance for the upcoming season.

VVC’s cross country team trains all year long for their three month season, which starts in September and goes into November.

The cross country team is recruiting for their 2010 season. “It’s a hot time for recruiting. I have an open door policy. This sport rewards hard work,” said Barda.

The cross country team is gearing up for their next run at the state competition with hard work and new runners to bring their team to the next level. “The team should be solid,” said Rivera.

“I’m excited about next season,” said Barda.
Writing Center Tutors Present at Conference

Story by
Roderick Gray
Managing Editor

Victor Valley College Writing Center tutors participated in a day of Writing Center presentations with 14 other Southern California schools at Azusa Pacific University on Feb. 27, 2010.

VVC tutors Edikan Akpabio, Katie Chavez, Leslie Hutchinson, Kristy Krumsiek, Ana Rosales, Theresa Valente and Edmundo Vides presented seventh on the agenda with schools like Azusa Pacific University, Cal State Fullerton, Chapman University, National University, Chaffey College and Pomona College. This was the second annual conference that the VVC tutors attended, but the first where they delivered a presentation.

“Well, the presentation was put together by all seven tutors, plus Krystal Carrillo who didn’t attend the conference. Krystal, Edikin and Edmundo put together the Power Point, while Ana, Katie, Leslie, Theresa and I presented it at the conference,” said Krumsiek.

“There was a brief silent film skit that was performed by Leslie as Charlie Chaplin with silent participants Katie, Edmundo, Theresa and me.

“I had one man from Los Angeles City College come up to me after the presentation and shake my hand, thanking me for the presentation. He told me that it was a lot of fun and was very informative. We were thrilled to get approved, since this was the first time VVC’s tutors submitted a proposal,” Krumsiek said.

“A Place Where Writing Happens” was the title of the presentation, and it allowed the tutors to provide a scenario showing why writing centers are a place where students can receive the necessary assistance to improve writing skills, have access to time with tutors, resources and formally become acquainted with the writing process.

“I would have been nervous, say one year ago, but since I present so frequently at school, it was really cool,” said Hutchinson.

Creative Writing Club Seeks Members

Story by
Racheal Rickman
Reporter

Starting a club can be a lot of work, just ask the members of the newest club on Victor Valley College’s campus The Guild of Creative Writers.

“A lot of paperwork goes into starting a club,” said the club’s Treasurer Micah Raimo. As stated in The Associated Student Body’s rules, in order to start a club on campus each club must have a VVC faculty/staff advisor and an appointed officer to each position. Officers for the Creative writers club include President Michael Moore, Vice president Cheré Smith, Secretary Joy Hmura, Treasurer Micah Raimo, ICC Representative Ashlei McPherson, and club Historian Amanda Eikom. A second ICC Rep position will be filled as soon as possible.

“I wanted to do things my own way I felt that writers needed to connect with each other. That’s why I started the guild,” Moore said.

“My Responsibility is to work individuality with students, and have them run their ideas by me. The students do most of the work, this is a student driven organization,” said Tim Adell, faculty advisor to the club.

No final details have been set as of yet but the club does have plans to make their own publication of short stories, poetry, and some articles. The club encourages interested students to join.

“The club also welcomes all students who have an interest in writing professionally or just for fun,” Moore said.

The club currently has ten members and is always looking for more. “Write anything, a speed-off of emotions or a rant,” Raimo said.

“I want to get the message out that you don’t have to be the best writer, we all have insecurities, but we are not here to judge, we are here to help and enjoy each other,” said McPherson. The Guild of Creative Writers meets every other Wednesday in the Quiet Room located in the SAC building from 12p.m. to 1p.m.

For further information on joining the club Michael Moore can be reached at Michael1000@yahoo.com or one can contact Micah Raimo at raven_messinger@yahoo.com
News In Brief

*Campus PD Enforces Metered Parking Space Policy
Leonard Knight, the Victor Valley College Chief of Police wrote a message for staff and faculty regarding an issue about metered parking. The officers will be enforcing that “the metered parking spaces are not for long term, daily or permanent parking,” Knight said as a reminder. If anyone has any questions about this Chief Knight can be reached at ext. 2516.

*VVC Purchases Electronic Vehicles
Victor Valley College recently purchased four electronic vehicles. The purchase was made possible through the use of Regional Development funds. These vehicles will aid the College with its environmental commitment to reduce carbon emissions and will replace older less efficient vehicles. These vehicles will be used in the campus wide transport of employees and in the Maintenance and Operations department.

*Agricultural Department Holding Plant Sale
The Agriculture and Natural Resources department will have its annual spring plant sale on Saturday April 24 and Sunday April 25. There will be a pre-sale and plant give away for VVC employees on Friday April 23. A one plant limit per employee will be enforced and quantities are limited. Refreshments will be served.

Briefs compiled by RamPage editors and reporters.

A Word From the Editor

Greetings, RamPage readers!

We at the RamPage newspaper hope you enjoyed this issue, but we’re looking for something from you: we want to hear what you think of our coverage!

If you know of an upcoming event that you think needs to be covered, let us know. And if you have an opinion column, news article, or even a cartoon you think warrants publication in the VVC RamPage newspaper, send it to us for editorial review! We can’t guarantee that we’ll print your work, and there is no pay, but being a published author or cartoonist is never a bad idea.

Please send all suggestions for stories and submissions for potential printing to: VVCRamPage@gmail.com

Thanks!

-Evan Spears
Editor-in-Chief

RamPage, Victor Valley College, 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395 or leave a message at 760-245-4271 extension 2773.

Managing Editor: Roderick Gray
News Editor: Jonathan Brown
Features Editor: Kelli McGurk
Sports Editor: Shaun Canady
Adviser/Instructor: Judith Pfeffer
Reporters: Lili Berni, Julie Bridenthal, Ryan Carter, Joseph Ciulla, Kori Cook, Marriah Eve, Patrick Foster, Chris Galvan, David Lopez, Kevin Poff, Rachael Rickman, Marie Rogers, Saira Sanders, Amber Schwartz, Adriana Young

Administration/Faculty/Staff Mentors: Patty Golder, Bev Huiner, Meredith Johns, Scott Mulligan, Deanna Murphy, Christopher O’Heam, Robert Sewell, P.J. Teel, Paul Williams

Printing: Victor Valley College Campus Print Shop

CONTACT INFORMATION
VVCRampage, 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395
Phone: (760) 245-4271 Extension 2773 • Fax: (760) 241-5723
Email: vvcrampage@gmail.com or email Judith Pfeffer via GroupWise or at judithpfeffer@yahoo.com
Website: http://www.myspace.com/VVCRampage

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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.

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