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*"All our dreams can come true – if we have the courage to pursue them."~Walt Disney*

# Last chance for VVC

## Campus Communication Day is held to inform faculty that this is VVC's last chance to come off of probationary status

Story By **Kristen Martin**  
*Features Editor*

Victor Valley College is closing in on the end of the Accreditation probation that has been in effect for approximately two years. The first of four Campus Communication Days for spring semester focused on addressing issues with accreditation.

At the meeting held Feb. 25, seven panelists gave briefs and were able to answer questions asked by the audience. The panelists included Mark Clair, Justin Gatewood, Christopher O'Hearn, Jessica Gibbs, Peter Allan, David Gibbs, and GH Javaheripour.

"We're at an interesting time in our life, and we're going to be fine," said Superintendent O'Hearn. O'Hearn has not once doubted his faith in this school. He believes whole heartedly that VVC will prove itself to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges and keep its accreditation and be a fully functioning institution for many more years to come. "We have a little bit more to go, and we'll do it."

VVC started off with nine recommendations in 2011 when the school was first put on probationary status. The three recommendations remaining include the implementation of

Student Learning Outcomes, communication on campus, and budget.

The school has until Oct. 15 to provide evidence to the ACCJC that they have fully met every recommendation; if the school has not met all recommendations, VVC will lose its accreditation.

"Campus Communication Day is an event used to communicate information amongst all employees at VVC," said history professor Jessica Gibbs. "It is video-recorded so that those that may not have the opportunity to attend because they are serving students at the time can still participate in the campus-wide dialog and continue the dialog within their areas amongst colleagues."

Very few staff attended the meeting; compared to the first Campus Communication Day held in November, only about one quarter returned. O'Hearn voiced his concern very strongly addressing the fact that so many staff failed to include themselves in such an



Peter Allan explains the remaining recommendations VVC must fulfill before the probationary status is lifted. *Photo by Kristen Martin, Features Editor*

important event.

"I'm not surprised that many faculty did not show up," said Vice President Allan. "It was scheduled for 10 a.m. on a Monday morning, many teachers are in class. It was also a last minute meeting. Getting faculty to attend any meeting is already hard enough."

The next Campus Communication Day is to be held on March 27 at 3:30 p.m. It is

open to all staff and students; everyone is encouraged to join. Questions regarding accreditation may be answered on the VVC website where all recommendations and progress have been documented.

# The buck stops here

## New policy prevents students from repeating some courses

Story by **Ashlee Dubach**  
News Editor

The new Repeatability regulation will prevent students from re-entry into many courses at community colleges in California effective fall, 2013.

Currently, community colleges allow students to repeat classes they have successfully passed. This is particular to Fine Arts, P.E. and some Liberal Arts classes such as Journalism. Maximum credit limits put a cap on the amount of times a student can repeat a class, but the limits are hazy.

"The repeatability is another means of legislation limiting the number of units people take," said Thomas Miller, Victor Valley College Music Director.

With this new piece of legislation, repeatability of courses will be terminated. Music departments are largely affected by this change due to the importance of repetition to the growth of student ability.

"All music majors are required to have an ensemble at least once. Every semester of those first four semesters for us, four years total for a bachelor's degree," said Miller.

Since the music departments can clearly show that repeating classes through their programs is beneficial, they have been exempt from repeatability regulations to a certain extent.

"What they said was, 'look, if you can demonstrate that there is a requirement at the transfer level for the student to have that class every time, if we could prove that was a requirement for us and we attach that evidence to our course outlines we are allowed to repeat that class four times,'" said Miller.

Universities require repeating certain music based classes in order for students to transfer. This creates one exception.

"Everybody realizes with an applied skill like music, one time through the class isn't going to do it," said Miller.

Concrete evidence of necessary repetition is fairly easy to track through the success of music students. Other programs, however, struggle to effectively prove an importance of the continuation of a single class.

"There is also an exception for competition-based courses, such as forensics," said Rich Cameron, Chair of Mass Communications at Cerritos College.

Some classes are exempt from this new repeatability regulation, including Model United Nations, with the content of the class being directed towards competitions involving people not enrolled at Victor Valley College. However, due to the cuts in class retake, schools are being required to look at the programs they wish to have students repeat and attempt to create divisions within that class. These classes do not qualify for exemption.

"I'm not opposed to it. I think we sometimes keep students too long at a community college level. The more we can encourage them to move on, we're doing them a favor. From a newspaper point it's really difficult but it's forced us to look more closely at the program and I think that's a positive," said Chaffey journalism advisor Doug Walsh.

Each class will have sub courses known as a family of courses for a topic. A student can take a maximum of four courses within the family. Classes considered for division will be broken down depending on local decisions by Chancellor Chair members and College staff.

According to Julie Bruno and David Morse on the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges website, "There is no Title 5 limit on the number of

levels or variations that can be created."

Repeatability does not prevent teachers from creating more than four courses in a family. As a commonality, courses have been divided into: beginner, intermediate, advanced, and professional or portfolio. However, classes can be divided in a number of different ways.

"The new regulations do establish that in physical education and visual and performing arts, students may have no more than four enrollments in any given group of active participatory courses that are related in content," said Bruno and Morse.

Course contents are now being regulated at community colleges throughout California in preparation for the fall change. Teachers must look at their classes and separate material into categories for students. With levels of content separated, students can spend more time in one field without disrupting repeatability terms. Even though students can take four courses in a family, enrollments are not counted solely on passed courses.

"The family rule, as it applies to Fine Arts and PE at least, is that a student is allowed four attempts in the course. If a person receives a substandard grade --D, F, drop-- in a family course, then it counts as an attempt," said Cameron.

Teachers voice concern about the new program. If levels of courses are now required in certain instances, advisors may need to be on campus longer to teach separate classes.

"It's what they call an overlay. If I had three separate classes, I couldn't teach because I'm a part timer. So what they do is kind of overlap everything. I'm going to have all the kids at the same time with arranged hours," said Walsh.

## News in brief

- Next Board of Trustee regular meeting is March 12 at 6 p.m. in the Administration Building (#10).

- "Lewis Williams Passport Travel Series Jerusalem: Sacred and Profane" March 17 2:30 p.m. in PAC. General Admission \$8 ASB Cardholders have free admission.

- Sign up in transfer center (Bldg. 55) to meet with University reps in the month of March 760-245-4271 x2139

- 2013 scholarship dive deadline for applications will be March 15. Apply online, look for the link on the financial aid page on vvc.edu or call 760-245-4271 x 2277 for more information.

- Last day to drop a class and still receive a 'W' is March 29.

- Victor Valley College Music Program presents the Spring Music Recital March 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the PAC. Admission is free

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# Finding your niche

## VVC students explore career fields outside the norm

Story by **Ethan McGarvey**  
Senior Writer

Victor Valley College students are able to pursue a variety of careers in programs that are not well known. These niche programs can provide students with the foundation to obtain a career after completing their education.

"We are a communicator; we allow others to communicate better through our images than they can communicate by themselves. We have to find a way to show that on a piece of paper, their ideas, that's photography," said the photography program facilitator, Brent Wood.

Wood has been teaching photography at VVC for 12 years, with 30 more years of prior professional photography experience. Wood has also taken photos for major corporations, like N.A.S.A., and the military. There are many different avenues that a student can pursue in the photography field.

"There's portraits, there's weddings, the obvious things. There's scenics. The rest of it is some form of industry: commercial, industrial, fashion, forensic. Some form of documenting something for someone else," said Wood.

Photography is not an easy field to find a workable wage to support a family. In any visual art career, this is not an easy task. The constant uprising of the digital age has radically changed the profession; it takes more work for a person to sepa-

rate themselves from the rest of the pack. And that is where education comes in.

"You learn the craft once you're there, at a job. The groundwork that you need to learn, that is your education," said Wood.

VVC will be enough for a stu-

"You don't have to be a good artist, to be a good animator. I think more importantly, than anything else, you have to use your creativity. You have to use your imagination," said instructor of 3D Animation Steve Nelle.

There are no pre-requisites to

ly into the work force.

"What's required, more than anything, is a demo reel. The first thing they [employers] don't want to see is your face, they want to see your work," said Nelle.

And with a high starting salary, on average, the competition for animation jobs has become more

and more competitive. But, as with any other career, it is all up to the individual to keep driving forward to reach that goal.

"The ability that someone brings in or creates, with our help, it all depends on the person. I can't infuse motivation, enthusiasm and talent. It's all up to the person," said Nelle.

Another low-key program on the VVC cam-

pus is the political science program. A lot of the program is dedicated to the ins and outs of government systems; however, those are not the only possibilities. For example, the law aspects can also be beneficial.

"In paralegal studies, you do not need a bachelor's degree. It routinely comes up, as one of the jobs that you just need an associate's degree or less. It is also one of the higher paying jobs, for an associate's degree or less," said Professor of political science David Dupree.

The adjunct instructors within the paralegal studies have a lot of contacts within the legal community, which is a way the instruc-



In the 3D Animation Program students learn the art of animation and working with computer programs creating the digital effects. Posters hang on the wall exemplifying the possibilities.

Photo by Ethan McGarvey, Senior Writer

dent to get accepted at a four-year university. After getting a four-year degree, it becomes easier to get hired. Some of the more photo-specific industries require even more specialized training, but that is only gained from experience and time in a profession.

"It's about getting in someone's head. What you wanted to see, what you wanted to show, and just be a photographer. What am I photographing and why? Otherwise, it's just a picture," said Wood.

Another program that might be unheard-of, on the campus, is the 3D animation program. The program is another art field and almost all of the popular movies or video games today, have some form of 3D animation.

begin in the animation program. All that is really required is basic computer knowledge. "It's not all Hollywood by any means. You have architectural applications, mechanical design, medical visualizations, court room work and web graphics. Everyday more and more jobs are opening up," said Nelle.

There are three different skill levels: beginning, intermediate, and advanced. Students can also earn certificates for completing the programs. Once done at VVC, there are three avenues that students can take. One is to continue down the animation path to a university or a specialized 3D school. Another is an internship at a studio or an animation company. And finally, a student can just try to go direct-

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# Paying the price

## Students dig deep into their pockets as textbook prices continue to rise

Story by Kelli McGurk

Editor-in-Chief

Contributing Reporting by

Kristen Martin

Features Editor

Being a college student, you are probably all too familiar with the cost of your textbooks which may at times, exceed the cost of your tuition. While students deal with the rising cost of tuition, they also have to deal with the sky rocketing costs of textbooks, whose publishers come out with a new edition faster than Apple comes out with a new smart phone.

"Publishers aim to raise their prices for textbooks 10 percent each year," said Carl Durham who handles Victor Valley College's textbook operations.

Websites like Half.com or Abebooks.com offer students an alternative: the ability to buy and sell used textbooks at fractions of the original prices. Many students make up the costs of buying books by reselling them online. Most students can get through a class using a book that is an edition or two

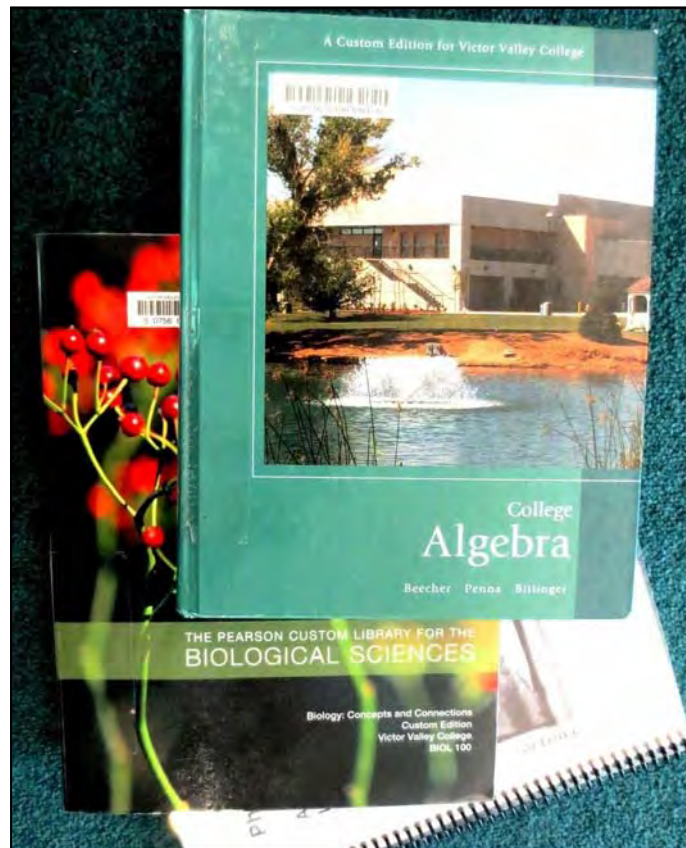
behind, but beyond that, those older textbooks are about as obsolete as your old flip phone.

"I don't buy the textbooks from the school because the prices are way too expensive. I would rather buy them online," said VVC Student Justin Morris.

The bookstore also offers a buyback option where students can get a fraction of what they spent back on a used book. This provides the bookstore with more used books that tend to sell for cheaper prices.

Naturally, these alternatives are cutting deeply into the profits of the publishers. But they have figured out a few ways around that problem.

Many online classes do not just use Blackboard which is free to students, but now also use separate websites, run by those publishers, that require students to purchase access codes. Where do students get these access codes? From the newest and latest edition of the textbook of course. Access codes can only be used once, so even if a penny pinching student bought a used book for a cheaper price, they would not



Professors can put books on reserve which may help students who do not have the funds to purchase textbooks. Some custom edition textbooks, such as these, are on reserve in the library. Photo by Tanya Patterson, Assistant Managing Editor

### Repeatability from page 2

Overlaying classes is one solution to a new found concern. Hours in the class will be layered to compensate for each level of the student's needs. Some categories will need separate class hours, however, due to the abundance of information per course level. Part time teachers, such as Walsh, may run into complications.

"Many schools are choosing to apply the family concept to all active participatory courses in other areas, college newspaper and many vocational (CTE) areas as well. Anything that was formally repeatable and now is not," said Cameron.

Community College regulations will vary from district to district, but the foundation of repeatability boundaries cannot

be shifted. Each district has the local duty to decide to expand repeatability to other departments. This new system leaves students with little room for error.

"The student could retake the course, but would not be able to complete four courses in the family without going to a school in another district," said Cameron.

A failure to successfully pass a class will put students in a tough situation come fall 2013. Attempts at family grouped classes will count, despite the grade.

"The attempt does not follow you around the state....yet. But it does follow you within the same district. The student would have to go to another district to pick up the [needed] course if he/she wanted/needed it to graduate," said Cameron.

have access to the site. These sites sell just the access code alone, but purchasing a used book and then an access code can be more expensive than buying the bundle. The publishers have found this "loophole" to continue making their profits from students.

Students who don't take their classes online are not required to purchase such codes. Don't feel left out. Many colleges now require "custom edition" textbooks that can be nearly impossible to resell online. These textbooks are usually similar to original edition but omit or include chapters and a different ISBN. Some courses at VVC require these custom editions.

"The custom editions are beneficial to colleges because they are cheaper than the standard editions with minor changes; maybe missing a few chapters, changes like that," Durham said.

Students benefit from the savings by purchasing slightly cheaper books, and according to Durham they will also get access to the full version of the book. However, they are hard to sell online because the ISBN number is different from the original, and an online buyer is most likely not taking that same specific course.

Newer editions of a book might contain more educational material, and for years we have dealt with having to buy them. We've even dealt with the insanely high prices for these new textbooks, with the off chance that we might be able to curb that cost, at least a little bit, by reselling. As it seems, there is no end in sight to the rising costs of textbooks for the classes we will need to eventually get a decent job; a job that will hopefully make up for all the money we spent on our education.



# LGBTQA receives charter

Story by **Kristen Martin**  
Features Editor

The gay community expands on Victor Valley College campus as a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Questioning Alliance (LGBTQA) Club gets chartered on March 8.

The purpose of the LGBTQA club is to hopefully educate students about the cultural differences of gay and straight people and also inform the students about the issues within the LGBT community. There are hopes to form a strong support system within the club as well.

"I would like to help LGBT students," said Alejandro Zepeda, president of the new club. "This club will let them know that it's a safe place to let out your feelings."

The LGBTQA club is going to focus on topics such as bullying, coming out, faith, religion and

marriage. Zepeda has said that he will focus the meetings on group discussion with a little bit of time for games and interactions with other members.

"I personally have never been bullied at this school," Zepeda said. "I haven't witnessed any bullying either. So I guess I'd say VVC is pretty tolerant of the gay community."

With the new club coming into effect soon, student development and language senator Angelo Ilang-Ilang is putting together a drag queen bingo event. The money raised will go towards the LGBTQA club.

"Drag queen bingo is for everyone," said Ilang-Ilang. "You don't have to be a guy to do it. Even the girls can come and dress up with big hair and dramatic makeup and have a good time."

The event is currently scheduled for March 22 but is subject

to change. There will be a \$5 entry fee to play, although if dressed in drag, it's free.

For more information about the LGBTQA club, email Alejandro Zepeda at alze08@yahoo.com. For more

information about the Drag Queen bingo, speak with Angelo Ilang-Ilang through the ASB office.



LGBTQA logo  
Art by Alejandro Zepeda

## Niche from page 3

tors can help students get internships and ultimately a full-time job.

"A number of our students get a degree in political science because it parallels pretty close to a law degree," said Dupree.

Maybe law is not the career path for a student, but a bachelor's degree in political science can open up a lot of other career opportunities for students. Some interest groups, like environmental, prefer to see a student with a political science background. Even journalism and to some extent, this publication, have a correlating relationship with politics. So much of journalism has to do with interacting with government and policies.

"If you want to advance within law enforcement, they like to see that degree in political science. For federal law enforcement, FBI or Secret Service, you have to have a bachelor's degree. And

they generally look for law enforcement experience on top of that," said Dupree.

But, maybe a career in politics is exactly what a student wants to do. The beginnings of that career can be found through these programs. A number of students have moved on to city and county level political positions. Some students have even landed jobs within congressional staff positions.

"We encourage students to move on. An associate's degree is great and you're halfway to that bachelor's degree. But while you're doing that, look for someplace with an internship or part-time work," said Dupree, "because once you get out of school, it will not be enough to have a degree. You need work experience along the way."

For those students who want to think outside of the box or are in search of a more thought-provoking challenge, maybe religious studies is the right pro-

gram. There are parallels between the study of religion and philosophy, and both of these concepts overlap one another.

"Religion deals with the fundamental ideas of why do we exist. How did we come to be? Regardless if they are myths or reality, they grapple with fundamental questions. Who am I? Why am I? How do I connect with the supernatural?" said Associate Professor of religious studies Sanejo Leonard, "Religion is one of the more important issues of life, regardless of what you believe. You're gripping with identity."

Religion is interwoven within our society and culture, whether we acknowledge it or not. America is a mixture of all types of religions, with more taking root everyday. And even more religions are starting to become acceptable to the populous. Most people always strive to do something that gives back to others, no matter what the reward.

"You can argue that religion is

a product of culture, a product of society, or that there is always an innate need to tap into something that is not of this world," said Leonard.

If someone wants to pursue a career in religion, the main opportunity would probably come through teaching a religious studies class. But that is not the only reason to study religion. For those people that would want to join a clergy, a religious studies degree would be beneficial. Any Chaplin in the military is required to have a Master's degree in religion. There are non-profit organizations that deal with religion, where a degree in the subject would be beneficial. Even cultural anthropologists can benefit from studying about religion.

"You want to go into a career that you could see yourself doing, even if you aren't getting paid for it," said Leonard, "And for me, that is the defining factor."

# Ram Reviews

## 'Kiss Me Kate': another fantastic performance

**Review by Daniel Compean**  
*Entertainment Editor*

The Victor Valley College Theatre Arts Program delves into love and war with the Tony Award winning play, "Kiss Me Kate." This American musical comedy written by Cole Porter is a witty and complicated story that leans on the fourth wall by featuring a play within a play.

High-minded actor Fred Graham (James Loudermilk) is performing his musical version of Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew," starring as Petruchio opposite his ex-wife Lilli Vanessi (Karen Hanna Lee) in the title role.

Meanwhile backstage, two gangsters approach Fred to collect a hefty IOU adding more problems for the actor as he is caught in the midst of a bitter conflict with Lilli both on and off-stage.

The sophisticated and complicated story, in and of itself, provides a challenge for students of



Photo courtesy of Theatre Arts Program

the theatre program, yet Loudermilk and Lee bestow a replenishing and outstanding performance as the two leads. Loudermilk and Lee accommodate the character's subtle vani-

ty and somewhat troublesome relationship fantastically despite the difficulty of the show.

"It's a hard show, there's tons of set pieces they have to move

around very fast and we never had to wait for a scene change or wait for a piece. It's all students doing it so they are to be commended," said director Ed Heberlin.

As a musical, "Kiss Me Kate" can be viewed as an answer to the 1943 Broadway production "Oklahoma!" in that it uses music to advance the plot. The music, so integral to the plot, largely lacked the intended force however.

This is to be expected, given the musical's complicated and difficult songs.

"The hardest part was the orchestra. The orchestrations are

**Continued in Kiss on Page 7**

## 'Dead Man Down': great actors for a frigid script

**Review by Micah Raimo**  
*Special to the RamPage*



Vengeance is a dish best served cold but WWE Production's "Dead Man Down" is a film that should be locked in the freezer.

At face value, the film looks great. The story hinges on a simple idea: revenge doesn't make you happy. Colin Farrell plays a depressed covert hitman who is working for his mark; Alphonse Hoyte (played by Terrence Howard), with his mob upstart buddy hot on his trail.

Actors Dominic Cooper (Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter), Colin Farrell (Total Recall) and Naomi Rapace

(Prometheus) all played characters that could have been expanded upon.

Both Farrell and Rapace played their dull and unimaginative characters with stunning perfection. Farrell plays the stoic male but filled with a two dimensional sadness that pulled the film with its monotone feel. Rapace played the beautician recovering from facial injuries and living with the neighborhood nickname: Monster.

Farrell's character, Victor, waited to kill his boss along with some Albanian Hitmen for a long time. Almost fueling his turmoil nightly, he views a film of his deceased family. Think 2004's "Punisher" but with less of a variance of emotion. Rapace herself plays the distraught



Photo courtesy of WWE Studios

woman who is trying to come to terms with her disfigurement while trying to help heal Victor.

Like the film chemistry, Victor's plan unravels when his friend starts kicking over rocks and Rapace's damsel in distress almost pulls the sad excuse for a killer out of his anti-alcoholic depression.

The Film style wasn't jarring but the set up and mood could have been elevated to aid the actors in the coasting film. A change in scene here, a little more anger there and perhaps you had something.

The high points are few and in need of a spit shine. Kill the director and writer but keep the script as a base; the film can be saved.



# Ram Reviews

## A trip down memory lane, paved in yellow

Review by Kelli McGurk  
*Editor-in-Chief*



It's a tried and true gimmick in Hollywood: take a classic and create another adaptation to the original storyline. Sometimes it works, but mostly it tends to fall far too short. Disney's latest film to undertake the challenge, "Oz the Great and Powerful," debuted on March 8 as a prequel to the 1934 classic "The Wizard of Oz."

The fear going to see this movie was that the producers would take the beloved 'Land of Oz' absurdly over-the-top into new territory much like they did in 2010 with "Alice in Wonderland." Walt Disney and Roth Films bring us the untold story of how the wizard came to be in Oz, without devastating the original, while also captivating the minds of a new generation. Oscar Diggs, played by James Franco ("Spiderman"), is just a small town magician with a traveling circus who is very good the art of deceit. While stopping in Kansas, he is thrust into the Land of Oz, (by what else but a tornado, of course), and is thrown into the middle of an epic battle of good and evil, giving him the chance to become what he's always wanted to be, but not in the way he expected. He is only a con man, not a real wizard, but he uses his particular skill set to save not only himself, but the entire people of Oz. With his charm and boyish grin, it is easy to get the audience rooting for Franco's character. This becomes a story of a reformed sinner taking his talents and using them for the good of others instead of his own selfishness. It's more than that bringing movie goes into the film, however.

Although the fantastic colors of the fantasy world will dazzle the eyes, the true wonder is the strong storyline, giving fans a satisfying pre-tale that fits well

with the plot of the original. Each character, with a back story of their own, is developed enough to be believable while staying true to their fantasy-like nature. With a good amount of humor for younger audiences, as well as thrills and excitement throughout, this new adaptation does not disappoint. Bringing beauty to this wicked tale of good versus evil are Rachel Weisz ("The Borne Legacy"), Mila Kunis (Ted), and Michelle Williams (Blue Valentine). The story of the witches of Oz, Evanora, Theodora and Glinda gives the movie an unexpected yet interesting twist.

If you've seen the Broadway musical "Wicked," which was meant to be its own prequel of sorts to "The Wizard of Oz," this movie does not coincide. "Wicked" develops the characters in a much different light. "Oz the Great and Powerful" is more closely related to the original, while still developing its own interesting concept.

There were just few negative aspects found in this movie, one being its lack of musical scenes so prevalent in the first. I was disappointed when I didn't immediately see munchkins but delighted when they finally did make their appearance and began their song and dance. Their song was unfortunately cut short however by Franco's character. Also, for being a Disney movie and therefore, ultimately a 'children's film,' the flying monkeys were shockingly quite scary. The original minions scared me as a child, but these evil winged Baboons spring up out of nowhere to scare me as an adult.

The film is based off the original books by L. Frank Baum which the writers used to learn more about the wizard himself. Honoring the legendary storyline, while entertaining and eye-catching, "Oz the Great and Powerful" is certainly a great companion to the timeless tale.



Photo courtesy of Walt Disney Pictures

### Kiss from page 6

so difficult because they're written for one person playing five instruments. They may have the hardest task because of how challenging the music is," said Heaberlin.

The singing performances were superbly done. Ashlee Marie Pendlebury as Lois Lane and Andrew Lopez as Bill Calhoun offer fantastic performances both in acting and song.

The performers and crew have a clear off-stage presence as evident with their lively, outgoing personalities and closeness that translates well on stage.

"I can't think of what it's going to be like next week when it's all over. We're like family and it's weird thinking it's going to be over next week," said Lee.

The successful performance of this challenging show is to be lauded.

"This is probably one of the hardest yet smoothest shows when it came to putting everything together," said Heaberlin.

The smooth production certainly shows as the VVC theatre program bring forth the wit and the refined poise of this beloved, award-winning musical comedy.

# Rams drop the ball

## Controversy sparks Rams but still not enough to beat Chaffey

Story by Mario Gonzalez  
Sports Co-Editor

The conference season is in full swing for Victor Valley College Rams baseball. The team looked to bounce back against their conference rivals, the Chaffey Panthers.

On Tuesday, Feb. 26, the Rams lost in a close 9-8 game to the visiting Panthers in what turned out to be a controversial match between these two conference rivals.

"It's only the second week in conference and we have another seven or eight weeks with plenty of baseball left. If we keep fighting like today we will definitely turn things around. I have high hopes for us after today," commented head coach Jesus Beltran.

The Panthers scored early on, managing to get one hit during the first inning when sophomore

before advancing home on an error by VVC, giving the Panthers a 1-0 lead.

After the Rams scored in the bottom of the second, the Panthers quickly returned in the top of the third to bring in four more runs, increasing their lead 5-1.

The Rams, with six runs, managed their first and only lead of the game in the third inning. Freshman outfielder Nick Cordoba hit a triple to right field, driving in a run. Sophomore second baseman Chad Howard then was hit by a pitch, which set the stage for sophomore catcher Thomas McCarty whose bunt loaded the bases with no outs. Next at bat, sophomore outfielder Tyler Spotville was hit by a pitch which forced a run from third and kept the bases loaded.

With the bases loaded, freshman infielder Chris Solis hit a pop up that the Panthers second



Rams player slides into home; not enough to win the game.

Photo by Todd Hadler, Sports Co-Editor

to discuss the call with the home plate umpire.

The runner was sent back to third, recalling the run and loading the bases once more. The Rams took advantage of the call to bring in four more runs and grab the lead, 7-5.

"Apparently the fly ball was hit, the guy dropped it, they (Chaffey) were arguing that it was an 'infield fly rule' with runners on first and second. I didn't see the umpires signal that, so we just played it right. I have no idea what happened, but it helped us. We capitalized on that and that is what good teams are supposed to do," said Beltran.

Chaffey would score once more in the top of the fifth inning when Gonzalez doubled through right-center field to bring in freshman infielder Kyle Jackson, bringing the score to 9-7 in favor of the Panthers.

Unfortunately, the Rams were unable to capitalize on openings in the eighth and ninth innings. In the bottom of the ninth, Spotville hit a single up the middle, and stole second base. When infielder Cesar Valenzuelas hit a ground ball that

turned into a fielder's choice, Spotville attempted to run from second base all the way home but was caught for the third and final out to end the game.

"If we come out the way we played today and 'fight, fight, fight,' I feel pretty good. I feel like we are going to compete and hopefully come out with a win or two. We'd love to take the series but we have to take it one day at a time and it starts with practice tomorrow to prepare the game for Thursday (Feb. 28) traveling to Chaffey. We just have to keep fighting and competing," said Beltran.

The Rams lost the following two games against Chaffey on Feb. 28 (7-4) and Mar. 2 (5-3 F/10).

With these losses to the Chaffey Panthers, the Rams are now (3-12) overall and (0-6) in the Foothill Conference while the Panthers improved to (9-4) overall and (3-0) in the Foothill Conference.

The Rams next home game will be on Mar. 14 against the visiting Antelope Valley Raiders, currently (6-7-1) overall and (2-5) in the Foothill Conference.



Cody Daugherty gives it his all as he winds up to pitch.

Photo by Todd Hadler, Sports Co-Editor

infielder Ryan Goodman singled down centerfield, putting the Panthers on base. After a grounded fielder's choice and a strike-out that gave the Panthers two outs, Goodman stole third

baseman dropped for an error, bringing in a run for the Rams and advancing the bases. Chaffey's head coach Jeff Harlow emerged from the dug out



# Lady Rams strike out

Story by **Todd Hadler**  
Sports Co-Editor

The Victor Valley College Lady Rams lost on Friday, as they were defeated by the Barstow Community College Lady Vikings, 6-5.

The Lady Vikings and the Lady Rams both entered the game at the bottom of the Foot-hill Conference standings. The Lady Rams are now 4-15 while the Lady Vikings are now 3-16.

The game started with a busy first inning as both teams put up runs in the first. Freshman Arin Gomez was on the mound for the Lady Rams as she gave up two runs in the top of the first. Barstow freshman Alexis Davis was walked and then proceeded to steal second base, then steal third base, and then scored on a wild pitch. Barstow freshman Tessa Saenz scored by a base hit to left field by Barstow freshman Elise Westbury.

The Lady Rams answered back as they put up five runs in the bottom of the first. Victor Valley sophomore Cliana Santa started off the inning with a double to center field and then scored on an error by Davis. After hits from Gomez and freshman Erica Tennyson, sophomores Marissa Amaya and Jaclyn Moore hit back-to-back singles to score Gomez and Tennyson. After Amaya scored on a wild pitch, freshman Frances Hinojosa brought in Moore with a single to score in the fifth run of the inning.

The Lady Vikings tacked on another run in the top of the second as Barstow freshman Alexis Conant launched a massive home-run to left field. That was the last score until the sixth inning as things turned into a pitcher's duel. Barstow and Victor Valley combined for a total 15 strikeouts with 10 coming from Barstow pitcher Alexis



Pitcher Arin Gomez put up a good fight against Barstow, striking out five players between the second and sixth inning. Gomez could not prevent the Lady Vikings from coming out on top late in the game.

Conant and five of them coming from Gomez.

In the top of the sixth inning, the Lady Vikings put one more run on the board with freshman Kelli Bolduc hitting a sacrifice fly to bring in Westbury making the score be 5-4 Rams. In the seventh and final inning, the Lady Rams were one out away from winning the game. After an infield hit, a walk, and a dropped pitch, the Lady Vikings had runners on second and third. Barstow freshman Elise Westbury singled up the middle to bring in both runners, giving the lead to the Lady Vikings.

The Lady Rams could not come back from it in the bottom of the seventh to lose the game 6-5. The VVC Lady Rams softball team's next game is against the College of the Desert Roadrunners on Wednesday, March 13.



## Upcoming Rams Athletic Events



- Golf @ Antelope Valley College Match (3/11/2013) 10a.m.-2p.m.
- Men's Tennis @ 4 Team Round Robin Tournament (3/12/2013) 9a.m.-5p.m
- Men's Tennis vs. Mt. San Antonio College (@HOME) (3/12/2013) 2p.m.-4p.m.
- Women's Tennis @ Mt. San Jacinto College (3/12/2013) 2p.m.-4p.m.
- Baseball @ Antelope Valley College (3/12/2013) 2:30p.m.-5p.m.
- Softball @ College of the Desert (3/13/2013) 3p.m.-5p.m.
- Women's Tennis - BYE (3/14/2013)
- Baseball vs. Antelope Valley College (@HOME) (3/14/2013) 2:30p.m.-5p.m.
- Softball vs. Mt. San Jacinto College (@HOME) (3/15/2013) 3p.m.-5p.m.
- Baseball @ Antelope Valley College (3/16/2013) 12p.m.-3p.m.
- Softball @ L.A. Harbor College (Double-Header) (3/16/2013) 12p.m.-4p.m.



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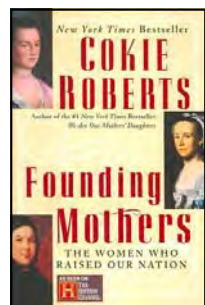
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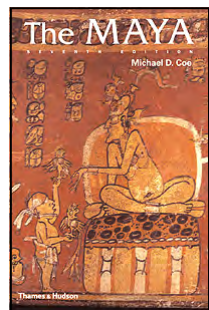
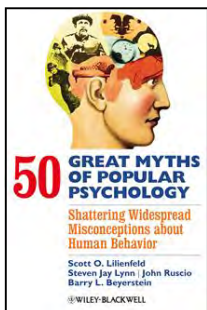
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**Printing:** Victor Valley College Campus Print Shop

### Mission Statement:

*The Victor Valley College RamPage is a student-run newspaper that aims to inform and entertain the Victor Valley Community. We strive to teach and preserve core journalistic values while supporting the unity of faculty and students on campus.*

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## 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 Nicholas Hartman clearly marked as being submitted for publication. Or, email them to [vvcrampage@gmail.com](mailto: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.

VVC's journalism program belongs to the Associated Collegiate Press, the California Newspaper Publishers Association and the Journalism Association of Community Colleges.

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To discuss display advertising options or to purchase any form of advertisement, call Assistant Director of Auxiliary Services Deanna Murphy at 760-245-4271 ext. 2707; [Deanna.Murphy@vvc.edu](mailto:Deanna.Murphy@vvc.edu) or email Sharon Wright at [Sharon.Wright@vvc.edu](mailto:Sharon.Wright@vvc.edu)

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# Spring Music

**Mar. 22-7:30pm** **Free Music Recital!** Students and faculty present pieces that they have been working on since the beginning of the semester. Show your support and attend this free event.

**Apr. 4-7:30pm** **THURSDAY NIGHT JAZZ!** Dave Graham and the members of the Studio Jazz Band, Guitar Ensemble, and Jazz Rock Combo perform their first concert of the semester.

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