



# RAMPAGE

APRIL 26, 2017 | VOLUME 42 | NO. 3

*“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs those who prepare for it today” - Malcolm X*

## Is It Fair?

**By Benjamin Tizzard**  
*Reporter*

Unisex bathrooms are gaining popularity. There are many heated opinions tied in with this subject. In the High Desert alone, many restaurants such as Del Taco and Starbucks have installed these restrooms already. These restrooms are made not only for customers, but for transgender employees because it is believed they should have access to restrooms that fit their gender identity. It is challenging

for transgenders to use gender specific restrooms.

By changing restrooms from gendered to unisex, many states such as California, North Carolina and Washington hope to reduce crime rate. By allowing a transgender person to use restrooms of their transitional gender, the chances of a sexual assault happening rises. According to the National Institute for Justice, research has shown that 60% of sexual assaults occur from intimate partners, friends and acquaintances. In addition,

many states are trying to reduce harassment toward transgender people. Approximately, 70% of transgender people have been verbally harassed and about 10% have been assaulted. These bathrooms are being created not for public safety, but to keep transgender people out of danger. Jasmine Davis, a barista at Starbucks, believes that this will assist in making transgender people more comfortable outside of their

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## “13 Reasons”

### Why

**By Brittany Nister**  
*Reporter*

“13 Reasons Why” is the newest addition of book turned T.V show. The novel was published in 2007 by Jay Asher and is now a Netflix original directed by Brian Yorkey and Executive Producer Selena Gomez. Due to the intense and emotional experiences on the show,



therapy dogs were present for the actors. Selena Gomez spoke to CNN saying, “It hits a very important part of me, and I think this is what (kids) need to see.. They have to see something that's going to shake them. They have to see something that's frightening...”

The show follows Clay Jensen (Dylan Minnette) as he receives and plays 13 mysterious tapes from Hannah ..

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## U.S. Involved in Syrian War

**By Randy Noxon**  
*Editor of Features*

On April 6, 2017, President Donald Trump ordered a military strike on a Syrian airfield that was believed to be the location of the Syrian regime, led by President Bashar al-Assad, organized and carried out a chemical weapons attack against its own people. The attack claimed the lives of more than 80 civilians, including children. This is the first time that the United States has bombed Syria since the country’s civil war began in 2011. Images of the Syrians who suffocated to death seemed to shock President Trump, who spoke of the “beautiful little babies” killed in the attack, which he described as “an affront to humanity.” Trump

went even further, telling reporters that “something should happen” to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad because of his responsibility for the attack. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, meanwhile, said Assad would have “no role” governing Syria in the future and that “steps are underway” for a US-led international push to remove him.

The decision to launch airstrikes against the regime of Syrian leader Bashar al-Assad represents an 180-degree change for President Trump.



Less than four years ago, Trump was strongly opposed to intervention in Syria over Assad's use of chemical weapons. In Tweets that are still currently on the president’s personal Twitter page, President Trump was critical of any US involvement in Syria. One

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# Tragedy in San Bernadino

By Irene Molinar  
Reporter

Monday, April 10, 2017 at North Park Elementary in San Bernardino, California took a turn for the worst when an enraged husband entered the school and began firing. Cedric Anderson, 53, entered the school in search of his wife—Karen Smith, a special needs teacher at the school.

Around 10:30 A.M. Anderson signed in at the front office of the Elementary school. Anderson stated he wanted to drop something off to his wife. San Bernardino Police Chief, Jarrod Burguan, stated a spouse gaining access to school grounds is not an uncommon action. As Anderson entered Smith's classroom, he immediately opened fire at Smith—killing her instantly. Two students were standing directly behind Smith as the firing occurred. Jonathan Martinez, 8, was one of the children injured in the incident. Martinez was airlifted from the school and taken to Loma Linda University Medical Center where he ultimately succumbed to his injuries. The other student, a 9-year-old boy, was described to be in stable condition after the accident. Anderson eventually took his own life, calling for the incident to be declared a murder suicide.

The marriage of Anderson and Smith was described as tumultuous. Burgan stated, "I'm told that their marriage was relatively short. They've only been married for a few months and they've been separated for about the last month, month-and-a-half, roughly, when this incident took place," he said. "But there's nobody that in the investigation has come forward to say that they saw this coming."

It was later discovered that Anderson did have a criminal history. Records revealed he faced criminal charges of handling a weapon and assault and crimes against public peace in 2013. Those crimes were never prosecuted. There were also two petitions for restraining orders against Anderson that were filed by women prior to his marriage to Smith.

Classes resumed Monday, April 17th—a week after the incident. As an effect of the incident, guests are required to ring a buzzer to enter the school and will only gain access to the main office. There will be a camera for those in the office to get identification of those trying to gain access. Parents, many still concerned and worried, have mixed emotions about children returning to school.

Tyronne Edwards' son attends North Park Elementary. He states, "When it comes something like this, it's hard for me as a parent to actually know what to do to actually help him. These new security measures are great, but these new security measures need to be at all schools."

Jane Muschell also has a son who attends North Park. She states, "We're relieved they're coming back to school here. We're happy, he's happy. He's excited."

The community of San Bernardino has been deeply affected by this tragedy. Schools, departments of health, parents, friends, and the general public have all taken something away from this hardship. Community support has surely been shown throughout this grievance.

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homes. "I think it's a great idea for others to feel comfortable with who they are. I have a girlfriend and majority of people always look at her weird when she enters the women's restroom mistaking her for a guy. Many say rude comments and continually stare at us, but it doesn't bother her as much as it bothers me. Unisex restrooms will help with comfortability in public," said Davis.

With this in mind, how could unisex restrooms be a bad thing? The Federal Government is concerned with allowing

transgender people to enter any restroom based on self-perceived gender. According to Elizabeth Lee Vliet, about 700,000 people are transgender which is about 0.3% of the population. With this number, by creating these restrooms you

are putting 99.7% of the population at risk. If a man decides to be "a woman" one day, that could by all means put women in danger and vice versa. By keeping restrooms separated, physicians believe that this will provide physical and psychological safety for both genders. Big American corporations tend to see the opposing side of it as well. Governor Pat McCrory of North Carolina knows the "Bathroom Bill" that was recently passed is offensive to these corporations, which has caused a huge loss in jobs. PayPal had intentions to expand jobs through North Carolina, but since this law was passed, they no longer will expand. They're not the only ones. Many sports organi-

zations and entertainment companies are planning to take the same stand. Raina Tschantre does not believe that all gender restrooms are a good idea. She doesn't play into liberalism. "It doesn't make sense. They're trying to make bathrooms gender-neutral so the LGBT community isn't offended by only having Men/Women restrooms. But only 3.8 percent of Americans are LGBT, and 0.3% of that is transgender. The percentage of vulnerable children and concerned parents is at LEAST 158 times more than that. So why are we more



concerned about not offending 0.3% of the population than 47% of the population?" said Tschantre.

It is good to install these bathrooms for the safety of transgender people. It can be beneficial to them and make them more comfortable when appearing in public. But, there is always pros and cons to a new system. By allowing transgender restrooms, the crime rate for sexual assault may be on the rise again soon. It is beneficial to certain extents, but always leaves the question of "what if?". These bathrooms will soon be introduced throughout the states. It is a sensitive subject for many.

# Internet Providers Sell User Information!

By Mitchell Bovee  
Reporter

Your private user data may start being sold off to the highest bidder thanks to the passing of a recent bill. The passing of this legislation will nullify rules set by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in December that required Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to get permission from customers before selling their personal information. This will allow companies like Verizon, Comcast, and many others to sell data like user's browsing history to advertisement companies and other third parties. 215 members of the House of Reps. voted for the bill, moving it along to the Senate, where it passed with a vote of 50-48. As of April 3, it has also been signed by President Trump, effectively cancelling out all of the FCC's previously

set rules regarding the use of customer data, and making ISPs a lot more powerful.

ISPs and their lobbyists argued that the restrictions the FCC set put them at a significant disadvantage against companies such as Facebook and Google, that regularly collect user data. Consumer right groups argue that these rules set up by the FCC would have kept ISPs from selling their customers' data to companies to allow new invasive ways to deliver ads to customers. Before President Trump had signed the bill into effect, Kate Tummarello of the Electronic Frontier Foundation said, "We are one vote away from a world where your ISP can track your every move



online and sell that information to the highest bidder." According to the FCC, "Customer's private information includes everything from app downloads, browsing histories, precise geo-locations and even financial and medical data." With the removal of these protections, users are left with a lot more questions regarding their private information than they are getting the answers to.

Thousands of people called on their senators to protect those rules, but Republicans in Con-

gress repealed them by passing a Congressional Review Act, which allowed the bill to be fast-tracked to getting passed. With the passing of the bill, not only are the previous FCC rules repealed, but the FCC is also prevented from writing similar rules in the future. The Federal Trade Commission is also powerless when it comes to policing ISPs, leaving customers without a government agency to protect them. Uncertainty is the dominating feeling of many consumers now as they wait and see exactly how their data ends up being used in the future. Until we see exactly how ISPs intend on using our user data, customers will have no way of knowing just how much damage is being done to them. On fact remains, ISPs now have access to all of your private data, whether you want them to or not.

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Tweet reads, "The President must get Congressional approval before attacking Syria-big mistake if he does not!" Another reads, "How bad has our 'leader' made us look on Syria. Stay out of Syria, we don't have the leadership to win wars or even strategize." Yet another reads, "President Obama's weakness and indecision may have saved us from doing a horrible and very costly (in more ways than money) attack on Syria!"

All of that has changed — rapidly. The president who campaigned on an "America first" platform of keeping the US out of conflicts that do not directly impact core US national security interests has now intervened in Syria's intractable civil war. The president who has talked of building closer ties to Vladimir

Putin has bombed the Arab dictator Putin has spent years propping up. And the president who was silent about Assad's



future is now clearly saying the dictator needs to go. This precipitous military strike represents a turn-on-a-dime change from the Trump administration's longtime Syria policy, which only a week prior to the strike, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley pronounced would be "hands off." Speaking in Ankara, Turkey

on March 30th, Tillerson spoke on "the longer term status of President Assad will be decided by the Syrian people."

However, one week later, at 7:40 pm EDT the 59 BGM-109 Tomahawks made by Raytheon at a cost of \$1.4 million each were launched from the USS destroyers Porter and Dodge in the the Mediterranean. The strike was aimed at the al-Sharyat Airbase in Central Syria, from which, intelligence suggested, the warplanes responsible for the chemical attack had taken off. An hour later at 8:40 pm EDT the missiles hit a series of targets at the base and by

morning Fox News was announcing "large scale destruction to airfields, planes, and fueling facilities." Nonetheless, the effectiveness of the strike remains unclear.

The *UK Telegraph* reported that the airport's runways remained largely intact. There was damage to some concrete retaining walls and out buildings and six MiG-23 fighters under repair were destroyed but within hours the runway was fully functioning and Syrian SU-22 fighters were taking off from the base. Given that the attack was largely symbolic and had little immediate impact on the Syrian civil war in which 500,000 civilians have been killed, it is worth asking whether or not there was something more behind the \$82.6 million Tomahawk barrage.

## Ignite: Fast and Fun!

By **Brenda Rombalski**  
Reporter

What showcases the High Desert's movers, shakers, thinkers, and innovators? An annual event that was brought to the desert by Sam Thatte, with Visual Communications, in 2015: Ignite High Desert. The event can be described as a local Ted Talks. There is a lot of good food from local vendors, and music with time for networking plugged in.

Sam explained he was inspired to start an Ignite because he wanted to connect the Chamber of Commerce to the layperson. "Ignite is also an event that allows you to explore new ideas that stimulates the community. Ignite brings so many different ideas and concepts out in the open that even if one person in the audience would be enriched by something they heard at Ignite or improved their life in some way it would be worth it to

me!"

Initially, Ignite began in a Seattle bar in 2006 when two men came up with the idea. Today there are 300 Ignites events. The first two years, Ignite High Desert sold out



completely. This year they moved it to a larger venue and it was held at Town of Apple Valley Conference Center. Selling 50 more tickets, they nearly sold out again.

The energy in the room was high and the program moves fast as the twelve pre-

senters start immediately one after another. The audience is constantly engaged. Terry Saenz was a speaker at Ignite the first year, the second year she was in the audience, and this year she served on the

Ignite committee. "All of the speeches are different. Some are informative, some are funny, and some are just flat out entertaining. It is a lot of fun."

Kathie Martin served on the Ignite committee and also spoke this year. Her presentation was called "Grief in the

Digital Age". Kathie's husband, "Big Mike" died unexpectedly December 31, 2015, and she gave a moving, at times funny and very practical presentation speaking about how she used Facebook to help her in the grieving process. Kathie had a very teary audience laughing hard as she pointed out that, "Mike wouldn't have been caught dead on Facebook."

Carolyn expressed excitement for Ignite 2018, "This was my first time attending this type of event. It was over the top, very well organized, with amazing food, and surrounded by the greatest people."

Ignite High Desert is an affordable night out with the early bird tickets for just \$15. There are a few other surprises during the evening with take home bags for everyone, Ignite Karaoke, and t-shirts were given away to random people in the audience. Previous presentations for Ignite High Desert are available on Youtube.

## Ed Heaberlin: Lights, Camera, Action

By **Gabriela Lara**  
Reporter

Ed Heaberlin, a Communications Professor at Victor Valley College (VVC) has been directing for thirty-five years. Twenty-two of those years have been spent in the director's chair at VVC. He has worked with thousands of students over the years and appreciates the transition from the beginning of a play, to the end of a play. One of his favorite parts of directing is "watching the change in people as they start to realize they can do something." He also loves to see people working together as a team.

Professor Heaberlin was inspired to become a director

came from acting. "I always thought I would love acting the most, that's fun and I love doing that, but the thing I like more is shaping, putting things together, finding works that I believe in, and trying to bring that to the stage. It is something I learned that I love."

Heaberlin's current project is California Suite a 1976 play written by Neil Simon. When asked what his favorite part of the California Suite is he responded with "It's impossible to answer that, it is four different plays, because of the way he wrote it, each play is a jour-



ney. You see those characters and how their worlds change and how they change." For those students who have never seen "California Suite" it is a comedy play, with dramatic moments. With a smile on his

face, Professor Heaberlin explains it this way "It is four different slices of life and its really great work." VVC students can expect to see this play during the month of May.

# Isreali Food Comes to High Desert

By Vanessa Soto-Castellanos  
Reporter

A new burger joint has opened in the High Desert. Burgerim is an international restaurant franchise, founded by Donna Tuchner, an Israeli chef. The franchise started in Israel in 2011. By 2013 Burgerim expanded to 80 restaurants in Israel and in 2015 they decided to expand internationally to the USA, UK, Spain, Romania, and Russia. The first to open in the US was in Los Angeles. A franchise opened February 2017 in the Victor Valley Mall food court, replacing McDonald's.

The menu offers a variety of options to accommodate everyone's needs. They offer whole wheat and gluten free

buns, 11 different proteins from beef to salmon, and classic toppings. The restaurant is famous for making 2.8 oz sliders. They are sold in duo, trios, or party boxes which include 16 sliders. What makes this restaurant different from others in the food court, is the option to create your own personalized slider, there are not many burger joints that offer this.

First time customer, Isai Soto, ordered the Merguez, a spiced beef slider and the dry aged beef slider. Soto said that the "Merguez tasted like carne asada and the dry aged tasted smoky, but the meat was tougher than the Merguez." The service was excellent, quick, and had unlimited soda refills. Soto said that he

"would definitely go back to Burgerim."

Another first time customer, Jenda Lay, had a different experience. Lay ordered the three slider combo. The sliders were beef, salmon, and lamb. "Beef was the

best, the lamb tasted grassy, and I didn't like the salmon." Lay did enjoy the fries saying, "They were like potato chips, but thicker and good." Although the service was good, Lay does not think she would go back again, because she was not satisfied with the food.

There are also two new restaurants in the mall Charley's and Pholicious. Just



this year BJ opened up by the 15 freeway and there is a Krispy Kreme on Civic Dr. in Victorville. Recently the High Desert has experienced a flood of new restaurants opening, which has allowed residents a variety of options when they want to go out and eat.

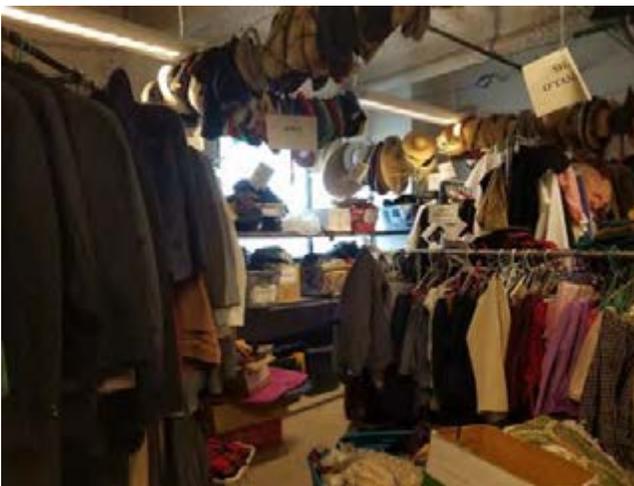
## PIECE BY PIECE

By Kelcie Hartley  
Reporter

"Bad costumes can break a show. If they are poorly chosen or don't make sense it can change the tone of the whole show. The costumes are just as important as picking the right actors in theater." These are the words of costuming teacher, Ashley Garcia. She has been the costuming teacher for nine years. Garcia has worked on thousands of costumes for all kinds of shows. Each type of show has its particular costuming needs. Small shows require very specific detail. The actors' costumes have to make a statement. Within larger productions like musicals, there is a lot of variety within the pieces. Although

this can be a difficult process there is more room for creativity.

Working with so many students for many years



makes it easy to know what to expect within each class. "My favorite moment is when it clicks for students, when they realize it isn't just clothes on an actor, they have created a new character. When that

moment happens it's my favorite." Garcia said. Out of the thousands of costumes she has worked on Garcia managed to pick one favorite. It

was a dress for Lady Bracknell in the show: "The Importance of being Earnest". The dress was huge, it was Victorian and had a large skirt with big shoulder sleeves. Not all shows are easy to costume for. The most difficult show Garcia has ever worked on was "Beauty and the Beast". Its costumes were the most unique out of any other production.

Almost a decade later, Garcia is leaving costuming behind for a new career in Dallas, Texas. This spring semester is her last semester for costuming shows. Garcia is currently working on costumes for the show California Suite. "Costumes are going slowly, it's a smaller scale show. The costumes are very specific, actors need just the right pieces. So we have to make, pull, and buy different items." Garcia believes is that people don't read enough Shakespeare. To truly understand theater and its aspects, including costuming, people need to read Shakespeare. "He was ahead of his time. No one could tell you more about acting or characters than him. Shakespeare can teach you so much. Please read more of his works." Costumes are complex and creative and good costumes are the mark of a good show. They both take lots of hard work and come together slowly, piece by piece.

# Getting to Know Your Fellow Rams

**By: Brenda Rombalski**  
*Reporter*

Kim Woods is a warm, intelligent, and hardworking VVC student. Woods grew up in St. Louis, Missouri and moved to Victorville in 2006. She says that school is much more affordable in California compared to St. Louis.



transfer to CSUSB. Woods has wanted to be a registered nurse since she was 7 years old. She said she decided to stick with her childhood dream to be a nurse because she likes helping people and likes to be busy. Woods' Mother has been a role model to her. Her mother worked in education and always helped underprivileged children, and gave hope and encouragement to

others. She works full time as a claims auditor lead at a local medical group. She is happily married and has a 7 year old son, Myshawn. Kim will graduate next June and plans to

Woods' favorite thing to say is, "I thank God for my life just as it is because it is exactly the way it is supposed to be."

**By: Ailyn Ramos**  
*Reporter*

Ro'Dessa Newcomb is a 22 year old student attending Victor Valley College. VVC is the only college she has attended since she graduated in 2013. She is currently majoring in sociology with the hope

of becoming a social worker. Ro'Dessa likes to grab a notebook and write new things in her free time. She likes to hang out with friends and enjoys to dance when she can and says "even though I'm not good at it." Her hope for the near future is to transfer to Cal State San Bernardino.

**By: Irma Gonzalez**  
*Reporter*

Carmen Mejia is 24 years-old Victor Valley College student. Mejia first started attending VVC four years ago and decided to major in biology. She lost interest in biology and



last year, she switched her major to communication. She plans to transfer to either Cal State San Bernardino or Cal State Fullerton.

Mejia says VVC is a great place to come if you are unsure of what you want to major in. She says, "For myself, it opened up some great opportunities for me that I would have never gotten otherwise and it gave me freedom to study different subjects." This is her last semester at VVC so she's making the most of it.

This semester has been good, but Mejia says she could've used a longer Spring Break. Mejia worked and went to Disneyland, and spent time with family during Spring Break.

**By:**  
*Reporter*

Caelan Rains graduated from Victor Valley High school and started attending Victor Valley College in the fall of 2015. He stated he enjoys the college, and credits it for making him "think the way he does." He also really loves the 9/11 memorial that the school has.

When asked what he would be if he could be anything, he answered that he would be a millionaire and plans on being just that.

Rains is planning on transferring to Cal State San Bernardino in order to get his Bachelors in Business. He wants to start businesses such as clothing lines or breweries. He believes he would be the type of boss that does not rule over anyone, but gives the employees certain responsibilities. He said that he would be firm with his employees.

He has big dreams and being part of the Victor Valley College community, has helped him on his journey so far.

**By: Devonte Trice**  
*Reporter*

Andre Lamella, 19, is a member of our Victorville Ram's Golf Team. He is a



second-year player who has a high rank on the 6-man team.

Lamella started playing golf at the age of six. When asked about how he developed his golf skills, he said, "The more I played, the luckier I got." Before the season started, Andre had thoughts about moving on from the game of golf. However, he decided to stick with his team because he feels so welcome there. Andre credits his team for all of the support that they give him. After the season is over, he plans to transfer to a university and continue to play golf, but not for a new team.

**By: Kelcie Hartley**  
*Reporter*

Isaiah Toruno is a 19-year-old student at VVC. He has been a student for two years. Toruno loves the time he has spent on campus. He is thinking about a degree in Psychology or Theater Arts.

His hobbies include watching movies, script writing, drawing, playing video games, and hiking in exciting places. Toruno has a five-year plan it includes living independently and accomplishing his dream of being a paid actor.

A Robin Williams's quote that Toruno try's to live his live by is "Make your lives spectacular, I know I did."



# Getting to Know Your Fellow Rams

**By: Gabriela Lara**  
*Reporter*

Israel Antonio Rodriguez is a 21 year old student at Victor Valley College. This is his first year as a Ram, and he is pursuing a degree in automotive.

Rodriguez was born in Los Angeles, but has lived the majority of his life in the High Desert. He has liked cars since he was a child and he plans to have his own mechanic shop in the future.

He enjoys listening to music, playing basketball, and video games in his spare time. He is a sneaker head and keeps

his closet full with the latest shoes. Rodriguez favorite quote is "Must be like water" by Bruce Lee, it reminds him that he has to learn how to be adaptable, shapeless, and formless like water.



**By: Maria Galindo**  
*Reporter*

Esmeralda Hinojosa most known as "Esmy" is a student at Victor Valley College. She graduated Oak Hills High school a year earlier. Hinojosa whom is 17, states that as first generation college student, she sometimes struggles, but is willing to put in the effort. She is currently taking general electives until she



figures out what she wants to major in. She spends her free time going to the gym and considers herself a very outgoing person. She added that during Spring Break, she spent it with her significant other and didn't do anything major. Excited for summer break to enjoy some relaxing time at the beach with friends. She will be stress free since she will not be taking any summer classes.

**By: ????**  
*Reporter*

Miriam Padilla is a 22 year old student at Victor Valley College (VVC). She has been at the college since 2015 and plans to major in Child Psychology when she transfers out to Cal State San Bernardino. She has always loved children and wants to learn more about them and how to affect their lives for the better.

Padilla has two younger

sisters whom she loves and wants to set the example for, and is doing so with her grades and dedication. Her parents couldn't be more proud, "my sisters and my parents are my drive, they keep me going and making sure I do my best at all times" says Padilla.

Padilla has two semesters left before she can transfer however, she mentions that moving away from her sisters will be tough.

**By: Irene Molinar**  
*Reporter*

Courtney Patterson, 22, has recently celebrated receiving her Associates in Science from VVC. She hopes to pursue a career in the field in nursing. When asked why she chose to go into the medical field, Patterson stated, "The thought of working in an environment where my only job is to help people and care for them sounds so incredible. My whole life I've worked hard to just make sure those I love are taken care of. So why not continue it with my career?"

Patterson describes herself as an extroverted person trying to pass along a smile whenever she can. She enjoys studying and staying in rather than going out. "I love to just relax at home with a movie and some candles. There's nothing wrong with going out and having a blast, but curling up with some books or binge watching my favorite shows and movies is much more my pace." Family and friends are very important to Patterson. Patterson plans to enter the nursing program in 2018.

**By: Joel Johnson**  
*Reporter*

Quillan Brown's favorite thing about VVC is the cafeteria., "Because of the better environment, you get to socialize, and there is a much more warm feeling. You can come over here and do your homework, and when you look around you notice a lot of people that will actually help you out with projects"



**By: Charlene Altwine**  
*Reporter*

Lucy Craig is a triple major at VVC with Fine Art, Computer Integrated Design Graphics, and Business Education Technology. Craig's ultimate goal is to transfer to earn a Bachelor in Art and Animation.

Craig spends her free time "creating anything with a lot of emotion, skulls and bloody hearts. My favorite media was charcoal, I love how messy it can get but slowly fell

in love painting. It was a love hate thing at first. I absolutely love the color and how wide range painting is. Very different from charcoal, and even more messy." One little known fact about Craig is that she can touch her nose with her tongue and that she twitches her nose more when she is nervous. Craig loves her three adult bearded dragons and their twenty babies and hopes to take the three adults to the beach for Spring Break.



# Speaking to the Public!

By **Aurelia Dennis**  
*Reporter*

Public speaking can be scary, but Victor Valley College (VVC) students do not have to go it alone. Starting this semester, the Communication Center now has workshops to help students polish their PowerPoints and structure their speeches. Held every Monday through Thursday, from 2:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. in the Communication Center, the workshops range from a beginning introduction to PowerPoint to tips and tricks for dealing with anxiety when presenting to picking topics and structuring them into a full presentation. The workshops rotate weekly, so students do not need to worry about having class during the workshop

they want to attend.

Arron Furr, one of the student assistants in the Communication Center, said "These workshops can help students who need a little more help with their public speaking class, but they can also be really helpful to students who have to give a presentation for another class and aren't really sure how to create one." The workshops are not the only service the Communication Center offers to students at VVC. The student assistants in the Center can also help students by evaluating their presentations and in the creation of PowerPoints and outlines. The Center also has copies of textbooks from the Com-

munication classes offered on campus. The Communication Center is not only for students taking a Communication class, but for any student who would like a space to work or use a

computer.

The Communication Center is open from 11:15 – 4:15 P.M. Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:45 – 4:15 P.M. Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 8:30 – 10:30 A.M. on Fridays. Drop on by Room 213 in Building 54 sometime, where help is waiting.



# Another One

By **Devonte Trice**  
*Reporter*

University Preparatory School was honored with their second Blue Ribbon award this spring. Their previous award was won in 2010. The school's achievement makes them a part of the less than one percent of schools that have earned the award twice. In 2016, the Department of Education awarded 329 schools with the Blue Ribbon, and 33 of them were in California. Winning the award twice is an amazing accomplishment and this ribbon is only given out every five years.

The Blue Ribbon School Program has been recognizing scholastic achievements of public and private schools since 1982. According to the U.S. Department of Education, they base on academic excel-

lence and their closing of achievement gaps between subgroups. These subgroups like race, gender, and religion are highlighted for the ribbon. University Prep students had

bon is only given out every five years.

University Prep's, Principal, Valerie Hatcher, credits the honoring of the award to the students, staff, and even

recognition allows the board to look at a school like University Prep as a "distinguished school". The entire school was tested with a CST (California Standards Tests) exam. University Prep's test scores proved that they deserved the award.

Out of the thousands of schools that are reviewed, one of the top schools in Victorville was selected for a second time among all of the rest. The



great success last year with 80 percent of their students going on to four-year universities. The rest of the students are either going to technical school or are headed to community college. Winning the award twice is an amazing accomplishment and this rib-

bons is only given out every five years. Hatcher explained that the Department of Education just does not pick every school with academic prowess. She claims that there is an application process involved in which the school reaches out to the board to get recognized. Hatcher said that this

Blue Ribbon award is the highest achievement that a school can receive. It means a lot to the community of the area because they, in a way, are also responsible for putting these children in a position to succeed.

# DAMN.

By Irma Gonzalez  
Reporter

Kendrick Lamar dropped his highly anticipated fourth studio album, *DAMN.* on April 14th. It's been a year since he released *untitled unmastered* and two years since he released his Grammy-winning album *To Pimp A Butterfly*. *DAMN.* was due to be released on April 7th but Lamar pushed it back a week and had fans at the edge of their seats waiting with excitement to hear what he had in store with the new music. He dropped "HUMBLE." as his first single for the album and had fans wanting more. It was a great way to tease everyone with and it is one of the best, if

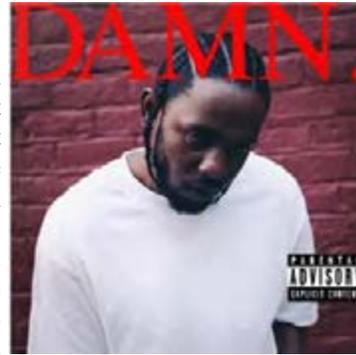
not the best track on the album. The 14 track album includes features from Rihanna, Zacari, and even U2. It's an album that most people could listen to and actually enjoy.

Kendrick Lamar uses this album to speak about the rap scene and how he sees the world. In his lyrics, Lamar displays what he has been through in his life and the struggles he has had to face. As well as giving a peek into his life with his lyrics, he also uses his lyrics to talk about cultural politics. For example, the song "XXX." talks about the problems we have going on in America right now by saying "The great American flag is wrapped and dragged with explosives. Compulsive

disorder, sons and daughters. Barricaded blocks and borders."

Kendrick Lamar uses his platform to talk about topics that many people are too afraid to talk about. More artists should use their voice to bring light to many of the problems that the world is facing especially problems that they have faced themselves.

"HUMBLE." was Lamar's highest charting single, reaching #2 on the Hot 100 Chart upon its release. The last time



a rap song hit #2 on the charts was with Eminem and Rihanna's "Love the Way You Lie." In the first two days alone, the album was streamed 120 million times. *DAMN.* is predicted to be the second album ever to reach 200 million streams in its first week.

*DAMN.* is definitely one of Lamar's best albums yet. Other artists who are releasing albums this year have a lot to live up to. It's safe to say that *DAMN.* will be one of the best albums of 2017. Once again Kendrick Lamar proves that he is one of the best rappers in the game right now. Overall, the album deserves a 8/10 because it is truly a great piece.

Baker (Katherine Langford). Before Hannah had committed suicide, she made the tapes as a revelation to why she died. Each tape reveals more of the story, including her classmates and how they play a part in her death. Clay wasn't the first to receive these tapes, nor is he meant to be the last.

Clay plays the tapes slower than those before him, seeing Hannah's life events mesh with his own. Slowly, he realizes the students around him aren't as innocent as they may appear. Starting with Justin Foley (Brandon Flynn) who sent an inappropriate picture of Hannah and spread a rumor that he hit third base. Hannah eventually lost her best friends, Jessica Davis (Alisha Boe) and Alex Standall (Miles Heizer) due to a hot or not list.

One of the most controversial topics the show addresses is rape. In episode 9, Hannah is too drunk to do anything, she watches in fear while Jessica is raped by Bryce Walker

(Justin Prentice). More so, Hannah herself gets raped by Bryce and this sends her off the edge. Episode 12, became the most depressing episode of the season, as the audience gets a visual of this horrific event. After this, Hannah tries one last time by speaking to the school counselor Mr. Porter (Derek Luke) about her thoughts on not existing anymore. He ignores her small outcries for help and instead explains that if she won't give names, then Hannah should just move on. Overall, the show was an emotional rollercoaster. Katherine

Langford, who played Hannah Baker, did an amazing job portraying the bullied High School student who experienced more than she should have. Though Selena Gomez was meant to play the role, I believe Langford was fantastic. More so, Dylan Minnette who plays Clay Jensen showed

how his shy personality prevented him from saving Hannah.

The pacing of the show was well put together and made binge-watching an easy task. As a College student

mend that vulnerable youth, especially those who have any degree of suicidal ideation, watch this series. Its powerful storytelling may lead impressionable viewers to romanticize the choices made by the



looking back at High School, you begin to think about everything you said about others and the impact it could have had on them. News channels, such as CNN and a statement from the National Association of School Psychologists, has talked out about the show by saying, "We do not recom-

characters and/or develop revenge fantasies". While I understand parent's concerns on this, I believe it is healthy for younger children to receive some kind of knowledge on suicide. To learn, that they are not alone and that suicide is not an option. I give 13 Reasons Why a 9/10.

# Death to Everyone

By Joel Johnson  
Reporter

Louis C.K., a stand up comedian known for his hilarious raunchy styles of comedy has a Netflix special titled *Louis C.K. 2017*. This is not his first special on Netflix, however it is his first Netflix original featuring his classic style of bringing offending and questionable material into a hilarious light.

Louis C.K. was born September 12, 1967. He started his comedy career by writing for well-known comedy shows such as: David Letterman, Conan O'Brien, Dana Carvey and Chris Rock in the late 1990's and early 2000's. He made his debut album for his stand up comedy in 2001, and his career blew up from there. Today, he continues to be on tour while producing his own TV shows *Louie* and *Lucky Louie*. He also has worked on several movies such as: *Secret Life of Pets*,

*Trumbo*, and produced his own specials on Netflix. With all of these experiences under his belt, he still continues performing all around the country and internationally.



Photo courtesy of ticketmaster.com

*Louis C.K. 2017* has a runtime of an hour and 15 minutes, during which he showcases his outlook on life and talking about any topic that crosses his mind. The opening jokes on abortion set the tone for the whole special

and shuttle in even more steep topics like drugging his nervous dog by "shoving four Prozac's into her asshole". Not allowing that to be the most offending joke to the audience,

he continued with more cringing and hilarious bits. Louis appears to focus on death and different forms of death in this special.

Louis uses funny sayings from his daughters. He adds his own classic twists to these

by escalating completely out of control. Along with using stories from his daughters, he also uses different racial stereotypes, language, and shares different parenting strategies used with his two daughters.

Compared to his other comedy specials on Netflix, *2017* ranks right up there with the other four because of its level of uncensored crudeness, and continues to give his fans exactly what they want from him. The intensification of every joke to its ultimate peak, the great use of timing, body language and facial expressions, all

showcases a skillset that Louis has mastered beautifully. This is available on Netflix, or can be purchased from his website [LouisCK.net](http://LouisCK.net). Louis C.K.'s *2017* is a fantastic experience that never fails to entertain even on multiple viewings. I give "2017" a 9/10.

## *Ghost in the Shell*, A Visual Delight

By Adam Capps  
Reporter

*Ghost in the Shell* begins with Mira Killian having her brain placed in a cybernetic body. Being the first of her kind, the company responsible for developing the technology, Hanka Robotics, has her placed in a counter-terrorism

unit called Section 9. During a mission with Section 9, Killian uncovers a cyber terrorist's plot to kill employees of Hanka Robotics.

Rupert Sanders directs, marking his first film since 2012's *Snow White and the Huntsman*, with Scarlett Johansson bringing the Major to life in a worthy performance.



The supporting cast helps to sell the film, with Takeshi Kitano taking on the role

of the Major's superior, Daisuke Aramaki. Pilou Asbaek plays Batou, who serves as the Major's close friend. Throughout the film Batou and Major Mira Killian share several scenes together, building up a trust that anchors the rest of the film.

Like the anime adaptation released in 1995, *Ghost in the Shell* provides viewers with moral and philosophical questions. These themes become most apparent during the second act through several key revelations. The film also makes brilliant use of computer-generated imagery to flesh out the futuristic world, with the visual elements being one of *Ghost in the Shell's* biggest

strengths. With these strengths come weaknesses. Michael Pitt provides a fresh and compelling take on Kuze, the primary villain of the film, but he appears to be underutilized, serving only to drive the story.

Viewers with low expectations may find themselves pleasantly surprised by the adaptation. After years of poor attempts, Hollywood seems to be on the right track with this one. It isn't perfect, but for those willing to check their expectations at the door, *Ghost in the Shell* will provide just over an hour and a half of thrilling action for veterans and newcomers to the franchise alike. I give *Ghost in the Shell* an 8/10.

# Joey Bada\$\$

By Vanessa Castaneda  
Reporter

Joey Bada\$\$ took on his fourth studio album as a conscious approach to discuss the politics surrounding our country today. Rather than his typical youth inspired, tongue twisting rhymes such as those on 1999, *Summer Knights*, and *B4.DA.\$\$*, *All Amerikan Bada\$\$* speaks on police brutality, newly elected Donald Trump, and systematic oppression and its consequences. In a recent interview, Bada\$\$ stated, "I personally feel like I was put here on this earth to inspire and to wake people up."

Joey splits his work into a two-sided album labeled "The Heroes Side" and "The Vindictive Villainous Side." "The Heroes Side" incorporates a light-melodic sound with uptempo beats where he reflects the sunnier side of

things. "The Vindictive Villainous Side" is base driven with darker melodic sounds and showcases Joey's lyrical abilities and his anger with phrases like, "Firstly, it's the double entendre monster, taking haunted constant, twisting your conscious so be cautious."

Joey Bada\$\$' album features well-known heavyweight peers Schoolboy Q and J. Cole in "Rockabye Baby" and "Legendary". Schoolboy Q's verse, however, demonstrates the best of both lyrical and storytelling ability over that of Bada\$\$ with rhymes like, "from getting lynched in the field, into owning buildings, getting millions,

influencing white children! And oddly, we still ain't even." Whereas Joey Bada\$\$ stays strictly lyrical and offers no room for self-reflection with, "if you 'bout this revolution please stand up! We ain't



scream FDT!"

The first single for the album, "Devastated" served as a predictor into the mainstream album he would soon release. This followed by "Land of the Free" shows us how the young rapper has improved by taking on the challenge of being a political advocate, yet comes up short due to the mainstream

nature of the album.

Overall, I thought the album was a solid 6.8 out of 10. I acknowledged the effort put in and Joey's willingness to speak out against what we as a country are facing. The melodies are definitely those of Joey Bada\$\$, but I feel the album came too late and with

little metaphors to give his audience room to think and appreciate

## What Now?

By Maria Galindo  
Reporter

Netflix's *What now?* comedy on April 11th proved no comedian had ever sold out a venue as large as Lincoln Financial Field. In his hometown of Philadelphia, Kevin Hart did what no other comedian had done, sold out his show in a football stadium. As per usual, he opened up with a pre-recorded spoof that culminated with Hart emerging in front of the life stadium. Playing himself as agent 007 *Bond*, Hart recruited notable actors/actresses such as: Halle Berry, Don Cheadle, Ed Helms and David Meunier to cameo as themselves. The dispute with Hart and Meunier over a poker game causes a bloody fight

between them and Halle Berry. Battling back and forth, Berry rushes Hart to his dressing room to get ready for his performance when he is then shot like a bullet through an opening in the stage.

Armed with a huge gold microphone, Hart works with the audience verbally and visually with the assistance of giant screens behind him. As a comic who recently got married he addresses a lot about his family life. Hart and his family



moved from Hollywood to the suburbs stating that it was a roller-coaster. He jokes about the difficulties he has with animals at night and the constant battle of taking out the trash. He also complains how private school has softened his kids.

In general, Hart leans heavily on physical comedy such as gruesome attacks of wild animals on our significant others. As per usual, he pro-

jects his selfishness as one of his main qualities. Throughout the show, he clearly states he'd put his life over the ones of his loved ones; if one was ever attacked by a wild animal. As cowardly as it may sound, Hart impressively delivers each joke with so much energy and flawless transitioning. *What Now*'s final 20 mins runs out of gas ending on weaker notes and Hart closing on a long and complicated Starbucks joke.

Overall, Hart's humor is amusing whether it be his silly self-humiliating jokes, over confident voice, marriage or bad parenting skills, he is always able to deliver some raunchy punch lines. Armed with his distractingly large gold microphone Hart easily controls the record setting crowd further cementing his ability as a comic.

# FATE OF THE FRANCHISE

By Diallo "Markus" Kahin  
Entertainment Editor

Universal Studios has been making the iconic Fast and Furious movies since 2001. The franchise has seen incredible highs and fairly significant lows. With 2 *Fast 2 Furious* Vin Diesel doesn't appear because he couldn't agree to a contract with Universal. However that enabled Tyrese and Ludacris to enter into the fold. *Tokyo Drift* has an all new starring cast. It introduces fan favorite character Han, and it launches the career of director Justin Lin. *Fast and Furious* is the return of Paul Walker and Jordana Brewster. *Fast Five* is an action movie classic that brings in all of the characters fans have grown to love, plus the addition of Dwayne Johnson. *Fast and Furious 6* is all action. The

plot is unmemorable, but the fight choreography and chase scenes were some of the best to date. *Furious 7* is the highest grossing film and will always be remembered for how beautifully it handled the real life death of Paul Walker. As of April 14th Dom, Roman, Tej, Ramsey, Hobbs and the rest of the team are back in theaters.

*The Fate of the Furious* is the eighth installment in the Fast and Furious franchise. The core elements that made these films so wildly successful are still evident. Dwayne

walls, Tyrese and Ludacris are constantly taking funny jabs at one another, and although it's become a cliché thing to say, Fast and Furious movies are largely about family. Like most of the previous entries, "Fate of The Furious" is incredibly entertaining from start to finish.

However this is the eighth movie and it's not without flaws. Insane action sequences, beautiful locations and cars are always fun, but with it comes every negative stereotype that critics have always levied about these movies. The dialogue is still corny, the exposition is forced, the laws of physics do not apply, and Michelle Rodriguez still can't act.

The movie opens in Cuba where Dom and Letty are enjoying their honey-

moon and adjusting to a slightly new life. Dom later runs into a hacker named Cypher played by Charlize Theron who convinces him to turn against his team and family. While it's made very clear from the beginning that Dom is not truly on the other side, *Fate of The Furious* packs a lot of twist and turns into a plot that most assumed would be formulaic. Surprise appearances from old characters, a spectacular cameo by Helen Mirren, and a Jason Statham performance that might be the best of his career all make this movie one of the standouts in this series. Overall *Fate of the Furious* is far from perfect. It's not as fun as *Fast Five*, not as emotionally moving as *Furious 7* and the inclusion of Scott Eastwood is forced and poorly written. All that being said the 136 minute runtime was one of the most enjoyable movie going experiences of the year so far. I give *Fate of The Furious* a 7.8/10.



"The Rock" Johnson is once again throwing people into

# 4 Your Eyez Only

By Diallo "Markus" Kahin  
Entertainment Editor

A little over a year after the release of *Forest Hills Drive: Homecoming*, HBO and J Cole have teamed up again to showcase the Cole's latest album and to shine a light on a few of the communities that have the misfortune of dealing with omnipresent police brutality. Named after July Cole's fourth studio album of the same name, "*4 Your Eyez Only*" takes the audience on a journey with Cole as he visits Ferguson, Missouri, Baton Rouge, Louisiana and his hometown of Fayetteville, North Carolina.

While there's nothing groundbreaking in the 49 minute runtime, *4 Your Eyez Only* is impeccably shot and edited. Interspersed throughout



the film are songs from the album that perfectly set the tone for everything to come. As someone who has often criticized the album for its lack of exuberance and any sense of joy, Cole perfectly blends the emotional heartfelt nature of the album to the films themes of perseverance and overcoming despite a system designed for certain people to fail.

The killings of Trayvon Martin, Eric Garner, Michael Brown and countless others loom over the film just like the

album. From interviews with Michael Brown's cousin to the inspiring tale of a woman who has lost multiple children and now works 3 jobs and bikes her way to all them, the subject matter is sad and often difficult to watch. The themes and tone of the film are best expressed in the closing lines of his song *Changes* "Pistols be poppin' and ni\*\*as drop in a heartbeat. Scattered like roaches, a body laid on the concrete, Body laid on the concrete, Look, somebody laid on the concrete. No time for that, ain't no lookin' back, cause I'm running too, I made it home, I woke up and turned on the morning news, Overcame with a feeling I can't explain, Cause that was my nigga James that was slain,

he was 22, He was 22". UCLA student and diehard J Cole fan Sarena Khasawneh sums up the music and the film it inspired by saying, "In the beginning his story was about his life and it seemed like he was only pressured to satisfy his own creative goals. Now he's sort of become a storyteller for black people and lower income areas. His goal is to spread awareness and he can only do that by creating a dialogue through slightly more accessible music that even people who can't personally relate, can enjoy. You have to speak the language of the masses to rally crowds and that's what he's doing with this film." Cole fans and even those who actively mock the rapper's success and fan base will almost certainly walk out of this documentary with a newfound respect and appreciation for the work he's done.

# ESPN Suffers From Layoffs

By Diallo "Markus" Kahn  
Entertainment Editor

In what will likely go down as one of the saddest days in the company's 38 years, as of April 26<sup>th</sup> ESPN has begun making cuts to their talent department by laying off



approximately 100 people. This came as a mandate from

Disney who owns ESPN. ESPN is still a huge earner and by far the most culturally relevant sports network around. These cuts were made in large part due to the ever-changing ways in which people consume television. Gone are the days of people being forced into long contracts with high monthly rates for cable. Instead, people are cutting the cord and opting for things like Sling TV, Netflix, Hulu, or even a jail broken Amazon Fire Stick. All of these new options have cut heavily into ESPN's subscriber base, and therefore negatively impacting their profit margins.

Anytime a television network starts releasing on-air talent it is very noticeable. After all, these are the host, pundits, and reporters that fans and even athletes themselves have grown to love or at least tolerate. Longtime viewers and even casual fans will certainly miss the talents of Ethan Strauss, Ashley Fox, Jay Crawford, Jane McManus, Ed Werder and countless others. April 26 marks a turning point for the company.

For fans of the network this is a sad turn of events, however the news isn't all bleak. New programming will

certainly come from this. Long time *Mike & Mike* cohort Mike Greenberg is expected to get his own morning show. It has been long rumored that



Bomani Jones of *Highly Questionable* and *The Right Time* will be taking over the 12 to 1 timeslot formerly held by Michael Smith and Jemele Hill's *His & Hers* show. Bomani would be joined by Pablo Torre of *ESPN The Magazine*. Things are certainly going to look and feel different at ESPN.

# Rams Tennis Stays Positive

By Adam Capps  
Reporter

It's been a rough season for the Victor Valley College Men's Tennis team, which has scraped by without a single victory in the 2017 season. Justin Harper, Head Coach for Men's and Women's Tennis

says that the team is improving despite the setbacks.

"Our players are getting better every match, so that's good to see," Harper said of the team's performance. When it comes to a disappointing season, he says there isn't much you can do about it. "You just take the players as

far as you can for that season." The season has been a learning experience for Harper as well, who is already looking at how to improve for the next season. "If you can get more coaching off season it's better, because then you get more time to change things and let [players] adapt to those changes."

Thankfully winning isn't the only goal for the Rams.

Sometimes players can get frustrated with a low season, but Harper measures past performance as a way to keep athletes motivated. "There's continual progression even though they can be upset through some losses, their personal growth seems to keep them motivated ... they're going to be lifelong players, and they're not

just playing for [their] 2 years at VVC." The team could also use more enthusiasm from fellow students.

Coach Harper says that he would like to see more spectators during games. "It'd be great to always have support for our school ... we try to go to baseball games and get [players] to go to other sports and sometimes they're able to come out and return some of that." Athletes seem positive as the season wraps up.

Gerald Sescon, who is playing on the team for his second year, says that the season's been fun. "We've been everywhere, so it's pretty adventurous." Sescon says that the team could use more strategy and practice, but that doesn't stop him from enjoying the sport. "You win some and you lose some. When you finish a game, you just practice for the next one."



Photo by Adam Capps

# Las Vegas Raiders

By Irene Molinar  
*Reporter*

In March 2017, 31 of 32 NFL owners voted to move the Oakland Raiders to Las Vegas, Nevada—while only 24 votes were required. Miami Dolphins owner, Stephen Ross, was the only one to vote no due to his feelings towards fan and community support. In regards to the emotions of fans in Oakland, Mark Davis—current owner of the Raiders—stated, "I want them to know that I do understand that it's emotional. Raider Nation is the greatest fan base in the world and we're going to build something to make them proud."

In 1960, the Oakland Raiders joined the American Football League under the ownership of Chet Soda and six other investors. Their very

first home stadium was Kezar Stadium in San Francisco. Under the coaching of Eddie Erdelatz, the Oakland Raiders finished their inaugural season with a 6-8 record. Since then, the Raiders have been a team backed by thousands of fans and devotees. Oakland, California was the official home of the Raiders—until now.

Though this is not their first move, with their former move being to Los Angeles in 1982-1994, Raider fans do not

seem to be completely satisfied with this move to Las Vegas. VVC student, Ben Tizzard, was asked his opinion on the future of the Las Vegas Raiders. Tizzard states, "I don't think it will last. The Raiders have been California's team for a while now. I feel that they only moved because a lot of other teams are moving. I just don't see it ending well. Las Vegas is not where the Raiders belong." The move from the community is

the biggest hardship for fans. The Raiders lease at the Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum will end in 2018—unless it can be extended, which is presumably what Davis wants. "If they want us, we'd seriously consider it," Davis told ESPN. Seemingly, the Raiders will play at UNLV's stadium in 2019 prior to their arrival at their current development of the \$1.9 billion stadium project in 2020.

Though the legacy of the Oakland Raiders will presumably live on forever in Northern California, moves and mergers are not new to the National Football League. Regardless of the popularity of the move, the Oakland Raiders will be deemed the Las Vegas Raiders starting the 2020 football season. While Las Vegas may be the Gambling Capital of the World, fans surely hope this move is not a huge wager.



Photo courtesy of socialunderground.com

# Vaqueros Wrangle the Rams

By Kelcie Hartley  
*Reporter*

The Victor Valley College Rams Softball team suffered a painful loss at the hands of the Glendale Vaqueros softball team. The final score (13-9). The game took place on the VVC's home field on April 13. From the beginning of the game

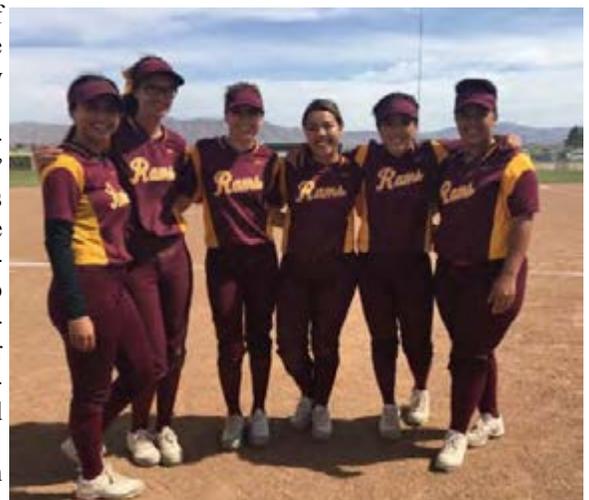
Vaqueros dominated. Their five point lead in the first inning gave them an advantage and that momentum carried through. As the game went on the VVC's Rams did not make victory easy for their opponents. The Rams kept a posi-

tive attitude the demonstrating admirable levels of school spirit. Through every inning the Rams cheered on their teammates through good and bad. Julianna Phillips (11) said about the Rams' performance as a team. "It was a good game, it could have been better. Our season could have been better. We needed to be more aggressive but all in all, it has been a great season for us." Rams were behind (13-7). Although they later scored two runs it wasn't enough for victory. Glendale won this game but this loss won't phase the Rams.

Destiny Robles states "The

game only made them stronger. You learn more off of your mistakes and failures than you do your victories. So, the struggle of this game will only improve our long-run game." The Rams will use this experience to keep getting better as teammates and individuals. With

only three games left in the season they hope to not strike out.



# Bulldogs Defeated, Tar Heels Triumph

By **Charlene Altwine**  
Reporter

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) championship game took place on Monday, April 3 at the University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Arizona. The North Carolina Tar Heels won, 71 to 65 over the Gonzaga Bulldogs from Spokane, Washington. This win brings the Tar Heels championship titles to six. This is first time the Bulldogs have made it to the championship game, the last time the Tar Heels won the NCAA title was in 2009.

Gonzaga's Head Coach, Mark Few has led the team for the last 18 seasons. North Carolina's Head Coach, Roy Williams has led the Tar Heels for 14 seasons. With the considerable experience of the Head Coaches, both teams are positioned well going into the championship game. In the last 12 seconds of the game, the Tar Heels had a 5 point lead, scoring an additional point with 7 seconds left in the game

to take the NCAA championship title. Two schools, both at the top of their game, but only one could go home a winner.

The University of North Carolina is a public college founded in 1789 and current enrollment is 29,135 students. The Tar Heels basketball program started in 1910 and has

Revolutionary War when "the troops of British General Cornwallis were fording what is now known as the Tar River between Rocky Mount and Battleboro when they discovered that tar had been dumped into the stream to impede their crossing." After crossing the river, the troops found that

were known as the Fighting Irish of the Pacific Northwest and or as the Blue and Whites until 1921. Gonzaga received its name from Saint Aloysius de Gonzaga, an Italian Jesuit who became a Saint in 1726. According to *gozags.com* the Bulldog became the official mascot for Gonzaga athletics after a reporter in 1921 wrote that "Gonzaga fought tenaciously like bulldogs." Spike the Bulldog became the school's new mascot with live bulldogs fulfilling the role until 1980 when students began fulfilling the role first as "Captain Zag" until replaced with a bulldog costume in 1985.

The Bulldogs have made it to March Madness at total of 19 times since 1995, compared to the Tar Heels 47 appearances with 19 advancing to the final four since 1941. North Carolina has made it to March Madness significantly more times than Gonzaga but, the Bulldogs have been consistently earning their place in March Madness in the last 22 years.



Photo courtesy of NCAA website

one of the most intense rivalries in collegiate basketball with Duke University. North Carolina's mascot is Rameses, but the athletic teams are all known as the Tar Heels. According to *goheels.com*, one of the many legends of how North Carolina became the Tar Heel state goes back to the

their shoes were covered in tar, leading to the nickname Tar Heels.

Gonzaga University is a private Roman Catholic school founded in 1881 and currently has only 7,837 students enrolled, the smallest number of students in NCAA. In the early history of the Bulldogs, they

## New Uniforms For The Rams

By **Ailyn Ramos**  
Reporter

The Victor Valley College Rams Football Team has received new uniforms due to the generosity of ASB. Coach David Hoover says that it has been a while since they received new uniforms, and they are grateful.

The uniforms are the school colors, maroon and gold, and the coach says "they look great." The Rams have been on a winning streak this past 2016 year, going 25-5 and

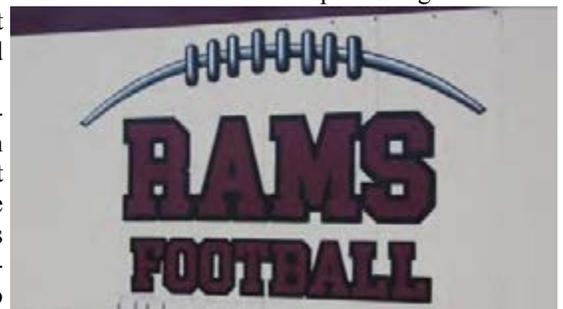
"missed winning back to back to back championships."

Even though the Rams lost the last game in overtime, Coach Hoover remains positive for his team and plans on getting back on a championship roll. He says about the upcoming season, "will certainly look the part." Hoover stated "I'd like to give a big thanks to the ASB for all they have done for us through the years. We wouldn't be where we are without them."

According to *Gladiator.com*, there are benefits of

athletic teams wearing fresh jerseys. The team not only looks good, but they feel and play better too, "when they know they look sharp in their team gear, you know they look sharp at game time." The new jerseys not only build individual players confidence out on the field, but helps unite the team as one. The colors and logo

from the uniforms give the team an identity. They're not only representing themselves and their team, but they are representing their school. Like Coach Hoover said "the Rams will be representing."



### Important Dates and Deadlines

**April 29-30 9am—9am Relay for Life**

**May 6 Cinco De May Celebration 10 am-4pm @  
The SAC**

**May 10 Veterans Resource Center Grand Opening**

**May 11 Job Fair 9am - 1pm**

**June 9 VVC Commencement Ceremony**

### Transfer Center Events

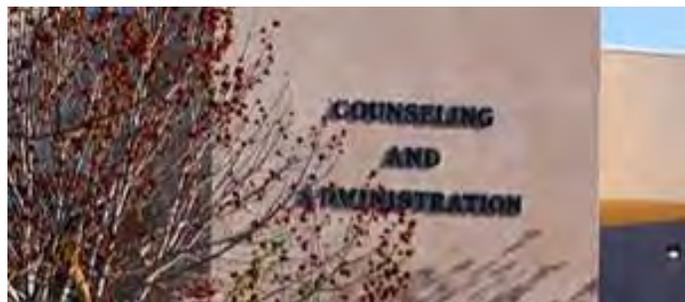
**May 5 - UC Irvine**

**May 10 - "How To Transfer to Arizona Sate"**

**May 12 - CSU San Bernardino**

**May 19 - UC Riverside**

*\*For specific times and location, or to sign up for  
tours, contact the Transfer Center.*



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**Contributor :** Jessica Vaughan

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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.*

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

VVC RamPage, 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395

Email: [vvcrampage@gmail.com](mailto:vvcrampage@gmail.com) or

<http://www.vvc.edu/offices/rampage>

Website: <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 March, April, May, June, September, October, November and December, for a total of 8 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 Deanna Hays 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.

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

### **ADVERTISING**

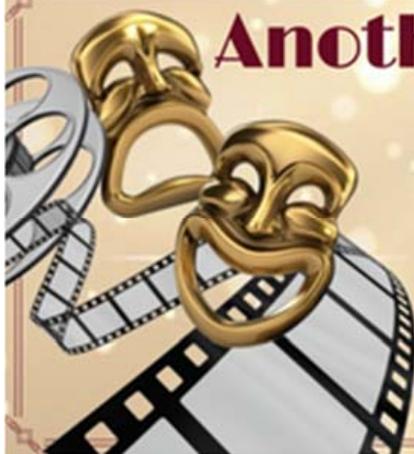
The RamPage generally accepts as advertising only 8 1/2 - by -11 -inch flyers as inserts or various sizes printed in the paper. The cost of inserts is \$100, which covers insertion/distribution of 1,500 copies. The cost and responsibility of designing, reproducing and delivering the 1,500 flyers to the 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. 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.*

# VICTOR VALLEY COLLEGE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

**Order your Tickets Online: [www.vvc.edu/tix](http://www.vvc.edu/tix)  
TICKET INFO: 245-4271 ext. 849**



**Another Op'nin', Another Show!**  
Featuring Favorite Highlights  
from Stage & Screen

VVC Presents a collaboration between our  
VVC Choral and Orchestral students

General Admission: \$5    June 10th 7:30pm  
VVC Spring ASB Free\*    June 11th 2:30pm

Parking Permits are Required Monday - Saturday    \*Must be redeemed at Auxilliary Services Office



**44<sup>th</sup> Annual**

**Cinco de Mayo**

**Family Festival**

**Join the Fun!**

**May 6<sup>th</sup> 2017**

**9am - 4pm**  
**Victor Valley College**  
15422 Bear Valley Rd. VV, Ca 92395

Hosted by: 

Faculty Choreographers-Debra Blanchard, Lynn Guardado, Nancy Helms  
Katherine Page, Cicy O'Kalani Rosado and Rams Rhythmic Dance Team  
Production Director-Lynn Guardado

Victor Valley College  
Performing Arts Center

Victor Valley College Kinesiology Department



**Friday**  
June 2nd 7:30pm

**Saturday**  
June 3rd 7:30pm

**Sunday**  
June 4th 2:30pm  
(matinee)

# Explosion

of motion

To purchase tickets call 245-4271 ext.849  
or online @ [www.vvc.edu/tix](http://www.vvc.edu/tix)

General Admission: \$10 Seniors/Children under 12: \$7 ASB Card: Free

Victor Valley College 18422 Bear Valley Road Victorville, CA 92395-5850

Victor Valley College  
Theatre Arts  
presents

# CALIFORNIA SUITE

by  
Neil Simon

## PERFORMANCES

ARE IN

THE BLACK BOX THEATRE IN THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

May 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, at 7:00 pm  
& May 7, 14 at 2:00 pm

Order Tickets Online  
[www.vvc.edu/tix](http://www.vvc.edu/tix)

*"California Suite is produced  
by special permission through  
Samuel French, Inc."*

Ticket Prices  
Adults \$10.00  
Seniors \$7.00  
Current VVC ASB  
Cardholders Free

Directed by  
Ed Heaberlin

Due to language and content,  
this is not recommended for children





# Victor Valley COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION GRADUATION 2017

**April 2017**

### IMPORTANT...

*All* August 2016, December 2016 graduates *and* June 2017 candidates for graduation are eligible to walk in the ceremony on June 9. If you applied for Spring 2017 graduation by the December 17, 2016 deadline, you are able to participate in the graduation ceremony. Please be advised that participation in the ceremony does not guarantee official graduation.

Final evaluations for June 2017 candidates are not completed until grades have been verified for the Spring 2017 term.



Victor Valley College  
**Graduation**  
June 9, 2017 • 4:00 PM

**THE GRADUATION CEREMONY** will be held Friday, June 9, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in the VVC gymnasium. Graduates will gather at the Adapted PE Building (#70) in preparation to line up and march into the gymnasium. Graduates must arrive by 2:00 p.m. for the ceremony. Graduation kickoff begins May 3 with the Grad Faire. You can sign up for graduation, pick up your tickets, purchase regalia and order announcements beginning May 3 and any day afterward **until 5:00pm May 31st (deadline).**

**CAPS AND GOWNS** may be purchased beginning May 3 in the RAMS Bookstore. The Bookstore hours are Monday, Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.; Wednesday, Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; and Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The Grad Faire will be held from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on May 3 and May 4. **Caps and gowns may be purchased up to 5:00 p.m. at the RAMS Bookstore on Wednesday, May 31.** The purchase price for the student regalia package is \$66.10 (includes tax.)

**TICKETS** will be limited to 5 per graduate. These are for guests since graduates will not need a ticket. All attendees, including infants/small children, will require a ticket to enter the gymnasium (no exceptions). Limited tickets will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis for overflow seating in the Performing Arts Center (Bldg. 54) where the ceremony will be live-streamed. Relatives and loved ones can also view the ceremony live online by logging onto <http://www.vvc.edu/commencement/> For further ticket information call (760) 245-4271, Ext 2495.

**GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENTS** priced beginning at \$20.00, can be purchased beginning May 3 at the Grad Faire.

**HONOR CORDS** may be worn at commencement only by students with a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 or better, based on completion of degree requirements for August 2016 and December 2016 graduates. June 2017 graduate honors will be based on degree requirements completed through Fall 2016. Honor cords may be purchased at the RAMS Bookstore.

**DIPLOMAS** - Graduates will be notified when their degrees are available for pickup. **Please be sure Admissions & Records has been informed of correct mailing and email addresses.** Additionally, any library or financial holds must be cleared.

**CERTIFICATES** are mailed on an ongoing basis as requirements are completed.

**GRADUATES AND GUESTS WITH DISABILITIES** - Persons with disabilities requiring special seating must be prepared to show a CA ID, Military Veteran, or State issued drivers license documenting disability. Please arrive at least 45 minutes prior to the ceremony for appropriate accommodations. You are allowed one (1) attendant if necessary. If you need accommodation for a disability, we ask that you notify us by May 12. Interpreting services will be available for the deaf and hearing impaired. Parking for disabled is available in Lot 21 and the entire front row of Lot 16. For concerns and assistance, please contact Cathy Ekpo, DSPS Director, at 760 245-4271 Ext. 2939.

**Congratulations and best wishes for the future!**

*Board of Trustees and the entire VVC staff*