



Ram Page

NOVEMBER 9, 2012 • VOLUME 34, No. 6

"We are an American family, and we rise and fall as one nation and as one people." - President Barack Obama

America has spoken: four more years

Story by Kelli McGurk
Editor-in-Chief

In one of the closest Presidential races of our generation, President Barack Obama defeated former Governor Mitt Romney gaining 332 electoral votes over Romney's 206. The election coverage from every news station kept viewers tuned in and at the edge of their seats while the numbers were wavering in favor of one candidate one minute, to the other in the next.

As the polls began to close

across the nation, and the counts came in, it was determined pretty early in the coverage that Romney won Indiana, a state carried by Obama by a small one percent in 2008. Romney also secured North Carolina's votes further diminishing the hopes of democrats across the nation. California's 55 electoral votes went to Obama.

Obama supporters clung to their prospects as he defeated Romney in Colorado, Wisconsin and Iowa, but the race was still practically dead even. There were a few key swing states up

for grabs nearing the end of the night such as Virginia, Ohio and Florida. These states were a tossup for either candidate and could have changed the outcome of the election. As many news stations started to call Ohio for Obama, others simultaneously proclaimed he also took Virginia by a small percentage, which is what secured his re-election.

Florida's votes were still being tallied well into the week but no matter the outcome, Obama had already been

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President Obama was re-elected on Nov 6 to four more years in office, defeating Mitt Romney in a neck in neck Presidential race. *Photo courtesy of the Associated Press*

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Board of Trustees election results are in

Incumbent Joseph Brady retains his spot as trustee and new member John Pinkerton elected to fill remaining seat

Story by Kelli McGurk
Editor-in-Chief

After the election on Tues. Nov. 6 for the Victor Valley College Board of Trustees, Joseph Brady and John Pinkerton will take the two open seats, edging out incumbent and current board president Joe Range. Voters chose Brady, a community businessman, and Pinkerton, a counselor at Silverado High School.

Brady, who was appointed to the board in 2011, was not supported by the unions as they endorsed Pinkerton and Range, but looks forward to his future as an official board member and the future of VVC. He received 37.8 percent of the votes according to smarvoter.org.

"We got our message out to the voters; I felt the message was clear. I was real clear on where I think the board needs to go, and I think that people supported that," said Brady.

John Pinkerton was not far behind Brady with 36.1 percent of the votes in this election.

"(This election) cut across party lines and I am very honored that they put the faith in me that I would look out for their best interest," said Pinkerton.

Brady is adamant about issues such as fiscal responsibility, board accountability and not cutting student classes to cut costs. Pinkerton says that he supports Brady on many of his policy opinions but also states that accountability should be working specifically for the students.

"Every decision that is made, I hold to my personal standard of: if it's not something I would not want my own child to be affected by, then I don't think it's a



Joseph Brady

Photo courtesy of joinjoebrody.com



John Pinkerton

Photo courtesy of vote-ca.org

good policy," said Pinkerton. "This is a pretty close community, and at the end of the day, we are all family."

Brady has been the outspoken member of the board since he was appointed, and encourages students to do the same by attending meetings and getting their voices heard.

"Students need to have a higher trust through a lot more transparency. We are all in this together and I think we need to find a way to not just talk about doing things but do them," said Brady. "I'm here to do one thing: to ensure that Victor Valley College is here 50 years from now."

Newcomer Pinkerton started his campaign as a challenger of incumbent Brady, and teamed up with Range as a running mate. Now he will have to work with his opponent to ensure the VVC community has Trustees that are able to push aside their differences.

"I am saddened that Range is not going to be there... that's going to be a loss to the board, but I am looking forward to working with Joe Brady. I think

there is common ground that we can all find," Pinkerton stated. "He has his principles that he is going to hold on to, and I have my principals that I have to maintain as well."

When you put a group together with strong opinions, harmony is always a concern. Especially when decision of the board have great effects on a large majority.

"I feel like the board can be a good board, but we haven't been. People can tell when the board does not get along. When one trustee goes after another trustee, people tend not to like that. You may not like somebody's opinion but you don't go after them in a vicious and undermining way," Brady said

As the fall semester is near its end, and accreditation issues are not completely behind us, students, faculty and the community could be affected by changes the institution faces. Time will tell whether the election will prove beneficial; now it is time to see if these candidates follow through on their campaign promises.

Election from page 1

reelected. According to Florida's Secretary of State's office, Obama led in their calculations by a margin of a percent; with 99 percent of the votes counted on Nov. 9, Obama was ahead 50 percent with Romney having 49.1 percent of the votes. This was just over the half percent margin where a recount would have been automatically ordered.

Romney conceded a little after midnight Nov. 7, and delivered a gracious concession speech in Boston. Romney gave his congratulations to the President over the phone just before addressing the nation.

"This is a time of great challenges for America, and I pray that the president will be successful in guiding our nation," said Romney. "I believe in America. I believe in the people of America. And I ran for office because I'm concerned about America. This election is over, but our principles endure."

Shortly after this, President Obama took the stage in Chicago to deliver his victory speech and yet again proved why he has become known for his excellence in public speaking

"Tonight, in this election, you, the American people, reminded us that while our road has been hard, while our journey has been long, we have picked ourselves up, we have fought our way back, and we know in our hearts that for the United States of America the best is yet to come," said Obama early Wednesday morning. "I believe... we are not as divided as our politics suggests. We're not as cynical as the pundits believe. We are greater than the sum of our individual ambitions, and we remain more than a collection of red states and blue states. We are and forever will be the United States of America."

News in Brief

- Transfer application deadlines are approaching fast. Last day to apply is Nov. 30. Attend a workshop for help filling out your CSU and UC applications. Call (760) 245-4271 x2139 for more info.
- University reps to visit VVC campus schedule is available online www.vvc.edu. Transfer center requires appointments for all representatives. Visit the transfer center in Bldg. 55 or call (760) 245-4271 x2139
- Native American Student Council will be hosting events which will include food, native dancers, and cultural education every Wednesday in November in the grass by the Gazebo in front of the Performing Arts Center. The Festivities, food and frolic will be in celebration of Native American Month.
- Movie screening of "Green Fire" will be on Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. in Student Activities Center.
- The Student and Faculty Music Recital is on Nov. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the PAC. This event is free.
- ASB is holding the Cans for Concert on Nov. 16 in the Student Activities Center from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- VVC Planetarium is hosting "Hubble Vision" on Nov. 30 at 7 p.m. An exciting look at the premier astronomical tool, the Hubble space telescope. Contact Dave Mayer (760)245-4271 x2324 dave.mayer@vvc.edu
- Fall Dance Concert will begin Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m. and will end Dec. 2 at 2:30 p.m.
- Support your VVC Baseball team by purchasing a Christmas tree during their second annual Christmas tree fundraiser. Last day to purchase is Nov. 12. Contact Jesus Beltran (760) 964-8538
- VVC's Music Program will have Thursday Night Jazz on Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m. The theme is "A Tribute to America."
- A Christmas performance called, "A Choral Christmas," will be on Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center.

Good and bad news as ASB returns from senate

Story by Trevor Cooper
Reporter

Victor Valley College's Associated Student Body (ASB) returned from the Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC) General Assembly with bittersweet news. Some resolutions passed, while others were left behind. ASB attended the conference from November 2 to the 4 and returned to VVC on November 5.

ASB has been working hard to resolve issues with financial aid such as the problems with Higher One, and lowering the independent age from 24 to 21. ASB writes the resolutions and proposes them to other delegates at the SSSCC General Assembly. The delegates vote and majority wins. If a resolution passes, it has a better shot at becoming a national priority. If it becomes a national priority, it is presented to Senators and Congressmen with the hope that it is made into law.

"It can take a couple years, it can take decades. It just depends on how good we advocate it," said Brian Feliciano, ASB's Executive Senator.

According to Feliciano, ASB has been working on lowering the independent age (resolution 8.01) for three or four years. He says that last time it fell short by "one little vote." This year it fell short by five. It has been postponed until spring, where ASB plans to bring it up again in the SSSCC's spring session.

When a resolution is presented, it can be debated, or delegates can 'call the question.' This means that the resolution goes straight to vote and is not debated. According to Feliciano, this was the case with resolution 8.01.

"With the independent age one, they didn't even want to hear it. The writer wasn't there, so they didn't want to hear pros and cons. They just went straight into voting," said Feliciano.

According to section 8.01 of the General Assembly Resolutions for Discussion, "Discriminating against a person on the basis of their age is morally wrong and therefore a violation of an individual's civil rights."

This argument, along with any other pros and cons of this resolution, never had a chance to be presented. It went straight to vote.

"Every school has the right to call the question," said Feliciano. "But I just don't think it's rational to vote for something without hearing both sides, or just hearing one side and then calling the question and not hearing the opposing side."

ASB's efforts were not fruitless, though. Resolution 8.03, Responsibility in Financial Aid Disbursement, did pass. This resolution states that, resolved, SSSCC will urge college districts to "fully investigate banking companies such as Higher One, including their fees, disclosures, and legal history prior to contracting them."

The resolution also states that if resolved, the SSSCC will advocate that college districts only use trusted companies. The SSSCC will be working with local associated student organizations to closely look at the impact of Higher One on those using it.

"It was a good conference, overall," said A.S.B. treasurer Judy Shmoll.

"We actually knew what we were talking about. We had a lot of people go. We talked to a lot of colleges. They gave us the business talk, and wanted us to work with them."

ASB plans to submit more resolutions to the SSSCC this spring. ASB will be attempting to gain more support the American Student Association for Community Colleges (ASACC). They left for the ASACC on November 8 and will be returning on the 12.

Student debt on the rise

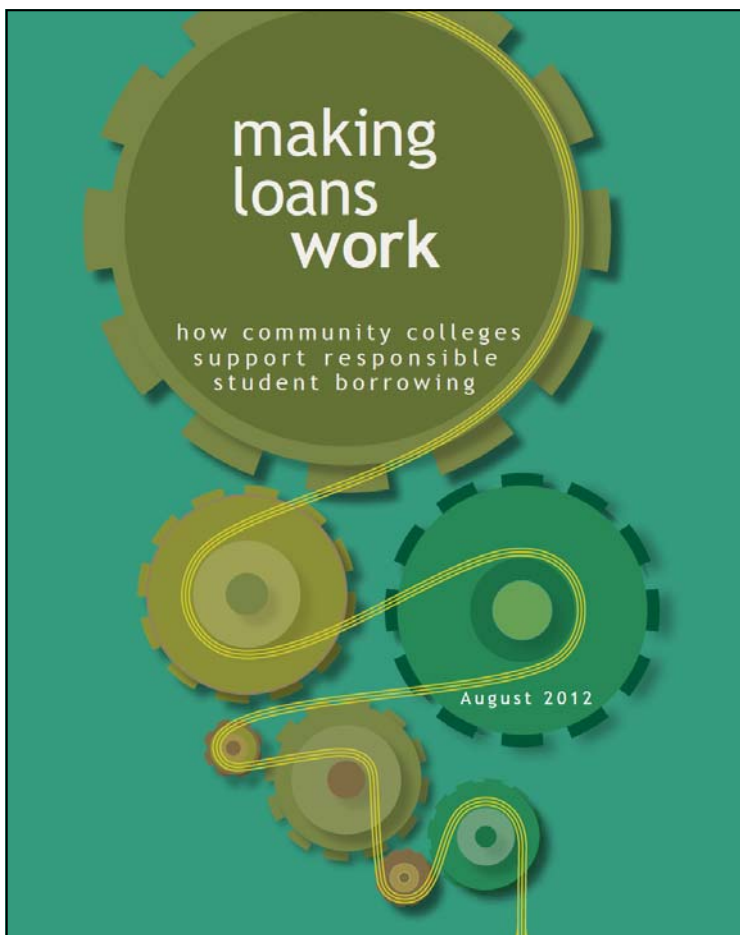
The average percentage of student debt is rising, while graduates face one of the toughest economies of our generation

Story by Kelli McGurk
Editor-in-Chief

A recent study done by The Institute for College Access and Success (TICAS), reveals that the average student debt in our nation increased by five percent for 2011 college graduates. Students who borrowed money to go to college and earned a bachelor's degree owe on average \$26,600 according to TICAS research. The TICAS website (ticas.org), organizes the information based on a range of specific details. According to the website, California is not at the top of the list of states considered 'high debt states.' High debt states are concentrated in the Northeast and Midwest parts of the country.

While California is near the low end of the list, one thing California grads do have to deal with is the poor job market of our current economy. Although California's unemployment rate dropped from 9.1 percent in 2010, according to TICAS, it was at 8.8 percent in 2011. Entering a difficult job market is stressful enough; adding a mountain of debt waiting to be paid off doesn't help. Many graduates are underemployed, working minimum wage jobs that don't require the degree they worked so hard for in the first place. This has led to many students defaulting on their loans, further damaging today's economy.

In order to deal with the high default rate among Victor Valley College students, the college has opted to discontinue the direct loan program temporarily suspending student loans through its Financial Aid office since the summer 2012 semester. Since VVC temporarily suspended the direct loan program, it has become harder for high desert students who depend on federal loans to pursue high-



A report done by the Institute for College Access and Success outlines several strategies for community colleges in helping students become more responsible with student loans as an alternative to suspending any loan program. VVC administrators have begun to incorporate some of these to help bring back the direct loan program that was cancelled last summer. *Photo courtesy of ticas.org*

er education.

"We didn't want to run the risk of losing our Title IV funds (Pell, FSEOG, Federal Work Study & some potential state grants). The Board of Trustees, along with the college president agreed; we should protect our Title IV Programs and suspend the loan program," said Arthur Lopez, VVC Director of Financial Aid.

Recently, TICAS worked with the California Community College Student Financial Aid Administrators Association (CCCSFAAA) to create a plan to better educate community college students about responsi-

ble borrowing. In their August 2012 report, "*Making Loans Work*," several strategies were outlined for financial aid administrators of California's community colleges, intending to help students within the loan process. Such strategies included ensuring students get guidance, have questions answered and take part in educational seminars. Of the 112 community colleges, only a handful has begun to practice some of the creative approaches outlined in "*Making Loans Work*."

"Colleges are right to be concerned about student borrowing and high default rates," said

Sherri Padilla, director of financial aid for Antelope Valley College and past President of CCCSFAAA, "but getting rid of federal loans isn't the answer."

VVC officials did receive the letter sent to all the California community colleges regarding this report, and according to Lopez, they are working on creating a default prevention program that will include a task force committee to lower the cohort default rate (CDR) and creating strategies such as counseling students, identifying defaulted and delinquent borrowers, phone calls to borrowers, email outreach and conducting on-campus workshops to better educate students about their responsibilities as a borrower.

"VVC made the right choice to suspend the loan program to protect and save our Title IV programs and state grants for our students because we disburse considerably more federal and state grants compared to loans. Title IV programs affect more students than just loan borrowers," said Lopez. "Once we lower the institution CDR the Direct Loan Program at VVC will have tighter restrictions in the process and students will be more educated about the responsibilities as a borrower, so they can avoid getting into a default or delinquent status."

While some students may be wary about investing into a future that may not pay off right after graduation, consider the fact that despite these challenges, there is still a strong economic return of a college education, as opposed to only a high school diploma. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate for those with only a high school education is 19.1 percent; more than double the rate of those with a

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Living on the edge

VVC on the fence between financial stability and debt

Story by James McDaniel
Reporter

Victor Valley College's potential for being in the negatives for the 2013-2014 year and continuing on leaves the school's future uncertain.

Considering the financial costs and lack of adequate revenue, VVC must make some important changes and negotiations with employees to avoid the possibility of eventually being taken over by the state.

"If we're going to balance our budget, there has to be negotiations," said Vice President of Administrative Services G.H. Javaheripour.

"The effect of Proposition 30 is this: that we will not get more money. We will not lose 3 million. If (Prop 30) had failed, a lot of courses would go away in

spring semester. We would have to drop about 750 sections of classes. Now we don't have to," said Javaheripour.

Despite the school budgets showing negatives, it doesn't mean the school is entirely broke; it is because the school is pulling money from the savings as a result of not enough funding elsewhere.

VVC isn't the only school in the red. According to Michael Krause, most California schools are facing some deficit spending as a result of the current economy state. The schools are spending more money than they are taking in.

"Large percentage is that we're educating a greater population than we get reimbursed for. I think it may be like 9,600 is what we get reimbursed for and I think we're educating like

10-11 thousand. The college is having to pay the difference," said Krause

Debates on the ratio between spending and saving have been ongoing with the amount varying. Board of Trustees member Joseph Brady, speaks of the 80:20 percent savings to spending ratio. For money spent on benefits and labor against the money saved for maintenance and reserves mentioned in the accreditation manual VVC submitted.

"Within the first year, I voted against the first budget because we were at 85 percent. Well, this year I voted against the budget because we're literally at 89.6 percent, we're at 90 percent," said Brady.

Krause had a different view, using other schools as an example:

"Barstow Community College, Chaffey College, Riverside Community College, all of them, have the average salary and benefits at 85-90 percent, been that way for years and it's not out of the norm. To have it at 80 percent; that is unrealistic" said Krause.

In an emergency meeting in July, the Board of Trustees discussed the financial crisis, strategizing ways to clear up the deficit.

"We did, and from that, we agreed, we had a resolution that was passed in July to have a balanced budget within three years. We currently have a projected deficit over the next three years cumulative of \$29,850,000," said Brady.

Trouble on the court

A difficult start for men's basketball stresses but does not dampen the spirit of the team

Story by Tanya Patterson
Reporter

It's going to be an uncomfortable season for the Victor Valley College Men's Basketball Team. As game day draws near, approximately 10 students have resigned or were cut from the team, an unprecedented occurrence for this school.

Tom Dudgeon, who has been coaching basketball for the last 31 years, has never before seen this many problems, this early in the season.

"It's frustrating, sad and it's disappointing... I'm shocked. I've never had to deal with this before, but I'm in the middle of it and I am beyond shock," said Coach Dudgeon, "I don't know what the correct words are for it, because it's uncharted territory for me."

To secure a position in a collegiate sports team at sophomore

level, students must have taken 24 units with a 2.0 GPA and continue taking 12 units per semester. Students that can't make the grades can't make the team.

Pre-season practice has proven an uphill battle for the team, after the loss of several members in these academic performance related cuts. This season, the Rams focus on putting one foot in front of the other, in an attempt to train new additions in time for the season's start. While Dudgeon plans to recruit a few guys from the football team, once football season ends, the first few games will be difficult to pull off.

Despite the problems pulling the team together, Coach Dudgeon acknowledges the support and dedication of his assistant coaches, the athletic director and the men willing stick with it and weather out the storm.

"I can't commend them enough for staying in the hole with me, you know, and trying to help us all dig out of it. And we will... We will dig out of this one. We're not going out like this. We're going to fight until the end," said Dudgeon.

Some of the out-of-state recruits added to the issues of this season leaving the team at the 11th hour.

Recruitment is a whole other ball game for collegiate sports. In California at the junior college level, coaches are restricted in their recruitment efforts to advertisement and word of mouth. The school is not allowed to make first contact with students. Prospective athletes must actively seek to join the team without prompting from the school.

Additionally, lack of funding and incentives keeps out of state students to remain just that - out

of state. Changes to funding and other financial issues, including out of state tuition and housing costs may contribute to a recruit's decision to leave the team, according to Athletic Director, Jaye Tashima. Recruits do not receive financial compensation for their participation, although school representatives provide assistance in finding housing and familiarizing the student with the school and the community.

"This is a new issue, but it's something that's not unique to basketball. We're having trouble across the board in most of our sports, especially in any of our sports that rely heavily on out-of-state or out-of-area athletes. Then, there's just so many things you can't foresee," said Tashima, "You can't foresee

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A brief look at California's proposition results

Brief by Kelli McGurk

Editor-in-Chief

- Prop 30:** A tax increase for the wealthy and state sales tax to increase 1/4 percent to fund education.
Yes - 53.9%
No - 46.1%
- Prop 31:** Two year budget cycle to remain two years and current regulations of state legislature does not change
Yes - 39.2%
No - 60.8%
- Prop 32:** There is no ban on corporate and Union political contributions to be taken out of employee's paychecks
Yes - 43.9%
No - 56.1%
- Prop 33:** Auto insurance companies cannot determine rates based on past driving records
Yes - 45.4%
No - 54.6%
- Prop 34:** Death penalty remains in California
Yes - 47.2%
No - 52.8%
- Prop 35:** Harsher penalties approved for cases in human trafficking
Yes - 81.1%
No - 18.9%
- Prop 36:** Alteration of the 'Three Strikes' law if third conviction is non-violent, life imprisonment cannot be issued
Yes - 68.6%
No - 31.4%
- Prop 37:** Food labeling on genetically modified organisms not required
Yes - 46.9%
No - 53.1%
- Prop 38:** Increase in income tax to fund k-12 and early childhood not approved
Yes - 27.7%
No - 72.3%
- Prop 39:** Multistate business income tax increase; taxes calculated on in-state sales
Yes - 60.2%
No - 39.9%
- Prop 40:** California will continue to use the district boundaries approved in 2011 by the Citizens Redistricting Committee
Yes - 71.4%
No - 28.6%

California voters hit the polls this Election Day, not only to decide the future President of the United States, but also to vote on eleven new propositions for our state. The measures within this year's ballot ranged from increasing taxes, and repealing the death penalty, to requiring the labeling of genetically modified foods. Of those three, only one passed with voters: the increase in taxes.

California did not repeal the death penalty, but the measure to alter the 'Three Strikes' law was passed by voters. This means that a third conviction does not necessarily warrant a life imprisonment sentence, as long as third offense is not serious or violent.

Jerry Brown's hard fight for Prop 30 ended with a vote to increase income tax for those who make over \$250,000 and state sales tax by a quarter of a percent in order to bring funds to education. This particular measure directly impacts us at Victor Valley College, since prior to Election Day, Brown announced his promise to cut from education if this measure did not pass; with K-12 and community colleges getting hit the hardest with cuts.

"We might not face a three million dollar hit, but we will still be taking a hit,"

said VVC board of trustee Joseph Brady regarding the passage of Prop 30.

Although voters approved Browns tax increase to fund education, they rejected Molly Munger's initiative to impose higher personal income taxes to fund k-12 schools and early childhood programs. Voters did, however, approve another increase in taxes for multistate businesses. Their taxes are now based on in-state sales as opposed to being able to choose how they would calculate their own tax rate. Advocates of this measure declare it will take the power of those businesses and give it back to California, bringing revenues back to California. Another measure that passed was a vote to increase the fines and punishments for human sex trafficking cases.

Five of the eleven propositions passed but many were very close to a 50/50 division among voters.

While California's electoral votes went to President Barack Obama, their referendum votes seem to be a mixed bag of policy changes.

—info on vote percentages according to Huffington Post

A closer look at measure B

The recently passed measure B will have no adverse effect on it's industry

Column by Micah Raimo
News Editor

The County of Los Angeles Safer Sex in the Adult Film Industry Act (Measure B) passed ready for action after election night, but debate stirs the pot on whether this star will fall flaccid on the Industry or have a stiff resolve.

Thanks to this new measure, Porn stars will be required by law to wear protection if they want to work in L.A. County. This includes not only latex raincoats, but also dental dams and anything else that might protect the star.

"I don't believe in the Government telling you what to do. Even in small things like having sex with someone," said VVC Student Richard Yates.

According to a study done in 2010 called "Sexually Transmitted Infection Testing of Adult Film Performers: Is Disease Being Missed?", which was published in the Journal of American Sexually Transmitted Diseases Association, out of the 168 participants who volunteered for the study, 47 tested positive for gonorrhea and chlamydia. The site for gonorrhea, the most common STD found amongst the stars, was the oropharynx, an area in the back of the throat between the nose and mouth.

These facts, along with a confirmed industry syphilis outbreak in August, are what helped launch Measure B.

This measure only affects L.A. County, meaning anywhere as close such as Orange County to as far as San Bernardino County is up for grabs. There

are talks of the porn industry completely uprooting to New Hampshire being that it is the only other state where it is legal to film porn.

Summer Hanson, a student of VVC, went on a "porn discovery" recently for educational purposes expanding her understanding.

"I think if you're having sex with a stranger, you should be able to have the rights to use protection. I don't think it would ruin it at all," said Hanson.

The porn industry has suffered a history of set backs. The \$11 billion industry took a dive when viewing technology shifted from VHS to DVD, and again when free porn websites hit the scene. One more blow for "The Business" won't incur bankruptcy on the porn market.

In 2009, actress Sasha Grey crawled from the front of the camera to writing and photography. With Measure B, the porn star retiree has a hurdle to clear. If successful, Grey can add overcoming California law to her repertoire.

"I am a very creative person and a lot of people like to stick with routines and what works for them and what makes them money and that's fine," said Grey in a ZAZ interview with Matt Zaller. "I'm sure if I was 45 and I was sitting on millions of dollars, I would feel the same way. People become complacent."

For questions, comments and concerns:
theraimotable@gmail.com

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college degree.

"I feel if I obtain my degree now, then and if the economy picks up I would be one of the first people on the list for employment, instead of being a person with no qualifications," said VVC student LeNae King.

"In these tough times, a college degree is still your best bet at getting a job and decent pay," said TICAS President Lauren Asher in their official press release of "The Project on Student Debt."

"As debt levels rise, fear of loans can prevent students from getting the education they need...if they do need to borrow to get through school, federal student loans with options like income-based repayment, are the safest way to go," continued Asher.

As college students, it's some-


thing we should be used to: research. Something students can do when considering loans is homework on any and all types of loans that are out there. Income-based loans can help when student borrowers face unexpectedly low earnings.

"If students have to get a loan, know the rules and regulations on having to pay them back," said VVC transfer counselor Lorena Ochoa. "Also be aware that you can communicate with your loan company, and know that they can work with you; and many companies will."

For more information on "The Student Debt Project," *Making Loans Work* and to see where California ranks on the list of student debt, visit ticas.org.

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VVC's own Miss Greater Victorville

Story by Micah Raimo
News Editor

Bethany Richardson may be known as Miss Greater Victorville, but this beauty has more to offer than just looks.

While still a student at Victor Valley College, Richardson was inspired to enter a pageant through both her faith and a creative ambition she developed through her family, and as an Art student. As a Mormon, student and crown holder for Miss Victorville, Richardson's involvement is about shining a light of wisdom wherever she can. Her personal enjoyment stems from the feeling that she has affected the audience for the better. Now, she serves the High Desert Community with her new job.

"I am so thankful for my religion. I feel so invigorated each and every day because I know that I can have positive influence in the lives of others. And that is one main reason why I love the Miss America Organization so much because they

really stand for many great things that I agree with," said Richardson.

Richardson's journey began when she saw an advertisement in the newspaper for this scholarship pageant. This offer gave her the opportunities to possibly expand her horizons, allowing new experiences to be added to her roster. In Richardson's first pageant under the Miss America system, she won the crown of Miss Greater Victorville and the \$1,200 scholarship offered with the crown. She then put that money towards her education at VVC.

According to Richardson, there are many other systems that are purely local, national or worldwide. Her experience in the Miss America Pageant system had made her realize that there was more to pageants than a bunch of pretty faces.

Recently Richardson was asked to be a guest at the Cans for Concert Event being hosted at the college. The VVC student was pleased and agreed. As a Fine Arts major here at VVC,

Richardson develops her acting and singing. The college has also contributed to her success by a means of inspiration with her career as Miss Greater Victorville.

"The four points of the crown are: scholarship, success, service and style. So this is not only about rhinestones and spray tans. I was so thankful for that because I am not typically a 'pageant girl.' I think that this is not for everyone," said Richardson. "If you are not willing to dedicate a huge part of your life to this, you probably won't like holding a title. You must always remember that you have a duty to fulfill to your community as a representative of this organization. It is hard work, but 100 percent worth it for me. I feel so blessed.



Our reining Miss Greater Victor Valley, and VVC alumni Bethany Richardson. Photo courtesy of the Miss Greater Victor Valley Scholarship Pageant Facebook page

Lights of love: a dream come true

VVC carries on a legacy, also bringing Christmas joy to children

Story by Kristen Martin
Reporter

Over 125 children will receive gifts this holiday season, thanks to the Lights of Love Toy Drive hosted by Victor Valley College's Associated Student Body, Ready Rams Club, Phi Theta Kappa and Extended Opportunity Program and Services (E.O.P.S.) on Dec. 7 at 3 p.m.

"Nothing gets done without Robert Sewell and ASB," said Manuel Gaytan, Ready Rams faculty advisor, "the support and effort they put into this event is above and beyond."

The Lights of Love Toy Drive is an event that has been carried on for many years at VVC. Stu-

dents of the Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (C.A.R.E.) program are single parents, and this event helps them to provide their children with gifts during the holidays.

Margaret Kagy of the C.A.R.E. department explained that the idea of a toy drive for children of students at VVC came to her in a dream one night. Robert Sewell, ASB Advisor, helped bring Kagy's dream to life with the help of Rebecca Britt, a former sociology teacher at VVC, and many other students and staff.

Britt was a driving force in getting this event going back in 2001. After her passing in 2007 due to lung cancer, E.O.P.S.

continued on with the event in honor of Britt.

"She sponsored families and bought those children bikes and toys. She was one of those people who always wanted to get more involved and she gave a lot," Gaytan said.

In the beginning, Britt had been a major part of the event and helping those in need. The Christmas before her passing she had already been diagnosed with cancer and she still worried about the kids getting gifts rather than her own illness.

"She was so instrumental, so giving, and so compassionate," said Kagy, "it was right for us to continue this for her, in memory of her."

The Lights of Love event is always trying to recruit more support on campus and involve more clubs. This year, families can come and enjoy the snacks, photo opportunities, gifts, and holiday cheer throughout the day with a special appearance of Santa.

"We make sure that the event is advised and shared with the community," Sewell said. "I take my 6-year-old son to pick out gifts for 6-year-old boys, and when he was five he picked out gifts for 5-year-old boys and when he is seven he'll pick out gifts for 7-year old boys"

Continued in *Lights of Love* on page 9

Almost out of the woods

Faculty members dedicate their time to resolving accreditation issues

Story by Garrett Johnston
Managing Editor

With the accreditation team giving the Victor Valley Community College a passing grade after October's mid-term report, faculty breath a sigh of relief as they take another step closer in solving the schools accreditation issues.

"We have more faculty in committees," said Tracy Davis VVC Academic Senate President and professor of History and Theater. "Faculty feel there is more support."

Faculty have taken a more hands on approach with accreditation, becoming more involved with the issues at hand and taking time to set up goals and guidelines for each of their classes and programs that are offered. They are opening lines of communication with one another in order to get things done.

"Faculty have been a huge contribution to the process," said Jessica Gibbs professor of Physiology and General Biology, "This faculty is absolutely dedicated to this college."

Not everything has been perfect though, faculty communica-

tion has been an issue since the college has opened. With constant fluctuations in the staff and changes in college presidents, having a constant form of communication has been difficult for some staff members.

"A lot of people feel like they are in the dark," said Jennifer Fowlie Communications professor, "Even in the emails I under-

"That is the problem people are willing to talk the talk not willing to walk the walk." said Fowlie.

It took a while before the faculty began to open up and speak with one another about accreditation. Now that everyone is on board and ready to solve this problem that has been looming over VVC, the faculty outlook

and moral has improved.

Unfortunately for students the same cannot be said. The gap between students and faculty still needs to be bridged. The information

"Faculty have been a huge contribution to the process. This faculty is absolutely dedicated to this college."

stood what was going on but what could I do?"

Not only was communication a problem among faculty members but having them push forward and begin completing goals set forth by the accreditation team took some real work from the staff.

ing. Having fliers posted on walls isn't enough to engage students and get them to become informed.

"I've only had one student ask me about accreditation," said Davis, "Most of them don't seem worried... maybe that is a good sign. I don't know."

Faculty members are there to talk to students and are willing to listen to their concerns, students need to take a more active role in campus climate and begin to ask questions.

"If students are curious they should feel comfortable talking to the professors," said Gibbs

Things are on track to improve and faculty are on board to help VVC stay afloat. Luckily it is not too late in the process and things did not get worse before they got better. There are enough people that care about this campus to keep it going for both the community and its residences.

"Everyone I've encountered is hell bent on seeing this process through," said Fowlie.

Basketball from page 5

that your recruits are gonna bail on you, half-way through the season, that somebody gets an injury or the way grades are reported."

But with new blood comes new hope. Michael Hodge, a first year student and recent addition to the team, has yet to try his skill on the court. After a quick move to Long Beach and back again, he is anxious to begin playing. He almost missed the cut due to late registration, however, persistent in his requests, Coach Dudgeon eventually allowed Hodge to try out. He was drafted to the team and is expected to play point guard.

The question of the day is how will the VVC Men's Basketball Team fare this season?

"Honestly, it's really too early to tell," answered Hodge.

The boys have been putting in practice officially, for a month; their first game to be held Nov. 9. Schedules can be found at vvc.edu/academic/athletics/Mbasketball_schedule.htm.

Lights of Love from Page 8

In the event that the children and families don't come to pick up the gifts they have received, a few days prior to Christmas, ASB donates them to charities for other children.

No one should go unnoticed and uncared for this holiday season. Every child deserves a gift, and VVC can help kids experience what the holidays should really be like. Be the one who changes a child's life; Make a difference.

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No hate for '8'

Story by Mark Barajas
Reporter

Spectators at Monday's Victor Valley College Performing Art Center event on Nov. 5 joined on a critical issue of marriage equality with a cast of 21 actors, a suit against Prop. 8.

Ed Heaberlin found that adopting the "8" play would be a good idea to engage people about marriage equality. "8" is a play about the closing argument suing against California when two same-sex couples denied a marriage license.

With about 50 attendees in the PAC, the end of the performance went up in jeers and cheers as the stage of actors bowed to the audience.

At VVC, actors recited official transcripts of the case of two couples filing a suit against Prop. 8. Same-sex couples Sandy Steir & Kristin Perry and Jeff Zarillo & Paul Katimi, representing them were Ted Olson and David Boise. Same-sex couples who filed suit against Prop. 8 is played by Carrie Wilson, Alexis Williams, Kyle Gundlach, and Patrick William Mcelree. For 12

days, the opponents fought hard for marriage equality.

Playing a gay couple, Zarillo and Katimi who were denied by the state a marriage license, they took suit against Prop 8, actors Kyle Gundlach and Patrick William Mcelree stopped the audience in awe as they humanized their characters perfectly. Their dramatic entrance into every scene was fantastic. They failed at nothing to keep the attention of the audience.

"Marriage equality is the next step to finally showing California that my parents are equal, that our family is equal," said Spencer Perry, son of the same-sex lesbian couple.

The duo for the case, actors, Heaberlin and Gundlach in every moment made the event more enjoyable. Heaberlin and Gundlach played attorneys Theodore B. Olson and David Boise, who fought alongside the victims of Prop 8. The performance left attendees in laughter when key moments in

the performance allowed them to.

"Proposition 8 discriminates on the basis of sex in the same way that the Virginia law struck down in loving discrimination on the basis of race," said Olson, "they could marry whoever they want, unless that person was the wrong race."



Photo courtesy of marriagetrial.com

Charles Cooper, a straightforward fellow and defendant of Prop. 8 played by actor Reverend Skip Regan, antagonized plaintiffs for their belief in same-sex couples in most scenes.

"As the court considers this, there is a debate about the morals, the practicalities and the wisdom that really goes to the nature of our culture," said Cooper.

During the elections of Nov. 4, 2008, Prop 8 passed by a 52 percent to 48 percent margin in California. But many fought to defend and expand gay and lesbian rights.

Prop. 8. led to a controversial firestorm. The gay community fought against Prop. 8 feeling that it discriminates against marriage between same-sex couples in the same way laws once discriminated against marriages of interracial couples. It's passages add a provision to California's bill of rights which provides that 'only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California.' Opponents have known the Proposition to only spread fear and prejudice into an unequal community.

"Any race can marry who they want, so sexual preference shouldn't make a difference," said Dianne Gundlach, mother of VVC student.

Continued in '8' on page 12

Winnie the Pooh and lots of fun too

Review by Sara Joy Stover
Reporter

The Victor Valley College play, "Winnie the Pooh", was a fantastic performance filled with lively actors and beautiful scenery.

The play is about a storyteller narrating to a young boy, Christopher Robin. The story told to Christopher Robin was about three main characters, Winnie the Pooh, Piglet, and Rabbit. In the Hundred Acre Wood, they are living a lifestyle that they believe is okay, but to others it may seem filthy.

The problem that the residents of the Hundred Acre Wood face is that a new mother,

Kanga, is coming to the woods with her baby, Roo. Piglet, Rabbit, and Pooh practice to scare them away because they heard that Kanga will give them all baths since they are filthy.

The actors of the play were incredible. They got into character, and they made the performance enjoyable. The costumes were very colorful and matched the cartoon version of what the characters in Winnie the Pooh looked like. In the scenery, there were fake paintings of trees for the Hundred Acre Wood. For Christopher Robin's room, the scenery looked as if it were the inside of a house.

In preparation for the performance, the cast and crew only

rehearsed for three weeks.

In order to make a cartoon into a play, Director Ed Heaberlin said it wasn't difficult for them.

"You just have to believe, it comes from the heart," said Heaberlin.

Heaberlin had also said that he loved the cast and crew for this performance and they were the happiest he has been with.

Many of the cast members enjoyed the characters they played.

"I loved the character I played, he was energetic and nervous, although I don't love the pink that much," said VVC student, Shawn Taber, who played Piglet.

When asking the audience

members about how they liked the play, they did express some questions on the plot. They said the plot wasn't organized and didn't make much sense, and the ending didn't feel like an ending.

"I enjoyed parts of the play. The acting was good, but the plot wasn't very well written," audience member and VVC Instructional Media Services Technician, Tim Isbell said.

Despite these concerns, the performance was very well put on and many enjoyed it.

Overall the Performing Arts Center is doing a great job and are improving in each performance that they do. This production brought "Winnie the Pooh" to life.

Get in the groove: fall dance recital

Preview by **Ethan McGarvey**
Reporter

The upcoming Fall Dance Concert at Victor Valley College features students that have minimal dance experience, to students that have years of dance experience. The concert will incorporate all of their skills for a cohesive production.

Among the students is newcomer Mary Hill. She is in her first semester of dance and wants to use dance as a tool for increasing her confidence. Hill aspires to pursue a career in acting, and this class helps her open up her personality on stage.

"I'm not good with attention and I don't like the spotlight on me," said Hill.

She entered the class with the desire to try something new and different. Hill did some cheer-leading in high school, but soon discovered that style was not as helpful as she thought it was going to be.

"I was surprised and really taken back. Sometimes I would end up on the other side of the room," said Hill, as she explained her early struggles with finding her groove. As the semester progresses, her coordination has gotten better. She has become more observant and she is starting to get into the swing of things. Hill has gravitated towards the jazz style of dance because it suits her style the best. She likes the rigidity of jazz as opposed to the free and loose movements of the modern style.

"It's exciting. If you wanna learn something new, this is the class for you. It's not just one dance, or two dances, but many dances," said Hill.

On the opposite end of the skill spectrum, is Omar Chavez. He is in his fourth semester of dance at VVC and is equipped with many years of previous

experience and likes the modern style the best. Chavez wants to pursue a career in dance and puts a lot of time into perfecting his art. Chavez elevates himself, not just with experience, but with how he approaches each routine.

"I'm a more well-rounded individual. I persevere and strive to be the best. And I really get into character," said Chavez, "dance is 10 percent skill and 90 percent work."

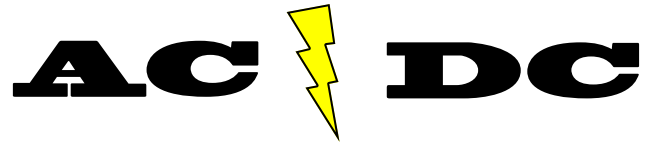
Although there is no underlying theme to the Fall Dance Concert, it is more of an exposé on the styles of dance. The concert will feature a variety of styles including: tango, modern, fosse, ballet and jazz.

"You are going to see dancers performing to their abilities and succeeding," said Chavez, "dance is very basic and incorporates every aspect of life. Come to the show, find something new and experience something different."

On Friday, Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m., the Fall Dance Concert opens. It will be held at the Performing Arts Center and is directed by Lynn Guardado with additional choreography by Nancy Helms. Ticket prices will be: \$10 for general admission, \$7 for seniors, \$5 for children and free admission for VVC Associated Student Body card holders. For any additional information, contact the PAC at (760)245-4271 Ex. 2440.

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Alternative Corner with Daniel Compean

Low-positivity: Modern bigotry

In what can only be described as a depressing realization, I felt bitter and betrayed by mainstream media. What's wrong with music these days? There was an inability to identify with the songs playing through the radio. I began to feel myself become more detached from the lyrics as will.i.am in 2009 would sing through the back end of an auto-tuner reminding me that "tonight's gonna be a good night." No. No it won't, Will.

"Baby," with nearly 800 million views on YouTube:

"And I was like baby, baby, baby oh. Like baby, baby, baby no. Like baby, baby, baby, oh."

Ok, so not exactly a stroke of lyrical genius, but why should it be? With a target demographic of 14-year-old girls, who could honestly say they had higher expectations? Music made for 14-year-old girls more than likely won't appeal to you if you're not a 14-year-old girl. That

"Music isn't getting worse, you're just growing old, and no one wants to write music for old people."

As the years carried on, I discovered many others like myself. It's become commonplace to lament over the state of pop music to the point of cliché. People will cling to their favorite bands from high school or incessantly remind you how the music of today fails to compare to whatever 70's dadrock they just discovered as if time has ascended it upon high.

Whenever people complain about modern music, they're overlooking one major point: music isn't getting worse, you're just growing old, and no one wants to write music for old people.

Justin Bieber has become this decade's favorite chew toy. How has this inoffensive, squeaky-clean Canadian kid generated so much hatred? Well, let's take a look at Bieber's magnum opus,

shouldn't warrant hatred. At worst, it should inspire apathy. It's a form of media that isn't meant for you to identify with.

Music will forever be the Peter Pan of entertainment. Lady Gaga will never be Queen Gaga. Music is not going to mature alongside you. Pop stars will continue to sing about break-ups and heartbreak long after you've grown past that point in your life. There will inevitably come a transition where new music isn't being made for you anymore. For those ready to graduate college, that transition starts now.

If tonight we can all go home and take comfort, instead of resentment, in this fact, maybe will.i.am could actually be on to something.

Ram Reviews: movies & music

'Hope on the Rocks': old country themes hit rock bottom

Review by Kristen Martin
Reporter



Toby Keith is a well-known, highly respected country artist with 19 years of experience under his belt. His newest album, "Hope on the Rocks," projects 10 new songs about beer and girls; an old theme with a new sound.

A country fan is used to slow paced, insightful songs because that is where country music originated; hearing such things from Toby Keith is odd, strange, and in a way, wrong. Not necessarily because he sings slower, but because the music itself is depressing and whiny.

Keith starts the album with "Hope on the Rocks." The bartender perspective of this song shows a new side of Keith. With hints of suicide, empty souls,

and lost hope, a beaten and battered town turns to a bartender for liquid courage and a reason to continue on.

In the progression of the album, there is no correlation between the first track and the others; Keith goes on to sing about women and booze. The first track is the most defining track of the entire album because it discusses real issues and a failing community rather than the remaining songs on the album that whimper on and on about needing more beer and losing a girlfriend; a very repetitive theme amongst music these days

A few tracks later, "Scat Cat" picks up in speed. The beat goes faster than the other songs heard

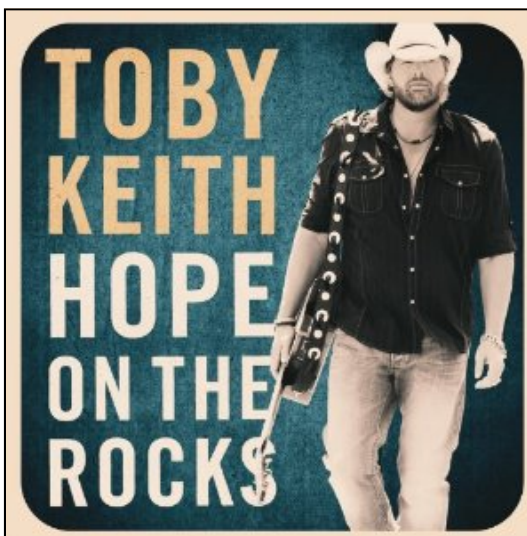


Photo courtesy of Show Dog-Universal Music

on the album. Although the tune is familiar, the lyrics are unheard of. The song itself is about illegal whiskey production, but Keith inputs "Scat cat, you have

gravy on your tail," at the end of the chorus. Odd.

One of the best songs of the album, "The Size I Wear," has a similar tune to "Beer for my Horses" and "Whose Your Daddy" that debuted in Keith's album from 2002, "Unleashed." In the chorus, there is a distinct few measures that may be easily confused for either song. It's nice to know Keith has not completely abandoned his fans.

There is no way to determine if Keith has peaked and is falling back on anything just to keep the records going or if he is changing his music consciously.

Either way, this album was a bad idea and leaves a bad taste of Keith in the listener's mouth.

Bond reinvigorated, not rebooted

Review by Daniel Compean
Entertainment Editor



There's a certain technique that lies in making a spy film: try to emulate what James Bond films have done. The quintessential spy, Bond, embodies the perceived qualities people assume a man of espionage should have. Realistic or not, this has had a markedly profound impact on the spy genre.

Widely regarded as classic for its charismatic protagonist, near tongue-in-cheek action scenes and cultural significance, it's no surprise any new addition to the Bond franchise would be highly anticipated. "Skyfall" is the twenty-third inclusion to this monolithic series and marks the third Bond portrayal by Daniel Craig.

The story follows the eponymous MI6 agent James Bond, also known as 007 (Craig.) He is tasked with seeking out a cyberterrorist (Javier Bardem) who has a strange murder-agenda with Bond's matronly commanding officer, M (Judi Dench.) Tensions culminate as terrorist attacks and bodies mount up. "Skyfall" delivers a very modern Bond film, dealing with the practicality of espionage in a modern setting.

"Skyfall" is directed by Sam Mendes ("American Beauty," "Road to Perdition,") a director who's proven he knows excellent storytelling. With an abundance of stage production experience, Mendes favors plot exposition and has the ability to bring a human quality to his films. "Skyfall" is no exception, as a childhood back story is given to the otherwise enigmatic character of James Bond.

Craig gives a certain panache and class to his portrayal as Bond. While generally true to every one of the 007 incarnations, Craig has made Bond uniquely his. Still with his typical womanizing charms, Craig also brings a wry performance adding a subtle layer of humor.

Bardem's performance as the cyberterrorist, Raoul Silva, is brilliant. Bardem takes an almost childlike, psychotic glee in every little thing he does. From playing sadistic target practice to bizarre metaphorical stories about rats, Bardem never ceases to capture the audience's attention. Director Mendes seems to be aware of this, as every scene seems to bring out Bardem's talent even more.

"Skyfall" caters to the absurd action and theatrical explosions the 007 series has become

Continued in *Skyfall* on page 14

'8' from page 10

ProtectMarriage.com, led by a coalition of conservatives, limited the freedoms of marriage to the gay community. The goal of religious activists is to keep the sanctity of marriage between a man and woman.

"Do all you can to support the proposed constitutional amendment by donating all your means and time," said church members of Latter-Day Saints.

As the play finished, the front row of the crowd roared in cheers for the actors. However, in the back row of the audience where the actors failed to reach, many attendees stood slouched up in their chairs. It was a 50/50 stretch for the play to catch the back rows because people seemed lost for a moment as it ended.

Wrestling undefeated and still climbing

Story by **Annette Linares**
Reporter

Taking down the undefeated one match at a time, wrestler Ryan McWatters has a record of 16 and 0 at Victor Valley College.

In eighth grade McWatters began to wrestle flowing in the foot steps of his father, uncle and cousins in the city of Murrieta, California. He received six or more trophies in the past and has continued to receive more.

McWatters is now a sophomore here at VVC and continued his wrestling career after graduating from Sultana High School. His technique continues

to improve and is the second captain on the wrestling team while he volunteers at Sultana High School as an assist wrestling coach.

"I was wrestling the returning State Champion and I was beating him and he came back in the last ten seconds and beat me. I felt like I could beat him but just little things that just screwed me up," said McWatters.

With McWatters transition from high school to junior college, he has kept his undefeated record with the help of Head Coach Scott Seeley, Assistant Coaches Kevin Chilton, Kirk Riding and the wrestlers.

"He is number one ranked up wrestler from state. He has beaten everybody that they have thrown at him," said Seeley.

Seeley has been coaching the wrestling team at VVC since 2003 and became head coach in 2005. During his career, he has had many successful wrestlers. Bryan Barker graduated from Granite High School and wrestled for Seeley and made it to the professional level. Another wrestler coached by Seeley was Joe "Daddy" Stevenson, who is now a Mixed Martial Arts Fighter.

With the successful training the coaches have had with the past wrestlers, McWatters has

the best chance of making it to the big league.

"He has always been a good wrestler but he has improved in pretty much every aspect he hasn't just stayed content with how he was. He's gotten stronger and he has gotten a lot more physical than he used to be. Everything that he was good at in high school, he's gotten better at," said Chilton.

VVC has had more than one wrestler at state championships and this is the sixth year in a row. This season McWatters has a line filled of offers already and many more to come once he is done here at VVC.

Sports in brief

Christmas fundraiser: proceeds go to VVC baseball team

Brief by **April Terrero**
Reporter

The Victor Valley College baseball team is now selling Christmas trees to raise money for equipment. This is the VVC's baseball team's 2nd annual Christmas fundraiser. Run by head coach Jesus Beltran, the baseball team offers Christmas trees, wreaths, garlands and swags in different sizes and prices.

The Christmas trees range from \$45-\$140 and gives the students a choice between a Douglas fir, Noble fir and a Grand fir. Pre-orders started Oct. 10 and end on Nov. 18 and can be purchased through the head coach or baseball players. Trees are set to be picked up at the tennis courts Dec. 8.

"The fundraiser is important to the program because it helps purchase our gear for the season and mostly everyone needs a Christmas tree," said baseball player Christopher Thibodeau.

The fresh trees come from a farm in Washington where they are cut two days before they get delivered by the Wood Mountain Christmas Trees company. Beltran explains how he is trying to give the team a chance to raise money for their equipment.

"I tell them, you either go out and do a little work and get your stuff paid for, or pay it out of your own pocket," said Beltran.

Last year's fundraiser helped the baseball team earn more money than expected, and this year they expect to earn more since they have more people on the team.

"I think the fundraiser helps serve a great purpose. Unfortunately times are a little tough so not as many people are interested, but I'm going to help by selling Christmas trees," said baseball player Chad Howard.

With the holidays just around the corner, the baseball team assures students quality trees at reasonable prices.

Volleyball nears the end of the season as playoff hopes vanish

Brief by **Octavious Thomas**
Editor

The hope of Victor Valley College's volleyball team reaching the post season playoffs has diminished as they suffered another loss in Foothill Conference play.

On Nov. 9, the Rams faced off against the Marauders of Antelope Valley College. In their last two games, the Rams were unsuccessful in obtaining the victory and lost the three sets both times. The Rams were once again unable to beat Antelope Valley ended with a 1-3 loss.

"It's all mental mistakes," said Rams head coach Christine White. "Tonight it was not my team that was out there."

In the first set it seemed as though Victor Valley was sure to put up a fight the entire game as they were able to take control and win 25-23.

"The first set was my real team," said White. "Everyone communicated well and showed

how we really play."

During the next matches, Antelope Valley showed complete dominance over the Rams, not allowing a single lead. The loss gave the Rams an (11-12) overall record and an (8-6) Foothill Conference record.

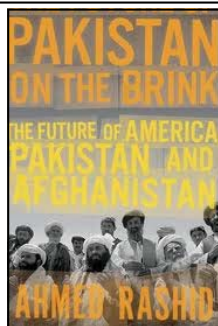
The Rams are currently holding on to a fourth place position in Foothill Conference play. With only one game remaining in the season, Rams will not be participating in the playoffs.

"The way we are right now, it is not possible for us to have a post season," said White. "We needed a lot of improvement."

The Rams last game will be held at home against Rio Honda on Nov. 14.

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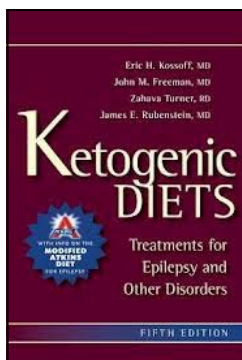
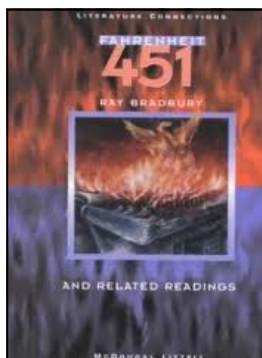


1. Pakistan on the Brink: The Future of America, Pakistan and Afghanistan **by Ahmed Rashid** (left)

2. Miss Representation: A Documentary Film **by Jennifer Siebel Newsom**

3. The Jewish Annotated New Testament **edited by Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Zvi Brettler**

4. Fahrenheit 451 and Related Readings **by Ray Bradbury** (right)



5. Into the Wild **by Jon Krakauer**

6. Ketogenic Diets: Treatments for Epilepsy and Other Disorders **by Eric H. Kossoff, et al.** (left)

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-RamPage Staff

Skyfall from page 12

known for. With well choreographed fight scenes that aren't afraid to stand on the side of being occasionally over-the-top, "Skyfall" embraces this time-honored Bond tradition.

As a character from the film puts it, "Sometimes the old ways are the best." "Skyfall" takes this to heart as the movie permeates with nostalgia in nearly every scene. Long time 007 fans will no doubt rejoice at the sight of the iconic Aston Martin DB5 complete with a seat ejection button. Yet for all the fan shout outs "Skyfall" offers, the plot essentially follows the tried and true 007 method. Bond is easily captured,

Bond easily escapes, Bond finds a new woman to sleep with, and action ensues. As predictable as this may be, this method is what most have come to love about this cherished series. To break from this mold would almost feel like a betrayal to the established norms of the Bond universe.

"Skyfall" is easily the best of the Craig-era Bond films thus far. Visually impressive, engrossing and well paced, despite its near two and a half hour run time; it hardly fails to deliver something compelling and worthwhile for one of cinema's most well-known characters.

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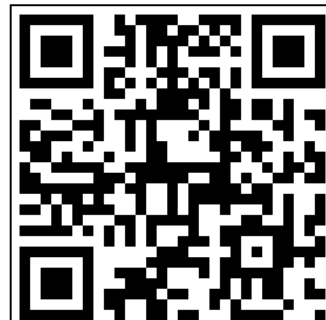


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Thank you California for choosing education and fiscal integrity. Together we can keep the California dream alive

12:08 PM • 7 Nov 12



Twit Pic



'Four more years.'

Recent Images by @BarackObama
Nov. 6, 2012 8:16 p.m.

RAMPAGE STAFF

- Editor-in-Chief:** Kelli McGurk
- Managing Editor:** Garrett Johnston
- News Editor:** Micah Raimo
- Entertainment Editor:** Daniel Compean
- Features Editor:** Amber Schwartz
- Sports Editors:** Mario Gonzalez, Todd Hadler
- Editors:** Octavious Thomas, Ashlee Dubach, Juan Mungia
- Reporters:** Mark Barajas, Trevor Cooper, Rudy Gonzalez, Gabriel King, Annette Linares, Kristen Martin, James McDaniel, Ethan McGarvey, Tanya Patterson, Ivan Rivera, SarahJoy Stover, April Terrero
- Adviser/Instructor:** Nicholas Hartman
- Cartoonist:** Mark Barajas; Guest Work Welcome
- Administration/Faculty/Staff Mentors:** Jennifer Fowlie, Tim Isbell, Scott Mulligan, Deanna Murphy, Christopher O'Hearn, Robert Sewell, Paul Williams
- 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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

VVC RamPage, 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395
Phone: (760) 245-4271 Extension 2773 • Fax: (760) 241-5723
Email: vvcrampage@gmail.com or vvcrampage@vahoo.com
<http://www.vvc.edu/offices/rampage> <http://www..issuu.com/vvcrampage>

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 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.

ADVERTISING

The RamPage generally accepts as advertising only 8 1/2 - by -11-inch flyers as inserts or various sizes printed in the paper. The cost of inserts 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 or email Sharon Wright at Sharon.wright@vvc.edu

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

The RamPage reserves the right to reject any material — advertising or editorial — that it deems to be not in keeping with the standards of the paper.



Lights of Love 2012

Lights of Love 2012

Toy Drive to sponsor children of VVC students

- ✦ Children's names (along with age & gender) will be displayed on the Auxiliary Services Office window (second floor Student Activities Center)
- ✦ Choose a child's name & remove tag from the window. Log in your choice with Auxiliary Services.
- ✦ Purchase an age appropriate gift approximately \$10.
- ✦ **SECURELY** tape name tag to your wrapped gift.
- ✦ Gifts must be returned by December 3rd

*'Twas many weeks before the holidays, when all through the college
All staff was bustling with new acquired knowledge;
That the "Lights of Love" were all hung with care,
In Auxiliary Services next to the stairs.*

*The names of the children for all to see,
Were brightly written out for you and me;
Just pick a light from the window display
The one you want and you're on your way.*

*Just purchase a gift approximate \$10
Wrap it nicely, bring it back and then
We'll log it in and you've done your part
The child will smile and warm your heart.*

*So don't say, "no time, no money, no way!"
Share what you've gotten; make a child's day
On the "Lights of Love" hundreds wait there
For a kind giving soul to remember they're here.*

*So thank you for taking the time to read,
And we hope we have planted a generous seed,
So just remember before you leave,
That it's better to give than to receive!*

M.Kagy 2002 revised 2012

Thank you for your support,

*ASB Council * Ready Rams Club * PTK * EOPS *