



## *President's Board Report*

*August 14, 2008*

### **First Valley-Bound Students Arrive On Campus for Orientation**

The very first group of Valley-Bound Commitment students and their parents arrived on campus on Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup> for a comprehensive orientation to San Bernardino Valley College.

The full-day event included 39 recent graduates from Colton High School who will begin their journey into higher education on August 18<sup>th</sup>—a path that as recently as six months ago may never have been a possibility.

But, thanks to the rollout of the Valley-Bound Commitment and the fundraising efforts of the SBVC Foundation and several other financial aid resources, this group of students will have all their expenses paid for their first year of college at SBVC—including parking, books, and enrollment fees.

After introductions from SBVC President Dr. Debra Daniels and VP of Student Services, Damon Bell, the structured orientation proceeded with separate sessions for both students and parents on the topics of financial aid, program requirements, student services program introductions, counseling and registration, extended question and answer sessions, a campus tour in English and Spanish and lunch.



*Dr. Daniels welcomes the first group of Valley-Bound students and parents to SBVC.*



*Marco Cota (Dean of Counseling & Matriculation) speaks with parents at the orientation.*

By the end of the day, students walked away with their class schedule for Fall 2008 and all the tools necessary to start their college journey on August 18<sup>th</sup>.

“We went so far as to bring in samples of all the books from the specific classes that they’ll need to get from the bookstore so they will recognize them,” said Herb English, Director of EOP&S/CARE. “At the first session of their Student Development 010 class, they’ll also receive their own backpack like they saw that day stuffed with goodies that will help them in their first semester of college.”

With such an in-depth orientation to all of the possibilities available at the school, 17 of the parents in

attendance filled out interest cards for more information on becoming a student themselves at SBVC alongside their son or daughter.

“Several parents have come up to my office since this orientation and have shared how much this means to their family,” said English. “They are already asking whether we are going to offer this program next year for other schools or at Colton High School once again so that their next son or daughter can join the program.”

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## **New Building and Activities Aplenty for Student Health Services**

After months of anticipation, SBVC Student Health Services staff members moved into their new headquarters in July and are busy with additional projects to better serve students in 2008-2009.

Beyond the improvements made possible by new, more professional facilities located directly south of the football field and track, the center will extend their hours in the Fall and remain open until 7:00 p.m. for the convenience of students taking evening classes. Additionally, they will open for the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. when class is in session for the benefit of weekend college students.



*The new Student Health Services Building is now open and serving students—including extended daily hours and select weekend hours.*

The first 50 students to visit the new Student Health Services facility on the semester’s opening day (August 18th), will receive a free gift. A grand opening ceremony is planned for September 15th with more details to follow.

In other Student Health Center news, staff members coordinated a successful blood drive which saw 54 individual donations that totaled 43 pints for local blood banks on July 22nd. Coming this Fall, Student Health Services is working out the details on the Fall Health and Food Affair scheduled for October 14th which will include health screenings, food tasting, entertainment and other activities to promote healthy nutrition.

## New Light Pole Banners Proclaim How “Your Future Starts Here” Rings True For All

As part of the rollout of San Bernardino Valley College’s new “Your Future Starts Here” tagline, more than 80 banners were erected on SBVC light poles across campus in July in preparation for the Fall 2008 semester and to replace the “Celebrating 80 Years” banners.

Thirteen different versions were created to visually communicate the breadth of opportunities at San Bernardino Valley College. This component of the “Your Future Starts Here” campaign is highlighted



by a variety of words selected to “fill in the blank” in place of the word “future”. This play on words creatively showcases the many unique goals and opportunities for all individuals that are made possible by SBVC’s programs and services.



The vast majority of people pictured in the banners are either current staff/students or students that graduated in Spring 2008.

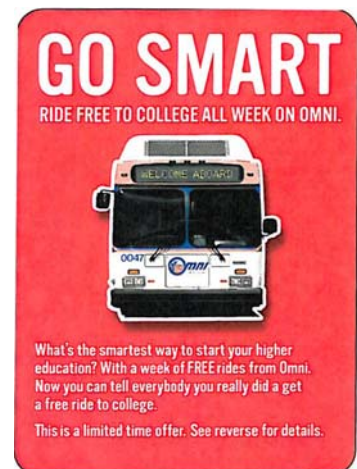
Many thanks on this project go out to Debbie Castro at the Print Shop, Geno Vargas, Memo Parra, Greg Fife and Bill Rankin from Maintenance & Operations, Sierra Screen Print Graphics in San Bernardino, and the SBVC Office of Marketing & Public Relations.

## SBVC and Omnitrans Offer Free Passes to “Go Smart!”

Omnitrans, the local transit agency serving San Bernardino and the surrounding communities, will provide students with an opportunity to “Go Smart!” on the bus as the Fall 2008 semester begins.

The program offers students a free, seven-day bus pass good on all 27 Omnitrans fixed routes. “Go Smart!” is designed to introduce students to the economic, environmental and time-saving benefits of riding the bus – two Omnitrans routes stop just adjacent to campus.

“Go Smart!” passes must be activated between August 18 – 24, is good for seven consecutive days, and will be available at various locations around campus. Students also can purchase discounted Omnitrans 7- and 31-Day Passes anytime at the SBVC Bookstore.



## SBVC Receives Additional Funding to Serve Foster Students.

The Foundation for California Community Colleges has selected SBVC as one of 8 colleges throughout the state to receive a total of \$70,000. Thanks to well-established partnerships with other city and county of San Bernardino organizations, numerous matching funds will help further bolster SBVC's offerings to foster students and push the new funding total to \$94,000.

Each year, more than 4,000 foster youth in California become independent, with many of them facing the challenge of insufficient training in vital skills such as financial literacy, preparation for post-secondary education, daily living and job training.

While SBVC already has the YESS-California program in place, the additional funding will allow the school to expand and enhance the services already established, primarily by providing more interaction and comprehensive programs to serve foster youth.

"We aren't doing anything extremely different from other community colleges, but what really differentiates our efforts is the collaboration and support from other local agencies," said Juliann Martin who lead the multi-departmental effort to secure the grant for SBVC. "We're excited to have this opportunity to offer more extensive training to 50 students each year including a series of classes on finances, independent living, education and employment."

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## Remembering Ruby Williams

*Celebrating the Life  
of  
Ruby L. Williams*

Sunrise  
April 21, 1947

Sunset  
July 15, 2008



Monday, July 28, 2008

Tillman Riverside Mortuary, Inc.  
2874 Tenth Street  
Riverside, CA 92507-4947  
Officiating Elder Edward Moore

Mrs. Ruby L. Williams, 61, a resident of Victorville and a SBVC Admissions and Records Technician passed away on July 15, 2008.

Ruby spent the last 12 years working for San Bernardino Valley College, including the last 5 years in Admissions and Records dutifully processing transcript requests and welcome letters.

Born in New York, Ruby relocated to Southern California at the age of 35 and was a beloved daughter, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, friend and co-worker to so many.

In a thoughtful gesture, members of the SBVC Financial Aid office offered to help cover the busy Admissions/Records office on Monday morning, July 28th so Ruby's closest co-workers could pay their last respects at her service held at Tillman Riverside Mortuary.

## Student Profile: Samantha Stepter

Attending college is a momentous occasion in the lives of most people. But, for 18-year old San Bernardino Valley College student Samantha Stepter, she's taking it in stride along with other new-found freedoms she's experiencing this summer.

"I've really enjoyed getting a job for the first time and getting my first car," Samantha said. "I really like this independence thing."

Born and raised in San Bernardino, this Eisenhower High School graduate isn't distracted by her new-found freedoms. In fact, she's more focused than ever on becoming the first to graduate in her family as she starts her 2nd year at San Bernardino Valley College.



*SBVC Student Samantha Stepter*

While in high school, Samantha never understood how to get into college, or what she needed to be doing to prepare for life after high school. It wasn't until a visit from SBVC Counselor Jennifer Mendoza to her high school that Samantha realized college was actually a possibility for her.

"When Jennifer came and talked to my school about SBVC and the Tumaini program, I finally realized that college could help me find out what to do with my life," Samantha said. "As part of Tumaini, I really enjoy having people around me that I can ask questions of since we're all doing the same thing in this time of life."

Although she doesn't have a major yet, she is enjoying the opportunity to try different areas of study while getting involved around campus in student leadership opportunities—such as her new role of Treasurer for BSU (Brothers and Sisters United).

"Being here at SBVC has helped me understand that I really want to pursue education more than I realized," Samantha said. "Now I know there are people and programs here to help me and that I'm not just by myself."

## **Save The Date**

### **Friday, August 15, 2008**

8:00 a.m. – Crafton Hills College Performing Arts Center followed by SBVC-specific on campus meetings

#### Opening Day – Fall 2008

Start off the Fall semester with your colleagues and hear the first address from new Chancellor Dr. Noelia Vela. Later in the morning, opening day presentations from Dr. Daniels back on the SBVC campus will be followed by division-specific meetings.

### **August 18-21, 2008**

Throughout the Week

#### Week of Welcome (WOW!)

To kick off the Fall Semester, look for information booths located around campus to answer any student questions. Festivities highlighted by the WOW Fair on Wednesday from 11 – 1 with free hot dogs, a DJ, and more information booths.

### **Thursday, August 21, 2008**

1:00 p.m.– 3:00 p.m. – Campus Center #139

#### Associated Student Government (ASG) Meet & Greet

SBVC's new student government representatives will meet their constituents for a few friendly scoops of ice cream to kick off the semester

### **Week of August 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

3:30 – 5:30 daily – Physical Science Building

#### Fall Math Institute: The Beauty of Algebra

A week-long math and college-readiness program in collaboration with San Bernardino City Unified School District's Department of Equity and Targeted Student Achievement aimed at raising math proficiencies of African-American students.

### **Wednesday, August 27, 2008**

2:00 p.m.– Cerritos College

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Women's Volleyball Match @ Cerritos

4:00 p.m.– Cerritos College

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Men's Soccer Match @ Cerritos

### **Thursday, August 28, 2008**

4:00 p.m.– SBVC Soccer Field

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Women's Soccer Match vs. L.A. Mission

### **Saturday, September 6, 2008**

1:00 p.m.– Palm Desert

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Season Football Game @ College of the Desert

### **Saturday, September 13, 2008**

10:00 a.m.– Provo, Utah

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Men's and Women's Cross Country Race @ BYU Autumn Classic

### **Saturday, November 15, 2008**

Time TBD

#### Super Saturday Open House

Bigger and better than ever, this free event is aimed at bringing the community on campus to discover all that SBVC has to offer.