CAMPUS TIMES

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Master plan debated

Len Ly
Staff Writer

The La Verne that its long-time residents grew up in may not look the same in the near future.

After more than 18 months of discussion with the city, the University is proposing to update the campus in a 15-year expansion plan that would demolish several old buildings and provide room for new developments.

The proposal, in essence, would involve moving the Blickenstaff Tennis Pavilion and Ben Hines Field to the Campus West property south of Arrow Highway as part of a planned sports complex. This move would help the remaining project proposals including:

• Building more than 100 parking spaces on the current site of Ben Hines Field;

• Demolishing the historic Fruit Exchange building on First and D streets, to build a residence hall that extend onto the site of the Blickenstaff

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'Rocky Horror': All naughty, no nice



Sergio Sandoval

Shouting out obscene phrases during a theater production is usually not acceptable. But this rule doesn't apply to "The Rocky Horror Show," where the audience is expected to participate. On Nov. 30, the Campus Activities Board hosted the production featuring a cast from Chapman University. Ayriel Hartmen, Jos McCain and Celina Huang perform "Vixen Kabaret," the pre-show for their "Rocky Horror" performance. **See story on page 15.**

Steep library fines irritate students

Nicole Knight
Editor in Chief
Laura Bucio
News Editor

Despite the fact that the fine was increased a year-and-a-half ago, University of La Verne Wilson Library's overdue book fine – $1 per book, per day is still hard for some students to swallow.

For many years the fine was 25 cents per book, per day. It was changed after an analysis of other institutions found ULV's fine was very low by comparison.

"The amount changed because it was too affordable; people would rather keep the book than pay the fine," said Taylor Ruhl, University librarian. "The (old) fine was no longer a deterrent."

In many university libraries, the fine is in place to encourage students to bring books back in a timely manner.

"We don't change the fine for profit, we charge it so people will bring the books back," Ruhl said.

The library does not rely on the fine to supplement its annual budget.

However, the profits made from student fines are used to purchase more books and research materials.

"Ultimately all we want is the book back," said Erin Gratz, chairwoman of user services at the Wilson Library.

"It's like what you charge to drive 90 mph on the 10 [Freeway]," Ruhl said.

The library offers a grace period of seven days after the books' return deadline.

If the student has not returned or renewed the book, the fine begins at $7 on day eight and carries on from there.

The fine maxes out at $25 per book.

After 40 days, the book is placed on lost status. The student must then pay for the actu-

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Payroll snafu costs dearly

Nicole Knight
Editor in Chief

Human error is to blame for an apparent miscalculation, or under-withholding, of the State Disability Insurance tax on University of La Verne employee paychecks for all of 2006.

This mistake means the University owes the state more more than $200,000, which it must pay back before the end of the year.

And now all ULV employees are being asked to pay the difference between what was withheld monthly in 2006 and what should have been withheld.

They have a choice: either pay it in one-lump sum – up to several hundred dollars taken from their last paycheck of 2006 – or in installments, like a loan, over the next 12 months.

"The University has the responsibility to take into consideration the financial impact that's why we chose to offer paying on behalf of the employee," said Ani Kechichian, payroll manager.

At the beginning of 2006, there was a SDI tax rate change, and while inputting the numbers, payroll misread the figures entering .08 percent instead of the correct .8 percent.

While federal tax changes update through software, state tax changes, which differ among the 50 states, are inputted manually. The assumption the number was correct carried through the year.

While recently reviewing the changes for 2007, Kechichian noticed the SDI tax had decreased to .7 percent.

The number sounded odd to her memory of the inputted number for 2006.

She then researched the figure and found the mistake in mid-November.

Payroll's next step was to make sure employees' W-2 forms would come out correctly.

Kechichian then notified the University's software company, BiTech, accounting software geared toward universities, and her supervisors.

"It would be an extraordinary financial burden to deduct the full amount out of this last paycheck," said Philip Hawkey, executive vice president.

Because the financial impact would have been so great, the decision was made by management to pay on behalf of the employees so their W-2s would be correct, Kechichian said.

The University is offering,

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INSIDE TODAY'S CAMPUS TIMES



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Men's basketball suffers loss to Point Loma . . . . . .Page 17

Rodriguez takes the helm



Sergio Sandoval

Recently appointed Director for the Center for Teaching and Learning, Lisa Rodriguez assists in grant writing and helps the faculty with issues with technology. She is a mentor in the First Generation Student Program, helping new students get adjusted to college.

31 inducted by society

Freshmen praised for high grades

Antonio Foncillas
Staff Writer

Thirty-one students from the University of La Verne were inducted into the Alpha Lambda Delta honor society on Nov. 14 in the Harris Art Gallery.

Alpha Lambda Delta is for students who have maintained a grade point average of 3.5 or better and who are in the top 20 percent of their class during their freshman year or any term of higher education.

"The students were elected before the ceremony and then they were installed at the ceremony," said Kathleen Lamkin, professor of music and one of the faculty advisers to the honor society.

"They invited their family and friends and we could enjoy a lovely reception," Lamkin said.

The honor society is a good way to reward students who perform well academically, said Gerard Lavatori, professor of French, and also a faculty adviser to the society.

He added that this years' students come from a variety of majors.

Al Clark, associate vice president of academic affairs and administrative adviser to the society, discussed the benefits of membership.

"Alpha Lambda Delta ... recognizes freshmen, and the election is only related to the GPA. Students from any major can be elected," Clark said.

"This year we had a very good group (with) very good grades," he said.

Clark added that benefits to membership include access to scholarships, conferences and connections.

During the ceremony, Aghop Der-Karabetian, associate dean of the college of arts and sciences and professor of psychology, was named honorary member of Alpha Lambda Delta honor society.

He gave a speech at the ceremony in which he addressed issues such as the importance of learning skill and being open to new information.

"Alpha Lambda Delta encourages people to work hard. This is an honor for me," Der-Karabetian said.

Alpha Lambda Delta was founded in 1924 as an honor society for freshmen women at the University of Illinois.

The main purpose of this organization is to encourage important academic achievement among freshman students.

Antonio Foncillas can be reached at ***bokeron_11@hotmail.com.***

'Students can get really good benefits by being elected. They can apply for different scholarships, attend conferences and make really good connections.'
—Al Clark, associate vice president of academic affairs

Library...

Continued from page 1

al book and processing charges for the library to repurchase the book.

However if the book is found the book purchasing charges are dropped.

The library will send out three e-mails informing students their books are overdue with the third sending billing information.

"I understand what it's like being a student and not having the time go into the library," Gratz said. "Students can access information on their books' status online, they can also renew online or books can even be mailed in."

The local public libraries by comparison charge a fraction of what La Verne charges for overdue books.

Ruhl and Gratz said public libraries and university libraries can't be compared as they serve different purposes.

"Their reasons for existence are completely different," Gratz said. "University libraries work to serve to students and their needs and public libraries serve much larger and diverse patrons. They are different beasts and are hard to compare, but it's like comparing a public university and private university," Gratz added.

Although the library has received complaints regarding the fine, they are nothing unusual for anytime of the year.

"(Fine) complaints are a standard part of the circulation desk," Gratz said. "People just don't like fines and that's normal."

She said that when she worked at a public library where the fine was just 5 cents she she still received complaints.

But on a college campus complaints are par for the course, particularly at the end of the semester when students are trying to register for their new classes, but are unable to because of holds placed on their accounts.

"I think in the last two weeks I have seen a lot of people because they are trying to register," said Julia Bobadilla, senior psychology major and student worker at the Wilson Library. "It happens on the regular basis, I don't think there is any day when someone doesn't pay a fee."

But there are still a number of students who do not find library fees alarming.

"They give us like a month so I think it's fair," said Donna Ibale, freshman biology major. "I always turn them in on time, I've never had a problem."

Nicole Knight can be reached ***nknight@ulv.edu.***

Laura Bucio can be reached ***lbucio@ulv.edu.***

WEB EXCLUSIVES

The Campus Times Online Edition is updated with new stories every Monday and Wednesday evening. Log on to ***www.ulv.edu/campustimes*** *for current stories.*



Posted Dec. 6, 2006

• Nutcracker sparks Christmas spirit

Despite being called a failure when it debuted in 1892, the Nutcracker went on to become a seasonal favorite. It opened last Saturday at the Bridges Auditorium at the Claremont Colleges.

Posted Dec. 4, 206

• Class technology gives students options

As technology infiltrates the University, students get the chance to take online classes. Some students say they still prefer traditional courses, though.

Tree lighting brings holiday spirit

Carols, jolly St. Nick lead event

Kevin Zeni
Staff Writer



Sergio Sandoval

Bonita High School Chamber singers, conducted by Todd Helm, helped start the Christmas season by caroling at the Tree Lighting Ceremony at La Verne City Hall. The giant tree in front of City Hall was lit at 6:30 p.m., Monday.

Christmas is a time for communities to come together and share in the spirit of giving and the city of La Verne knows how to do just that.

The annual tree lighting ceremony is always a big night for Mayor Jon Blickenstaff, his family, and the residents of La Verne.

With the lighting of the tree, a singing performance by the Bonita High School chamber singers and the special appearance by Mr. and Mrs. Claus there was something for everyone.

"This is my 25th as mayor," Blickenstaff said. "It gets bigger every year. This year is the biggest and most enthusiastic."

The night started with Blickenstaff welcoming all in attendance and introducing some of his colleagues from City Hall.

He then continued his speech by spreading the message that peace on Earth begins with peace in our own hearts and families, a message that was applauded by the families in attendance.

Toni Krone of the Camber of Commerce then addressed the crowd, stressing the importance of shopping at local stores and wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season.

Blickenstaff then started the countdown along with the crowd. Five, four, three, two, one. With the push of the button by Blickenstaff's grandchildren Brooke and Bryce the tree was lit and cheers erupted from those in attendance.

Upon the lighting of the tree the chamber singers began their singing of a handful of Christmas songs including "Joy to the World," "Deck the Halls" and "Jingle Bells."

"This year we've done festivals at colleges and we had a concert this morning for a PTA meeting," said Thomas Burns, junior Bonita chamber singer. "We're going to continue to do things through December and spread the Christmas cheer."

> 'To have Mr. and Mrs. Claus out here in their old style costumes is a nice touch I think, and the chamber singers are just the best, they do a great job. It really makes it feel like Christmas.'
>
> *— Jon Blickenstaff, mayor of La Verne*

Speaking of Christmas cheer, jolly old St. Nick made his grand entrance, accompanied by his wife Mrs. Claus, right at the end of "Jingle Bells" to the delight of the children in the crowd.

Santa and Mrs. Claus stayed outside to hand out stuffed bears and candy canes to the children and ask what presents they wanted while the City Council meeting took place inside.

"It's just been a wonderful time," Blickenstaff said before retreating from the ceremony to the meeting.

"To have Mr. and Mrs. Claus out here in their old style costumes is a nice touch I think, and the chamber singers are just

Continued on page 20

Bond to fund awaited campus improvements

Campus Center is priority

Laura Bucio
News Editor
Kady Bell
Arts Editor

An approximately $15 million bond will be issued next November to help the University of La Verne with the completion of the Campus Center.

The amount for the bond is not certain, it could range from $13 to $20 million or perhaps even more, said Avo Kechichian, associate vice president and treasurer for the University.

"The most dramatic change is completing the Campus Center Project and all the associated improvements," said Philip Hawkey, executive vice president of the University.

Officials' intentions to issue a bond were revealed last month at the board of trustees meeting.

Benefits associated with the new bond are meant to produce a high-quality campus and therefore attract more students.

The University has raised $26.1 million through pledges, however the pledges usually come in over a period of five years.

The bond would fill in the gap in order to finish the Center as soon as possible.

The actual Center is expected to cost $20.5 million, although associated costs will cause the University to spend nearly $35 million.

This includes the completion of the pavilion, the relocation of the baseball field to south of Arrow Highway, finding a new place for the soccer field, building a parking structure to accommodate the Center, relocation of utility wires and the excavation of a 15-foot deep hole, Hawkey said.

This is not the first time the University has issued a bond, the last one was in 2005 for which the University still owes $28 million,

The new bond will be added onto the amount the school already owes but this added amount will be expected to be paid by 2037.

The University will make a payment every year based on the actual amount of the bond, the interest rate, and the term of the loan.

Currently the bond is expected to be larger that the sum of money that is actually needed to pay for the expenses surrounding the Campus Center project.

The hope is that the surplus money will help fund other projects on campus.

Such projects could include new housing facilities and possibly improvements to Founders Auditorium.

Continued on page 10

Publications gain new leadership

Anderson, Hillier take the reins

Yelena Ovcharenko
LV Life Editor

Spunk and enthusiasm are on next semester's agenda as senior journalism majors Tom Anderson and Katherine Hillier were chosen as the new editors-in-chief for the Campus Times newspaper and the La Verne Magazine, respectively.

"I was really honored, to be honest, because there's so much responsibility," Anderson said. "It's one of the most prestigious positions in the communications department."

Hillier was full of excitement about her new position as well.

"I am absolutely thrilled to take on this fabulous position," Hillier said. She has her associate's degree in fashion design and is currently editorial director for the Campus Times.

Anderson has been an editor on staff for four semesters and is a 2006 winner of a Society of Professional Journalists scholarship. He has also written for the Pasadena Weekly, the VC Reporter and Auto Trim & Restyling News Magazine.

"Tom is a good journalist; he's a real wordsmith with a lot of strength both in character and intellect," said Elizabeth Zwerling, associate professor of journalism and Campus Times chief adviser.

Zwerling handpicked Anderson for his skilled writing and solid experience.

"He was the most experienced and most qualified of the people I was looking at," Zwerling said.

Hillier's experience during her internship at Forbes Magazine in New York this summer gave her an insight into the real world, which she plans to incorporate into the magazine.

"I was lucky enough to intern at Forbes over the summer and got an insight into the magazine world," Hillier said. "I want to bring a new sense of excitement to our magazine and I feel honored to have been chosen to do this."

Randy Miller, adjunct professor of communications and La Verne Magazine adviser, chose Hillier not only for her experience, but for her leadership and positive attitude.

"She's got this infectious enthusiasm, which will be an asset to the magazine staff," Miller said.

Anderson agrees that humor and easiness is a necessity on staff.

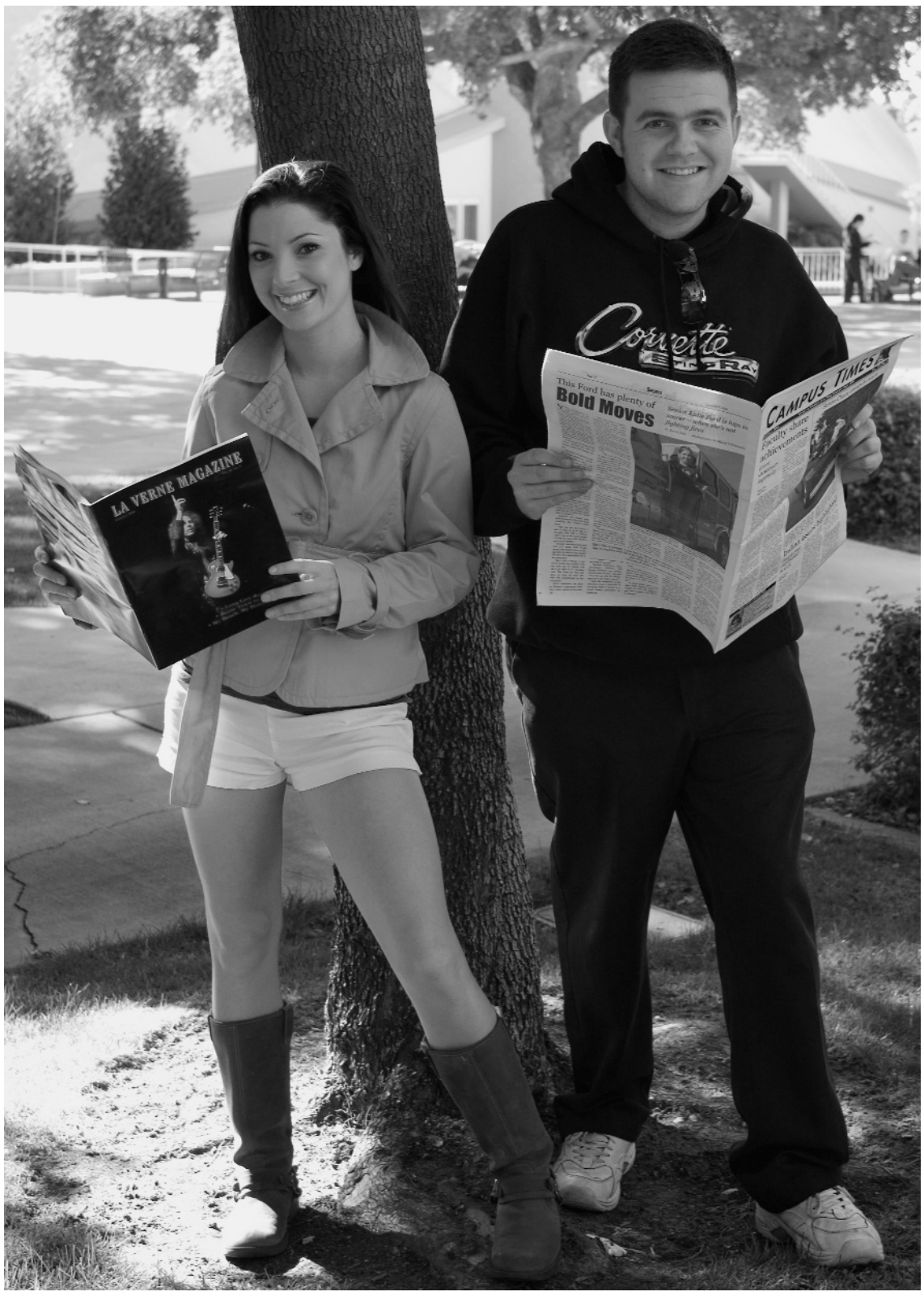
"On top of my professionalism and dedication, I'll also try to keep things light and in perspective," Anderson said.

Keep watch of campus publications as these leaders venture out to give the press a twist.

"Every semester brings change, new excitement and challenges," Zwerling said.

Yelena Ovcharenko can be reached at ***yovcharenko@ulv.edu.***

'I want to bring a new sense of excitement to our magazine and I feel honored to have been chosen to do this.'
—Katherine Hillier, spring 2007 editor of La Verne Magazine



Maria Villalpando

The current editorial director for the Campus Times, Katherine Hillier, will become Editor of La Verne Magazine. Tom Anderson, with four prior semesters of experience on the Campus Times, will assume the position of Editor in Chief for the newspaper in spring. Both want to spice things up by bringing a new sense of change and exitement into the press room. Anderson and Hillier will contribute with their skills and energy to get the job done.

Debate takes on the world

Laura Bucio
News Editor

Debate teams from different universities in the Southern California area had the opportunity to practice their delegation skills Saturday at the 2006 Intravarsity Debate Tournament in La Fetra Auditorium.

Several teams from different universities participated, including nine teams from the University of La Verne, nine from Cal State San Bernardino, seven from Cal State Los Angeles, one from Cal State Fullerton, five from Loyola Marymount University and five from the Claremont Colleges.

"We want to give the teams the opportunity to practice before the world championship," said Ian Lising, debate team adviser and assistant professor of speech and debate. "It's an opportunity to get the tournament experience."

Two from ULV made it to the final round but Loyola Marymount ended up with the victory with a score of 5-0.

"Ian always puts on great tournaments," said junior Karen Right from team LMU A. "It's always nice to get a view of the competition before we hit them later."

The final round began with the motion, "This house supports an independent Quebec" where team Claremont A and LMU supported the motion while both teams from La Verne took the opposing side.

LMU felt confident about its victory and considered its biggest challenger to be the team from the Claremont Colleges.

But La Verne didn't leave empty-handed. John Patrick, senior speech communications and journalism major, and his partner Josh Martin, senior speech communications major, took Best Speaker awards.

Patrick said his biggest strength is his combination with Martin.

"He has a lot of strategic skills," Patrick said. "Having that kind of knowledge brings more to the table."

Patrick and Martin began the semester on the right foot when they won first place in their first tournament in the school year in late September at Occidental.

The tournament provided a good practice for all those that will be participating in the world championship, which will take place the week of Dec. 27 to Jan. 4 in Canada.

"It's good to get the different viewpoints," Patrick said. "But the best preparation is good old fashioned studying."

Laura Bucio can be reached at ***lbucio@ulv.edu.***

NEWS BRIEFS

Search Committee

Candidates for the position of provost/vice president of academic affairs of the University of La Verne will provide a 10-minute presentation where the forum will have an opportunity to ask questions.

David Fite will speak from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 12 at the Student Resource Center Classroom.

Alden Reimoneno and James Kelly will speak from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 13 and 15 respectively at the President's Dining Room.

ULV President Recognized

University of La Verne President Stephen Morgan will receive the Chief Executive Officer Leadership Award during the case District VII conference luncheon. The event will take place Dec. 8 at the Millennium Balimore Hotel in Los Angeles. The award honors Morgan's accomplishments.

Faculty Lecture

Elizabeth Zwerling, associate professor of journalism, will speak: "California Education Law: Open to Interpretation (Breaking and Bending) – a Journalists's Investigation" at noon, Dec. 12 in ACB 212.

—Laura Bucio

Winter Wonderland

Heritage Park will host La Verne's annual Winter Wonderland on Dec. 9. Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus will be on hand for pictures. Tickets are $10. For more information call (909) 596-8776.

—Rick Montañez

Student kindles hope, compassion

Bischoff battles Parkinson's

Rick Montañez
Assistant Editor

Successfully battling physical and emotional injuries, Todd Bischoff prepares to face the next hurdle in his life.

A University of La Verne graduate student, Bischoff was diagnosed with young-onset Parkinson's disease in April.

He is working on his master's in child development and is planning on graduating in January 2007.

"At first we didn't believe it," Bischoff said. "We had seen a few doctors and I was finally diagnosed."

Parkinson's is a neurological disease that affects a person's motor skills.

Parkinson's is a result of damaged or dead nerve cells in the brain, they stop producing the chemical dopamine.

Dopamine allows for smooth fluid motion, in muscles and some body functions.

Stiffness and tremors are just a few symptoms of Parkinson's disease.

Early in his ice hockey career he sustained a back injury that left him unable to play.

Bischoff later had to endure two intensive back surgeries that resulted in medical complications.

His injuries were extensive enough that he had to re-learn basic functions.

During his five-and-half-year physical therapy, Bischoff was taught how to walk, get in and out of chairs and get dressed along with other basic functions.

"He has always been very driven," said Joyce de Leon, Bischoff's wife. "It is hard because he is used to being in control."

Bischoff surprised doctors, who said it would be a great success just for him to walk again, with a full recovery.

He was able to open a hockey consulting business.

But eventually gave up the hockey career to pursue acting and voice-over work.

Bischoff was taking acting classes at Los Angeles City College in 2000 when he met May May Ali, the daughter of Muhammad Ali, the famed boxer who also suffers from Parkinson's disease.

"I met him in acting classes," Ali said. "It is ironic that he now has the same disease that my dad has."

He was volunteering in the pediatric ward of a hospital when he realized he wanted to have a career working with children.

While working in Los Angeles, Bischoff decided to go back and get his undergraduate degree in child development.

"I learned so much from these children," Bischoff said. "They have better outlooks on life because many of them are forced to look at life in a different way."

The children Bischoff worked with were inspirational to the way he was going to live. This was one of many factors that helped him when he was diagnosed.

When Bischoff noticed tremors and pains throughout his body, he knew something was wrong.

After seeing four doctors and having extensive testing, Bischoff was told on April 4 by the fourth doctor that he had Parkinson's disease.

The main difference between Parkinson's and other diseases is that there is no sure way to tell if someone has Parkinson's. It can only be certainly diagnosed with an autopsy.

"When they told me, I just knew I had to find some way to keep control of it," Bischoff said. "I don't want to let it control me, so I must have control of it."

"He has a positive outlook," de Leon said. "It took longer for me to let it sink in."

A way for Bischoff to control his disease was to help other people.

He organized the largest young-onset Parkinson's disease support group in the Inland Empire.

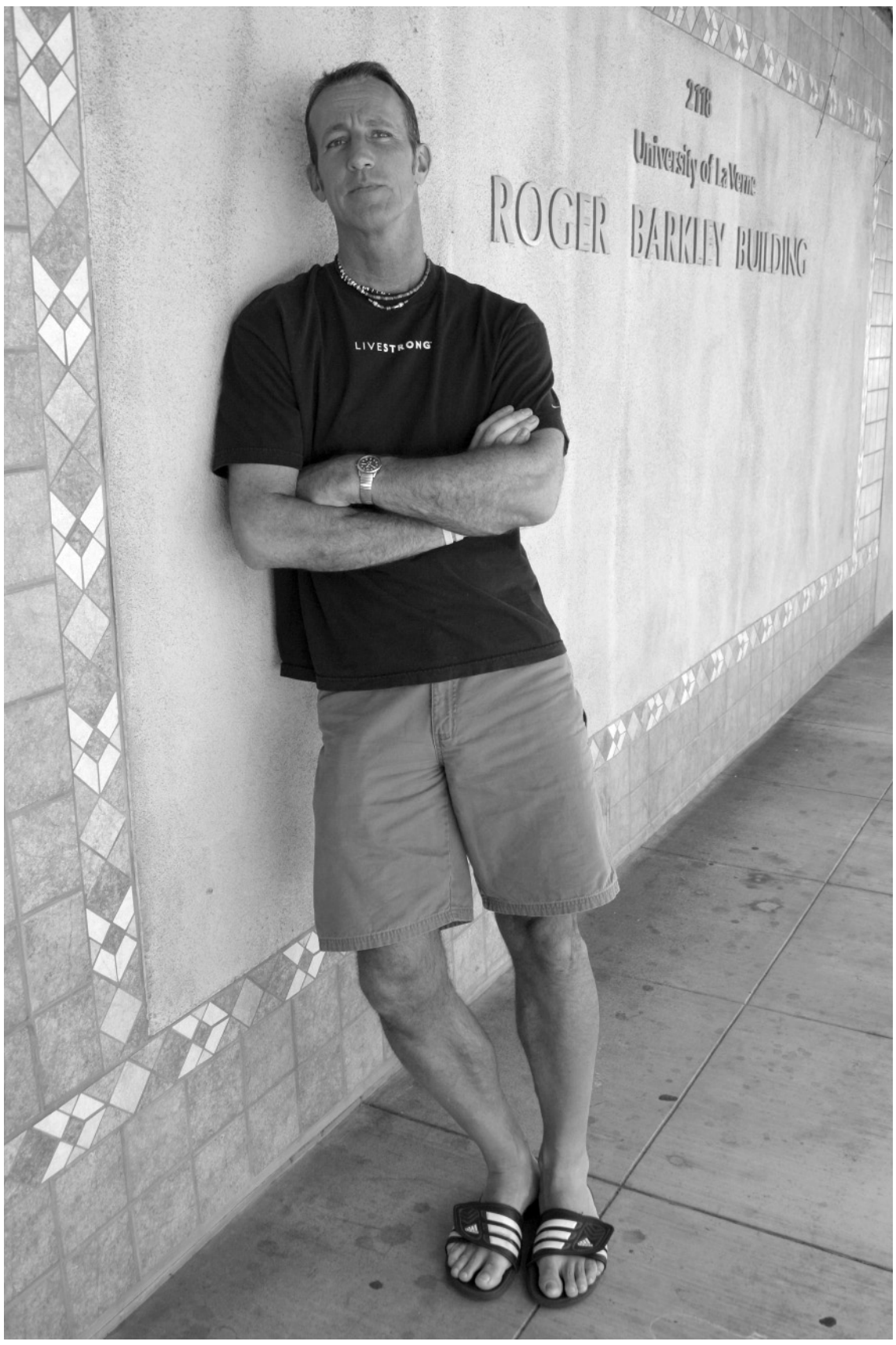
"He has always been an advocate in some way," Ali said. "It is great to see that my dad has done so much and now Todd is doing more for this horrible disease."

Bischoff has also gone to Arizona to visit the Muhammad Ali Parkinson's Research Center.

He has worked with the center and other groups in the Southern California area to battle Parkinson's.

"He always holds out hope," de Leon said. "The outlook conquers so much."

> 'When they told me, I just knew I had to find some way to keep control of it. I don't want to let it control me, so I must have control of it.'
> *—Todd Bischoff, graduate student living with Parkinson's disease*



Sergio Sandoval

Todd Bischoff, a master's student in child development at the University of La Verne, was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease at the age of 46. He student-teaches a human development class with Barbara Nicoll, professor of education. Bischoff is now leading a young-onset Parkinson's disease support group in the Inland Empire.

Bischoff, like other patients, is on a strict regimen of medications.

He takes several pills every couple of hours to replace the lost dopamine.

The dopamine allows his body to have fluid, smooth motion.

"It is hard to time out the medications," Bischoff said. "You have to know when it will ware off, because I can't just take the pills while I'm in class."

Bischoff is also working as a motivational speaker.

For more information, contact Bischoff via his Web site at **www.pdtalks.com.**

For further information on Parkinson's disease, visit **www.maprc.com.**

Rick Montañez can be reached at ***rick.montanez@hotmail.com***.

It's Not Your Fault.

1.800.656.HOPE
National Sexual Assault Hotline
Free. Confidential. 24/7.

(Operated by RAINN—the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network)

Hefty overdue fines drain students

Without a doubt, the most hectic time of the year for students drops in at the end of the semester.

And this December, while students are now praying for "the most wonderful time of the year," finals and the hassles of registration are piling high and leaving hardly any room to breathe.

A 10-page research paper in anthropology due Wednesday, a video project due Tuesday, biology lab's due tomorrow and, of course, a final in every class.

Many students can probably relate to such an insane schedule. Oh and don't forget to register on Thursday. Between all this chaos, students find time to register for classes on MyULV.

But a moment after they click the "submit" button, a notice of a massive unpaid bill appears holding up registration.

The cause: overdue University of La Verne library book fines. The books were checked out weeks ago and while students were typing away for this week of agony they forgot to return them despite the multiple e-mails sent to remind them.

And at $1 per book per day in fines, the accumulated figure can be catastrophic. While students are crying from the financial punishment, the library is hoping they just learned a lesson.

The overdue book fine changed a year-and-a-half ago from 25 cents, and is still driving students up the wall.

However unfair the library may seem, high fines are nothing new to library policies. The fine is not in place to make money or to be affordable – the fine is to act as an incentive to turn in books on time, say library officials.



Just like reckless driving on the freeway will land you a hefty ticket from a police officer, overdue books will stump you with a fine from the circulation desk.

Although students and the word "affordable" don't seem to come hand-in-hand these days, a little more leniency on these fines would be nice. Students have a great deal on their plate, and not just the financial stresses, but workloads from school and work are simple explanations for late books.

Compared with local public libraries, ULV's fine is Mount Everest. Even though these fines are not meant to be compared because they serve different purposes, the differences are hard to ignore and their consequences seem far less.

The La Verne Public Library will charge 25 cents per book, per day for adults and children's book at 10 cents. The Pomona Public Library holds lenders to 25 cents for books and 50 cents for audio.

Complaining about the many seemingly useless fines institutions charge is nothing new. Every action has a consequence and students have to pay the price just like any other situation.

The biggest concern of these fines added to a student's bill is the hindrance to register. Getting shut out of a class because you didn't have the $100 to compensate for belated books can be beyond frustrating, especially now.

The cost of this fine is a balancing act: small fine, less effective and high fine, a damaging lesson.

We understand the library needs some kind of liability to have books returned, but consider each student when judging what is and is not affordable. For one student, $1 per book, per day is chump change, and for the other it could mean Top Ramen for two weeks.

All we ask is that if the students try to be more diligent, the library reflect on the individual student and how a big fine to pay could be more than annoying and consequential, but stressful and damaging.

Payroll unpays employees

One decimal space to the left is all it took for the University to owe … correction, the University's employees to owe a couple hundred thousand dollars in state disability tax year in back taxes. Happy Holidays!

There's nothing like a memo from payroll to dampen the holiday season. A slight calculating error at the beginning of 2006 resulted in ULV under-withholding more than $200,000 in employees' State Disability Insurance Program payments throughout the year. Now that the error has been discovered, employees are being asked to pay back the additional money.

Payroll's first idea to fix it was to deduct the entire amount from every employee's Dec. 22 paycheck leading into the holiday season. But, with some employees owing several hundred dollars, the payroll staff soon figured they should come up with a Plan B.

It must be a relief to some to find out from the most recent memo that ULV employees will have a choice in how the money will be deducted. Instead of having a large sum deducted at once, it can be spread throughout the next 24 paychecks, a scenario easier for the pocket book to handle.

The amount to be repaid is based employee salaries, thus the amount will be different for each person. Letters detailing the additional amount owed were mailed to all employees at the beginning of December.

Understandably, this snafu has caused considerable consternation among the employees – not just because of the rude shock of how much money they still owe, but also because, as yet, University administrators have offered no apology for the error. The fault does not lie solely with payroll, but also with the institution, which does not adequately provide the payroll office with the necessary tools to perform its job.

What can we learn from all this? Double, triple and quadruple check all finances. But most importantly the greatest need is to make sure the payroll office continues to develop its technology so that it can be more efficient. Implementing better software that will allow for more people to review the numbers is a great achievement and should be implemented as soon as possible.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

It is somewhat unusual even today to find an editorial praising and endorsing censorship, but apparently that is just what your editorial on the cancellation of O.J. Simpson's book has in mind ("Confessions of a 'hypothetical' killer," Dec. 1). You write that the book "had horrible written all over it" – did you reach this conclusion after reading it, or from descriptions in other media (also from people who hadn't read it)? You point out that it was pulled from publication (self-censored by Rupert Murdoch's News Corp.!) because of "bad publicity and public outcry" – is this the standard for deciding whether a publication should be censored?

You apparently applaud this because you accept the vague claims that the book was to be a "confession." Simpson, who has proclaimed his innocence from the beginning, said it was not a confession simply because he didn't commit the murders. You also say that the book was apparently to contain "upsetting descriptions of the murder," apparently "pushed the envelope too far," and of course the standard "we all think that he did it," – are these justifications for censorship?

Despite the *belief* by most Americans (or at least most white Americans) that Simpson was the killer, the evidence does not clearly support that conclusion - in fact much of the evidence showed signs of police tampering (if not worse), and the timelines in the case indicate that it is very unlikely that Simpson could have done it alone. As for the "beliefs" that most people have about the case, these beliefs are also typical in the hundreds of cases in which innocent people have been cleared by subsequent investigation (usually not by police, sometimes by journalists!) or by DNA evidence.

It is bad enough that much of our media is succumbing to planted "news" stories from government and corporations – it does not help the media's credibility when censorship is also embraced.

Ernie Thomson
Associate Professor of Sociology/Criminology

Letters to the Editor

The *Campus Times* encourages readers to submit letters to the editors regarding topics covered in the paper. Letters should be no more than 400 words in length and are due by Tuesday at 3 p.m. The *Campus Times* reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, space and libel.

Campus Times
Fall 2006

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FROM THE EDITOR...

Uniting my roots into one identity



NICOLE KNIGHT

Hispanic, Irish, Japanese, African-American, American Indian, Caucasian – everyone has had to pick one or any of the other 20 options before in their lifetime. SATs, college applications and even MySpace provide check boxes to give us a label. Ethnicity is, and will probably always be, a complex and touchy issue. Especially in the melting pot that has become the United States, finding a check box that suits you can be difficult. Like many, I can fill out several check boxes: Mexican-American, Italian, Caucasian and other. To be somewhat exact, I am 50 percent Mexican-American, 25 percent Italian and the other 25 percent what I like to call "American mutt." Knowing these backgrounds, I guess you can say I look the part; however, my Mexican heritage always seems to throw people off.

This background comes from my mother's side, also known as the Garcia side. Sure we have our share of Mexican food at family gatherings, but the roots to our culture pretty much end there. My full-blooded Mexican mother cannot speak a word of Spanish.

Her mother thought it was better my mother and her three siblings be raised speaking English. My grandmother did not want to face any discrimination; and at the time in the 1950s and '60s speaking Spanish at school was discouraged.

It's a shame changes in time and cultural expectations have prevented my grandmother's next generation to have barely any knowledge or cultural bond.

On the opposite side, I have known and recognized myself as an Italian for as long as I can remember. My father's mother, Antoinette, was born in Italy and brought to the United States at just a few weeks old. The food, traditions and even some of the language has become embedded in the family.

My different tendency to each heritage has always boggled my mind. This divergence preaches loud that discrimination does not just affect that generation, but has a ripple effect on the family tree.

Brown thick hair, light brown eyes, tan skin and a classic name like Nicole Knight has always confused people on "what I am." I'll show up for an interview in-person after previous phone conversation and people are surprised I am the same Nicole Knight. Some have even admitted to me that they expected me to be a blonde-hair, blue-eyed gal.

Knight, which may have distant roots back to England, came out of my grandfather's side, who were born and breed out of Arkansas. The Knight side is definitely all-American; we even opened the first hamburger stand named "Mama Knight's" in the early 1900s in Arkansas.

It wasn't until high school that I truly identify my ethnicity. Primarily Dutch, my high school was founded and still hosted a plethora of dairy farmers' children. Growing up with phrases like, "If you ain't Dutch, you ain't much," my Mexican-Italian features stood out against the platinum blondes with crystal blue eyes.

Even coming to the University of La Verne opened my eyes to a wider spectrum of diversity – which can say a great deal considering ULV is not the most diversified school in Southern California.

No matter what part of me I identify with – my character is still the same. Although ethnicity seems to count for a large part of self-identity and worth today, I believe it's just another life experience that shapes our moral fiber. Knowing where we came from accounts for such an important part of self recognition and understanding. The only shame is that differences and discrimination can stifle a person's pursuit of their roots. Our ethnic background, whether first generation or mixture of cultures, makes us unique and binds us at the same time.

Nicole Knight, a senior journalism major, is editor in chief of the Campus Times. *She can be reached by e-mail at* **nknight@ulv.edu**.

Discovering the worth of the invaluable



ANGIE GANGI

"They deem me mad because I will not sell my days for gold; and I deem them mad because they think my days have a price." –Kahlil Gibran

Rushing around seems to be what I do best these days. Life is like a blur of papers, bills, clocks and approaching deadlines that all want my attention at the same time.

One night after another busy day, I came home late and tired, with an empty stomach and a list of to-dos screaming in my ear. My daughter rushed over to me and handed me a piece of paper. She had carefully written: "This is how many miles of love is in my heart, trillions and trillions."

I get these kinds of wonderful notes from her all the time. But that piece of paper just made me think about how simple life would be if we all just took the time to think about why we are rushing around for those other little pieces of paper.

We go to school and work to get money, right? Our basic need for money is to pay for necessities so we can survive. But haven't we crossed that line? Most of us in the United States are earning much more than the amount we need to survive, and yet we still seem to want more.

Those pieces of green paper were created by humans and are now controlling the limited time we have on this planet. If you really think about that it becomes even more confusing. You can't buy time so what are we doing?

Christmas is my favorite time of the year. Yes, when I was younger it was because of the presents, and my mom loves to tell the story of my siblings and me posting our wish lists across the dining room wall like wallpaper one year. But now that just makes me sad to think that I saw the holidays that way.

After I had my daughter, I started to see Christmas differently. But the first Christmas I spent at home after battling Leukemia was the best by far. It wasn't about the presents or the beautiful wrapping paper or anything else that came with a receipt. That Christmas was about being alive and breathing the same air as my loved ones. The moments I got to spend with my family and friends had more value than any inked paper ever could.

Last year on Christmas Day, my best friend lost her mom in a car accident. I guarantee that nothing in any store would hold any value next to seeing her again. I guess that's one of life's gifts that you take unwillingly. Usually people realize the value of time after it's too late to go back, and it can't be printed on dollar bills.

Of course, you don't have to get cancer or lose a loved one to realize that life is not about money. You can see it in the eyes of the elderly who have lived their lives and just want to share their story with anyone who will listen.

You can be a part of charity and hand out clothes and food to people who are less fortunate than you. These moments are not about money because you can't measure your reward.

I'm still trying to just enjoy each moment and not worry about the money because as an anonymous author wrote: "The real measure of your wealth is how much you'd be worth if you lost all your money."

So this Christmas please live, love, laugh and look around you to count the things that money can't buy.

Angie Gangi, a senior broadcasting major, is sports editor of the Campus Times. *She can be reached by e-mail at* **agangi@ulv.edu**.

There really is no place like home



LAURA BUCIO

The smell of rich homemade coffee seeps in through the bedroom door as I hear the murmur of my mom's voice ask my dad what he wants for breakfast.

I feel the sun on my face, something that would usually annoy me, but not in this case.

I walk out of the room wrapped in the small pink blanket I've had since I was a kid and sit next to my brother on the couch.

After fighting for the comics section of the paper for awhile, we each settle for whatever show they are showing on KCET.

These are the types of mornings I miss, the type of mornings when, if I want, I can spend all day in my PJs.

The types of mornings I can't have at the dorms.

Don't get me wrong, I love dorm life and being on my own, but as the semester is drawing to an end and my energy level is at its lowest, there is nothing better than knowing I will get to spend a few days at home, the place where I feel safest and at my best.

This is why winter is my favorite time of the year. No, it's not just because this is the only time I get to wear scarves and gloves, and it's not because I get to go shopping although these are all contributing factors.

For me winter means two things: One, I get a break from school, and, two, I spend that break at home.

It's true I only live an hour away but this does not mean I get to go home a lot.

Sure I take a drive back home once in a while when my laundry basket gets too full, or when my mom places a phone call requesting me to be there.

There are always plenty of things to do around here, and with gas prices this high and my kind of budget, constant trips home are not really an option.

I know some of you might be thinking how is it possible for me to miss my parents giving me a curfew, and asking where I go, and at what time I'm coming back?

And I never thought I would miss this myself but, as cheesy as it might sound, I have come to realize that when my parents asked me where I'm going and stay up waiting for me, their intention isn't to annoy, their intention is to make sure I'm safe.

Now, when I have "Monsters" for breakfast and Snickers bars for dinner, I think of all the times mom forced me to have breakfast before school and made me eat dinner before doing my homework.

I think back at those times my dad did not let me stay out late and realize that he was only looking out for me.

I remember when I used to fuss about medicine my mom made me take when I had the flu and realize that there is no one that will make me take that medicine now. I know now, that all those times my mom didn't let me out without a jacket, she wasn't trying to ruin my outfit, she was trying to guard me from the cold.

And when my dad wanted me to go to bed by 11, he only wanted me to get enough sleep.

Living on my own I have all the freedom in the world.

I can go anywhere and come back any time. As fun as this might sound, and as much as I enjoyed it when I first moved out of my house, there are times when even I miss knowing there is someone there waiting up for me.

Laura Bucio, a senior journalism major, is news editor of the Campus Times. *She can be reached by e-mail at* **lbucio@ulv.edu**.

Surviving the Christmas Sweater Syndrome

by Katherine Hillier
photography by Kelly Rivas

Throw out those Christmas baubles and express joy through simplicity

It's the most wonderful time of the year again, when every store window is doused with plastic snowflakes and red velvet Santa Clauses and, once again, those crazy Christmas fanatics are on the prowl, sporting their three-dimensional Christmas sweaters in celebration of their die-hard Christmas spirit.

This is a time of celebration and a time to give thanks, but it can also be seen as a time of bad clothing indulgences.

When people flock together with cheer to sing carols and to also show off a plethora of holiday spirit laced with snowmen and gingerbread plastic pins clinging to their wardrobe.

There are many ways to show an appreciation for the holiday season, and it doesn't always have to be through red and green inspired sweaters and multi-layered pins.

"Some people wear those little light pins – that's not cool," said Nery Magana, a junior computer science major. "Lights are supposed to go on a Christmas tree."

Everyone enjoys celebrating the holidays, but maybe it's grandma's spiked eggnog or that intoxicating gingerbread, but something gets under our skin during the holidays and it seeps through our pores displaying itself in the form of crazy holiday sweaters and Santa Claus hats.

The holidays seem to be an excuse to go hog wild for bad fashion.

Mistletoe kisses and cheesy cards can be expected, but why does there seem to be a need for over the top threads?

There is a way to avoid this and to show a full-bellied appreciation for the holiday season, and still be able to frame pictures without having to write long explanations for why we just happened to be wearing that green sweater with the horribly large snowman protruding from its very fluffy surface.

Do not worry.

Have no fear.

This year, with a little resistance and a lot of charisma, Christmas apparel choices will take a turn for the better, and here are a few tips to closet those holiday jitters for a while.

The first rule for making this a photogenic Christmas season is through the "keep it simple" mantra.

"You can wear your basic colors to symbolize that you like Christmas, but don't take it to the extreme," said Tiffany Stanford, a freshman psychology major.

Don't display that outrageous love of the season through a larger-than-life pin or necklace.

People will get the picture from a much smaller amount of information.

For example, taking a beautiful Christmas ribbon and tying it into your hair could be one example of displaying a fully developed love for St. Nick.

Another simple wardrobe addition that could give the impression of holiday cheer would be wearing a simple outfit of all black or all white and then proudly displaying a shine of Christmas sparkle through the color of a mesmerizing pair of red or green shoes or a red or green scarf.

This will show how seriously you wish for the holiday season to never end, but at the same time it will not give the impression of fanaticism.

The second rule is to find a way to show grandma that, although you really appreciate her yearly gift of a fluffy Santa sweater, you would really prefer not to wear it for the family portrait or, actually, at all.

This will involve a lot of skillful maneuvering, but if done properly, can have a lasting affect on your wardrobe.

In order to do this, you must find a viable reason why that Christmas sweater just doesn't cut it – in terms of holiday cheer.

So explain how, even though you just love to receive these exocentric holiday sweaters that she has perhaps spent countless hours knitting for your pleasure, they somehow are competing with your natural holiday spirit and you would like to have free range in expressing your love for Christmas without competing with an overly dramatic holiday sweater.

"I work in an arts and crafts store and I always see the old ladies come in with the sweaters, and honestly, I think they have too much time on their hands," said Yasmin Cardona, a sophomore psychology major.

Finally, the third rule for a proper holiday season, void of embarrassing holiday apparel forced on you by a third and very influential party, is by taking all those Christmas baubles and pins and displaying them in your house or on the tree, and not on your body.

Even though mom has graciously mailed you a beautiful new "Tis the Season" pin, it's OK to just use it as a tree decoration and not a wardrobe accessory.

The trick is to show verve of holiday spirit without getting drunk off accessories.

"Ornaments belong on the Christmas tree and not on your outfit," Stanford said.

Take this holiday season seriously and take off one or two of those pins that mom sent you, pack away the new art-project-of-a-sweater that grandma knitted and just tie a simple ribbon in your hair or wear one small pin to show your joy.

Christmas should be a time for inner joy, but sometimes we become so consumed by this happiness that we pour it all over the place, and that's when photographs of ourselves can't be framed and our outfits begin to compete with our fabulous personalities.

This year, let's move away from decorating ourselves up like ornaments and stick to decorating our trees.

If nothing else, we could save some time from putting on all these baubles and spend more time shopping for more Santa sweaters to give to other people.

Katherine Hillier can be reached at ***khillier@ulv.edu.***



If this sweater were under the Christmas tree for Toya Johnson-Moore, she would say "Thanks" then wrap it up and give it to someone else. Johnson-Moore is a sophomore studying criminology at the University of La Verne. Ugly Christmas sweaters are not on the top of any college student's wish list. "What am I supposed to do with this?" Johnson-Moore said.

'I work in an arts and crafts store and I always see the old ladies come in with the sweaters, and honestly, I think they have too much time on their hands.'
—Yasmin Cardona, sophomore psychology major

Christmas trees flock community

Tree farm features Fraser firs



Sergio Sandoval

La Verne Heritage Foundation has been preserving the last orange grove and has been selling Christmas trees for nine years. President and Event Coordinator for the Foundation, Robin Molina organizes the public sales of Christmas trees and citrus fruit.

Angie Gangi
Sports Editor

The search for this year's Christmas centerpiece began Saturday as the Heritage Park Christmas Tree Farm opened and offered a chance for local families to enjoy the holiday nostalgia that sweeps in with the colder weather.

The fresh smell of pine rushes Christmas memories to the front of your mind as you look up to the majestic trees standing tall in rows.

"We actually just took our Christmas card picture here," San Dimas resident Lori Delgado said. "It's not crowded and I had a great time when I came to the pumpkin patch here before."

The Delgado family brought their dogs, Bianca and Eternity, along to let them enjoy the open space at the tree farm. Lori's daughter, Kandace, trains puppies for Guide Dogs of America and Eternity is a puppy in training to become a guide dog for the blind. They came to the Heritage Park Tree Farm to quickly search for the perfect tree before the football game came Dan Delgado said.

Football seems to be the tree farm's biggest competitor as La Verne Heritage Foundation President Robin Molina noticed on opening day.

"We were very busy in the morning and then right when the (USC vs. UCLA) game came on there was no one," Molina said. "Once halftime hit there were a few customers again but none when the game came back on."

With all of the freshly cut trees brought in directly from Oregon, there is a special addition to the Nobel, Grand and Douglous fir trees that line the farm's walkway. The Fraser fir trees are a special find that are available at the Heritage Park Tree Farm.

There are delicate differences between the different trees, mostly with the spacing of the stems, and the size and shape of the needles. The Grand firs have a more traditional look with the long thin needles that lay straight out from the stem. Nobel firs seem to have more needles and have a fluffy look with needles stretching up in many directions. One of the fullest trees is the Douglas fir that seems to have more stems with thin medium length needles that are mostly flat. The special Fraser trees are also very plump and full with a lot of shorter bulky needles facing upwards. The subtle differences make the search for a personal favorite that much more exciting when each person finds the right fit.

> 'The history here is what makes it great and we got our first tree here when we moved to La Verne a few years ago.'
> *—Oscar Rodriguez, La Verne resident*

The average-sized trees range in price from $50 to more than $100, according to size and the type of tree and each tree can be purchased with the tree stand for $15 extra.

"We will probably get a shorter tree," Sonia Rodriguez said of her future family tree. "These trees seem to go out so much at the bottom and that makes them look so full."

Sonia Rodriguez came to the tree farm with her husband Oscar and her two children, 3-year-old Nicolas and 1-year-old Sofia. Nicolas took a different approach to the holidays and walked through the trees while roaring and pretending to be a dinosaur.

"We like the heritage behind the park here," Oscar Rodriguez said. "The history here is what makes it great and we got our first tree here when we moved to La Verne a few years ago."

The tree farm will be open until Christmas Eve on weekdays from noon to 8:30 p.m. and on the weekends from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. On the weekends there are $1 rides on "Santa's sleigh" through the orange orchard.

While many come to the Christmas Tree Farm at Heritage Park for the family atmosphere and the rich history of the farm, others come for more personal reasons.

"I really wanted to come pick out the tree this year," Kandace Delgado said, "because Dad doesn't always pick out the best tree when he goes alone..

Angie Gangi can be reached at ***agangi@ulv.edu.***

Businesses donate to preserve city's heritage

Heritage foundation adds office

Rick Montañez
Assistant Editor

The La Verne Heritage Foundation gives back to the community several times a year. This past summer, it was finally time for someone else to give back to the Heritage Foundation.

Lennox Industries and Hiatt Heating and Air Inc. donated their time and equipment upgrade to a 1940s ranch-hand house.

The house is in the back of Heritage Park in La Verne.

"We wanted to convert the ranch house into an office and museum," said Robin Molina, president of the La Verne Heritage Foundation. "It will be great to have a place for people to use as an office space."

The Foundation planned for the ranch house to function as an office for research and other business for the volunteer based organization.

The Foundation often hosts orange picking, hands-on history tours, and concerts in the park.

"We can also have performers change and prepare for their shows," Molina said.

The Foundation is hoping this will allow them to put on more events for the community.

The work on the office in the ranch house has been ongoing for the last six years.

It was this summer when Brian Hiatt of Hiatt Heating and Air Inc. decided they wanted to help the Foundation with their air unit.

"We felt we could help," Brian Hiatt said.

"We knew it was a quality institution because my son Scott was the caretaker for the Weber House," he said.

The Weber house is another historical building in Heritage Park maintained by the Foundation.

After Hiatt had visited the ranch house at Heritage Park, he decided he would work on getting some equipment to improve the insulation.

Hiatt approached his distributor, Richard Morales of Lennox, and after taking the trip with Hiatt out to see the ranch house, Morales decided he would contribute as well.

"Brian does great work," Morales said. "This would be a great benefit to the community."

After receiving approval from his bosses, Morales donated a state-of-the-art heating and air conditioning system.

"This system is the quietest and most efficient system we offer," Morales said.

Hiatt is known for their custom work. Nothing they do is on newly constructed buildings; it is all on remodels or additions.

Hiatt donated not only the equipment, but his time as well.

He started the project in late spring.

Hiatt spent his weekends and some evenings working on the project, while maintaining his business.

"I was even there on the fourth of July," Hiatt said.

Morales said he likes the Foundation because they are preserving the same time period that Lennox was founded, the late 1800s and early 1900s.

"We are so grateful for the work they did," Molina said.

There were some setbacks but the project was completed this last summer.

Morales also said Lennox, Hiatt and the Foundation all share similar qualities.

They are all high quality establishments with a strong family history.

Rick Montañez can be reached at ***rick.montanez@hotmail.com.***

Festival features fascinating work



Maria Villalpando

Whittling away at a block of wood, Susan Lake carves out the beginning features of a Santa Claus. Lake has been carving for 18 years and selling her work at craft shows for the past six years. The Harvest Festival at the Fairplex in Pomona featured more than 300 artisans.

Crafty gifts, food displayed

Telon Weathington
Staff Writer

One-of-a-kind art to play, display, watch and munch was featured at the Harvest Festival at the Fairplex in Pomona last weekend.

It wasn't unusual for food and beverage exhibitors to stop festival-goers in their tracks due to the delicious samples offered, but one exhibit stopped people simply because of the title of its booth: "Paper that Grows Flowers."

"We have been selling this product for the last fours years," said Katie Michael, an employee of Bloom.

"The inventor, Denise Stevens, started making paper and put natural things in paper and came up with putting seeds in the paper so they can grow," Michael said.

Wild flower seeds are embedded in the handmade paper.

When placed on a bed of soil and water, an assortment of wild flowers begin to sprout in two and a half weeks.

The colorful stationary is to write someone a note and the recipient can plant the paper.

The smell of potpourri, gourmet foods and pine filled the air of the Harvest Festival as people walked rows and rows experiencing what about 300 exhibitors had to offer.

Twenty-thousand people walked through the doors of the Harvest Festival this weekend and the event required lots of preparation, said Frances Larose, spokeswoman for the Harvest Festival.

"Each of the exhibitors has to provide a photo of the product and how they make it," Larose said.

"They have to prove authenticity; that the product is actually handmade," she added.

There were numerous amounts of food exhibits, but one of them stood out from all the rest because of its Asian-themed booth.

The oriental dressing sold at the booth was influenced by the theme.

Sam Capizzi and Linda Capizzi, the minds behind the gourmet oriental dressing, are the owners of the company "In Good Taste."

The booth displayed two plaques: "Best Show Award" in 1998 and "Best Booth Award" this year.

Sam Capizzi wore an Asian robe and military hat as he offered festival-goers tasty salad shooters that were topped with oriental dressing.

"We have been self-employed for over 30 years," Sam Capizzi said.

"I had kidney failure and if something was to happen to me, we needed something that my wife can sell by herself. So we pulled out the recipe and started selling," Capizzi said.

"The Harvest Festival is designed where college students can come and get affordable, one-of-a-kind gifts," Larose said.

"The things are nice and we want to show products that you can make personalized and you won't see them anywhere else," she added.

It was impossible to have a boring moment at the festival.

Guests who wanted to take a break from walking around were able to sit in front of a stage to experience the art of song, dance or magic.

The band "Sister Swing" sang Christmas jingles while wearing clothing from the 1950s.

A group of tap dancers received a standing ovation for the wonderful beats they made with their feet, and a magician called up volunteers for assistance with several tricks.

"We hand pick our entertainers for the festival," Larose said. "Schools that have a music or art exhibit can try out and also be a part."

Every row featured at least one food vendor that sold a sauce or a dip.

These booths were crowded as people grabbed pretzels to taste the dips on every palette.

"I had a knee replacement and now I am able to walk," said Frances Soto, a Los Angeles resident.

"So, I said now I am going to the festival. I like arts and crafts and I like to make them so, this is an interesting experience," he added.

The Harvest Festival will be at Seaside Park in Ventura this weekend.

For more information visit **www.harvestfestival.com**.

For more information about "Bloom" or "In Good Taste" visit their Web sites at **www.orientaldressing.com** and **www.plantablepaper.com.**

Telon Weathington can be reached at ***tweathington @ulv.edu.***

'I like arts and crafts and I like to make them so, this is an interesting experience.'
—Frances Soto, Los Angeles resident

Bond...

Continued from page 3

"I think the idea is 'since we're getting the bond lets take that bond to do other projects on campus,'" said Jonathan Reed, faculty representative to the advisory board and professor of religion.

ULV faculty seems to be supporting the bond as long as it is used to improve important areas of the University.

"The big question is how are the decisions made about what facilities would be improved," Reed said.

"That's what I think faculty is most concerned about." Reed added.

Although faculty would like to see academic programs improved there are limitations to the bond and what it could be spent on.

"Normally bonds are issued for capital projects," Kechichian said.

"Bonds are not intended for operating expenditures such as compensation and benefits," he added.

University officials will ultimately decide the size of the bond and on what other projects the surplus money will be spent

"For the University the lowest cost of borrowing would be a bond issue," Kechichian said.

"Building the Campus Center is strategically important for the University," he added.

Laura Bucio can be reached at ***lbucio@ulv.edu.***

Kady Bell can be reached at ***rzezna65@yahoo.com.***

Commentary

Take the 10 to Mexico

Tradition thrives on Olvera St.

Kady Bell
Arts Editor

Stepping into Los Angeles' original center of commerce, its self-proclaimed and preserved birthplace, a quest to find jumping beans seemed too commonplace, too insignificant.

Olvera Street, otherwise known as El Pueblo Historic Monument, an established department of the city with 27 different sites, is a happening tourist attraction, rife with overwhelming colors, fragrances and authentic tidbits of Mexico.

Look left as strolling mariachi musicians stop to serenade random couples enjoying time-honored dishes, right as Asian nuns purchase hand-painted statues of saints and up and down the historic street, as the equivalent of a tiny corner of Tijuana unfolds, only with cheaper wares and probably cleaner restrooms.

Crossing "Aloe Vera" Street, as my brothers call it, at approximately 2:30 p.m. last week Saturday, I walked into an animated scene; a plaza alive with salsa music where a few brave couples turned their backs to the growing crowd to showcase sexy traditional steps.

One man idly moved to the spicy sounds emitted from the stereo with his cozy sweater-wrapped Chihuahua.

The smell of toasting churros silently revolving behind glass panels inside an old-fashioned red buggy, which stood near a large stuffed burro, greeted passersby slowly making their way into the hub of it all.

Calla lilies made of corn husks, brightly woven blankets and scarves, sombreros of all sizes, Dia de Los Muertos memorabilia galore, handcrafted pottery representative of Hispanic artists such as Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, multi-hued guitars personalized for a minimal fee of $8.95, genuine leather belts, purses and barrettes reminiscent of the 1970s, inexpensive candy with bug centers and a plaza with a wishing well were only a few of the main attractions.

As I tried to absorb the organized chaos created by the running sea of handbags, wrestling masks and T-shirts that read "powered by frijoles," the rest of my family ventured into the shop to my right.

Snapping pictures of the wide assortment of mini guitars and baskets of sombreros, I ducked in behind them to look at Los Angeles souvenirs — postcards, magnets and snow globes — before discovering more traditional wares.

Large painted crosses, bells, salt and pepper shakers, miscellaneous holy items with images of the Virgin Mary emblazoned across them, along with incense and altar odds and ends sat on cluttered shelves, made enticing by "you break, you buy" signs.

I was cautious as I picked through shot glasses decorated with lively skeletons, finding the nameless shop to be a good source of plaques dedicated to the dead, or even the living, as I took note of mock skeleton versions of the Beatles, AC/DC, Elvis and KISS, all rocking out of their bones inside decorative display cases.

Drifting on, stopping to take pictures of Lupe's Candy Shop, where lollipops containing tequila type worms and insects were quickly purchased, a small sign that read "Memo's Place" caught my attention, as did the 75 cent earring signs. Delighted to explore the cheap jewelry, my sister and I wandered into another big "lookie-lou" of sorts.

Wooden tear drops painted in green, orange, black and white soon hung from my ears, though many stones, funky-shaped pieces of silver and plastic and colorful feathers at prices that ranged from 75 cents to $1.95 were hard to resist.

I also skimmed over statues of St. Jude, one of the most bought items Rosario Garcia, a saleswoman at the quaint shop, said.

"We have different kinds of merchandise from different parts of Mexico and people can find many things here," she said, recommending that I visit the Avila Adobe, the oldest house in Los Angeles turned living memorial to ancient times just beyond the door.

The rich smell of genuine leather drew me into the next shop, a warehouse of leather goods or cowboy heaven.

Armando Murrillo, proprietor of the family-owned business known as Murrillo Leather, enveloped customers in warm conversation, offering a little girl candy as he worked on adding a "hippie bag" bedecked with red flowers to a rack of its friends hanging above the tall counter that served as the entrance to the shop.

He said leather bracelets, whether reading everything from "rock 'n' roll" and "love" to various namesakes or designed in intricate patterns, were the backbone of the business.

"Everything on [Olvera Street] used to be handcrafted and now it's a lot more commercial but what I do here is still authentic," Murrillo said.

"We haven't stopped manufacturing these bracelets in 35 years," he added.

Olverita's Village contained the most appealing assortment of Dia de Los Muertos merchandise, centering on large skeleton statues, my favorite of which was a Scarlet O' Hara type who sat gracefully on a dresser stool, a cigarette fixed in her bony fingers, her features expressive despite a lack of skin and organs.

Christmas had seemingly arrived early as pine trees ornamented with hand painted bells, figurines, and a mosaic of classic bulbs, fulfilled their destinies throughout the store.

Further down the way, Bazaar de Mexico housed authentic clothing, blankets, maracas, bark paintings, tortilla warmers, symbolic charms, rosaries and Guatemalan sashes, among other things.

A white-haired lady purchased a mortar and pestle, and my youngest brother, sick from one too many taquitos, trailed behind as I picked up vase after vase and statue after statue, recognizing a woman known as Maria.

Leaving Bazaar De Mexico with a Maria statue wearing a woven blue shawl, I walked away with a small part of the historic city street.

I became wrapped up in the atmosphere, but there was simply not enough time in the day to explore each notable aspect of the street, or even to browse the curio shops a plenty; especially with two youngsters in tow upset to find that jumping beans were only seasonal treats.

At 4:40 p.m., it was nearing dark, as we watched a man play one of the small guitars I had wandered by earlier.

He smiled, allowing me to capture a few more memories in a rare tourist experience.

Piling back into the car a few moments later, I knew I had more than my statue of Maria to remember my first trip to the celebrated pueblo by, promising my brothers another jaunt to continue our search for the elusive jumping beans and myself a chance to explore the museums — perhaps insignificant, but proof that even Los Angelenos can be strangers in their own town.

As it turns out, "Aloe Vera" is good for more than just scrapes and burns.

Kady Bell can be reached at ***rzezna65@yahoo.com***.

'Everything on [Olvera Street] used to be handcrafted and now it's a lot more commercial but what I do here is still authentic.'
—Armando Murrillo, proprietor of Murrillo Leather

Commentary

NYC can set you free

Katherine Hillier
Editorial Director

Walking down the lazy tree-lined streets of La Verne creates a sense of comfort for a student with a hectic college schedule; this is where time is worth a grade, and every moment is valuable and intensive.

However taking a break from school and leaving these cookie-cutter streets of predictability for a brisk flirtation with the city that never sleeps can be an act of true illumination.

Brush up against the unknown; take a journey into the abyss and experience a city that puts an extra syllable into the word unforgettable.

New York City has been described as the center of the universe and it lives up to this name by way of the static buzz that seems to cling to its sidewalks and dangle from its hovering skyscrapers.

Catching a cab into the city and gliding over the Brooklyn Bridge can create an almost euphoric state of being.

As the bridge slices over the water, the small island that is the borough of Manhattan pokes through the chaos and the glimmering silver reflection of the magnificent Chrysler building captures your glance and touches your heart.

This city is powerful, and love at first sight is only the beginning.

When compared to the relaxed state of our small city of La Verne, New York is a city on steroids.

Instead of strolling down sidewalks, as we do in La Verne, New Yorkers storm the pavement, catching tourists under the wind of their heels.

Time is also of the essence in New York and this is no better displayed than through the launching stride of local Manhattanites.

Many things distinguish New Yorkers from the rest of the world, but one blatantly obvious distinction is their clothing.

New Yorkers never appear to have rolled out bed.

Whether or not they are dressed to the nines, they have a meticulous sense of style that seeps from their very existence.

From a perfectly arranged tangle of curls to a fabulous pair of well-worn boots – New Yorkers have style covered and it's no surprise that people come from all over to bask in their shadows.

Unfortunately, as a student from La Verne, it is not too easy to blend into this city.

Tourists have a way of standing out.

From our lazy gawking stroll down the sidewalks that create havoc for old-school New Yorkers who see us more as road blocks rather than actual human beings; to our description of subway lines by color rather than number or letter; and most importantly our sense of style.

Tourists in this city stand out just as brightly as the yellow cabs that we fruitlessly attempt to catch.

While a New Yorker looks like a statuesque advertisement for fashion week, many tourists roam the sidewalks in rags compared to these polished museum pieces.

Although Manhattanites look fabulous gallivanting down the sidewalk in Versace, if they were in La Verne, they would have the appearance of someone attending a costume party.

Fashion in New York is taken to an extreme level; even five year olds are clad in itty-bitty skinny jeans and shag haircuts.

Even though Manhattan gallantly plays the role of the overbearing iron fortress when compared to our city, it is missing our calm sense of community that we enjoy.

Even though Manhattan gallantly plays the role of the overbearing iron fortress when compared to our city, it is missing our calm sense of community that we enjoy. It is a highly populated place where everyone is in a hurry and chitchat is a foreign language.

But if the bright lights and big city of New York comes knocking; take this advice; go forth and plunge into its sea of adventure; eat those curbside hot dogs, and gawk up at the mind-bending skyscrapers; you may find a new side of yourself that yearns for underground smokey jazz venues and late night art films.

You may get tickled by all the relentless distractions that New York has to offer, and you will probably love it.

And while coming back to the quiet streets of La Verne may seem uneventful, do not forget that one trip to the crazed streets of Manhattan will give you an ocean of memories to last a lifetime.

Katherine Hillier can be reached at ***khillier@ulv.edu.***

Expo brings snow sports bargains

Yelena Ovcharenko
LV Life Editor

The Second Annual North Pole Winter Sports Expo was a must for every sports enthusiast this weekend in Pomona at the Fairplex in Building 9.

Approximately 20 booths featured all the necessities a person needs to snowboard, ski and complete their holiday shopping.

"We want to create a valuable event that promotes a healthy, fun lifestyle," said James Lafave, president of Life Entertainment Inc. and event producer. "We want them to celebrate their inner child."

The expo is the only event of its kind in the area.

Its goal was to give customers bargains on must-have items at the start of the season.

The event was hosted and created by Life Entertainment Inc. two years ago.

Every visitor received a free ski pass to the Mt. Baldy Mountain Resort and the Snow Valley Mountain Resort.

Raffles, prizes and interactive games were the beginning of the great deals offered.

However, nothing was more thrilling than to see the All Girls Skate Jam perform old school tricks on a half pipe.

> 'We want to create a valuable event that promotes a healthy, fun lifestyle. We want them to celebrate their inner child.'
> *—James Lafave, event producer*

Skaters jumped and flipped their boards reviving the old tricks with their own twist.

A fashion show, rock climbing wall and a bungee jumping booth attracted visitors as well, particularly those 12 years old and under.

"I think it's a great experience," said Diane Beltran, a Corona resident. "It brings the family together."

Beltran came to the expo to see her granddaughter, Laken, model in the fashion show.

It featured models from the John Robert Powers modeling and acting school in Corona.

Clothing and snow gear from the Bad Bones and North Pole stores was showcased in the fashion show.

Vendors offered great deals on snow gear at the expo as well. One of the greatest bargains was American-made snow boards that sold for about $57.

A gear swap booth allowed visitors to upgrade their snow gear in exchange for in their old beat up snowboards.

North Pole, a winter clothing and gear store, gave away eight to 10 snowboards, gloves, beanies and jackets a day.

A booth in the corner offered participants to create their own music video with Santa for a $3 mic fee.

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Payroll...

Continued from page 1

with the employees' authorization, to pay the amount for 2006 and have employees repay in a form of a loan, with no interest.

The loan would consist of 24 installments for the 24 pay periods throughout 2007. However, employees have the option to arrange other paying options if they wish to compact the payments.

"The law prevents us from rolling over the tax onto 2007 without authorization from employees," Hawkey said.

The SDI tax amount is based differently on each employee's earnings.

The lowest paycheck difference was less than a $1 for the year and highest was about $500.

The taxes are the employees' responsibility, but the error has been acknowledged and we are working to lessen the burden, Kechichian said.

This miscalculation effects every University employee – from the president to student workers – except those exempt from the SDI tax.

"Under state law, every employee is required to make deductions from their paychecks," Hawkey said.

"Under law, it's not a University obligation," Hawkey added.

In lieu of the miscalculation and previous need of upgrading, payroll is currently working to improve their system.

"This is an unfortunate situation and embarrassing for payroll," Hawkey said."It seems to be a work load problem. They have such a heavy work load that they are rushing and mistakes happen in that environment."

Now that the mistake has been acknowledged and dealt with, payroll is looking at the source of the problem.

"Like how it is with any organization, any errors that are made are a wake-up call that the system needs to be improved," Kechichian said.

Kechichian and Randy Del Rio, assistant controller, said payroll is implementing a new system where the numbers are reviewed by more people, several times at the initial entry and throughout the year.

"Payroll is in the middle of an on-going effort to decrease the paperwork and increase their technology," Hawkey said.

Although some entries are required to be inputted manually still, payroll is working to upgrade technologically.

"We are trying to consolidate the information, but it's a great deal to get up and going," Del Rio said.

Despite the staggering cost of the mistake and effect it could have on employees' holiday season, Kechichian, Hawkey and Del Rio said University employees have been consistently positive with payroll's actions to the miscalculation.

"I have been overwhelmed by the e-mail responses because the majority say we all make mistakes and they appreciate we admitted the mistake and are fixing the problem," Kechichian said.

Del Rio agreed with Kechichian on the positive feedback, and said most negative responses have gone to the president or Hawkey.

"Many employees have expressed sympathy for what payroll is going through and appreciate the loan option," Hawkey said.

"There has also been some complaining on having to go through this, but not man," he added.

Nicole Knight can be reached at ***nknight@ulv.edu***.

THINK Together

Want To Make a Difference in the Lives of Young People?
Part-time jobs are available immediately in the education field.

California voters recently approved Proposition 49 which will provide funds for after school programs at many of our state's neediest schools.

To make this effort possible THINK Together, a leader in after school programs, is undertaking a massive hiring effort.

We are looking for individuals interested in working part-time as Program Leaders.

Program Leaders should be interested in supervising a classroom environment (about 20 kids), working to advance student learning, close the achievement gap, and helping students reach their full potential.

For more information visit us at www.thinktogether.org/jobs.htm or call 1-877-543-3807

Arts, etc...

HAPPENINGS

Stand-out art displays

A senior thesis exhibition titled "Liminal," showcasing the artwork of graduating art students, is on display at the Harris Art Gallery.

The artwork of artist Julia Latané, a unique blend of organic and synthetic materials that inspire dreamy ponderings, called "Hither," is also on display in the Tall Wall Space.

Admission is free.

For more information call Dion Johnson at (909) 593-3511, Ext. 4273.

Annual holiday concert

The music department will host the ULV Choral Organization Annual Christmas Concert at 4 p.m. Sunday at the La Verne Church of the Brethren, located on the corner of Bonita Avenue and E Street.

The concert will feature seasonal classics performed by the choir and chamber singers and sing-along carols to invite audience participation.

A performance of Vivaldi's beloved "Gloria," the main event, will include student soloists amid an ensemble of oboe, trumpet, harpsichord and strings.

Admission is free, though donations are appreciated.

For more information, call Stephen Gothold, director of the choral/vocal program, at (909) 593-3511, Ext. 4918.

Mixed sounds at The Press

Musician Emily Moultrie will perform at The Press restaurant in Claremont at 10 p.m. today.

Her sound combines modern rock with electronica.

Blue Metro will also perform at 10 p.m. Saturday, mixing blues, swing and jazz.

Jazz ensemble Hip Pocket will perform at 9 p.m. on Dec. 14.

For more information call (909) 625-4808 or visit **thepressrestaurant.com.**

—Kady Bell

Theater student proves 'Electra'-fying

by Lilia Cabello

photography by Rhiannon Mim

Senior Rhiannon Cuddy has always had a passion for theater.

Since third grade when she played the "evil witch who made the pumpkin cry," Cuddy has enjoyed being on stage.

This February, Cuddy will star in the University of La Verne's presentation of "Electra," a Greek tragedy by Euripides dealing with justice, revenge and the individual relationship of a young woman rebelling against authority.

Cuddy said she hoped this performance would be the first of many to come from her newly founded theatre company, Umbrella Machine, formed as part of her senior project. The company is a collaboration between her and a few other ULV alumni.

"We want to perform the play in other places as well," Cuddy said. "We're getting ourselves out there because we want to do this as a profession. We want to be successful enough to do what we love."

James Darrah, the director of "Electra" and a ULV alumnus, is a collaborator in Umbrella Machine. He said it was essential that Cuddy had supportive people around her for this project.

"The theater company is just one example of how important it is to find people who you work well with," Darrah said. "I have known Rhiannon since high school, and we've always worked well together."

Cuddy and Darrah went through high school in Rancho Cucamonga, constantly hearing about La Verne's amazing theater department.

Both said they admired the professors in the department for their dedication to helping students reach their full potential.



Senior theater major Rhiannon Cuddy will perform the title role of "Electra" in a story of romance and betrayal as part of her senior thesis. "Electra" was written by the Greek poet Euripides and is scheduled for performance in the Jane Dibbell Cabaret Theatre Feb. 22-24. Cuddy made her first appearance on stage in the third grade, when she played "the evil witch who made the pumpkin cry" in a Halloween play written by her teacher.

"The professors at ULV are professional and skilled in pushing you to excel," Darrah said.

"I love the fact that the theater department professors bring out your best attributes," Cuddy added. "The close knit group of people in the department allows you to really get down and dirty into acting."

It is this complete immersion in theater that Cuddy said she considered as unique to La Verne.

"In order to act you have to get the experience in acting; you have to grow as an actor," she said. "At other colleges there are too many people, but here it's personal."

In this play, Cuddy stars as the lead Electra — a spirited young girl seeking justice.

Darrah said he was positive that Cuddy, in pushing herself to understand the character, would make her performance genuine.

"Rhiannon is uniquely talented, she has the ability to fully throw herself into her work," Darrah said. "There are so many qualities in the character she will be playing; it's very in-depth."

David Flaten, chair of the theater arts department, said he knew Cuddy's performance would be captivating as well.

"I know it will be a provocative, engaging and very professional production," he said. "I look forward to seeing what Rhiannon will discover in the role

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iPod study rings true for students

Deafness linked to MP3s

Allison Farole
Staff Writer

It is a common sight to see students walking toward class with tiny white cords hanging from their ears, a concentrated look on their faces.

Over the past five years, MP3 players have caused a lot of positive and negative chaos.

The frenzy started when Apple came out with the unique iPod.

Available in three different sizes and oodles of colors, the iPod became the hot item for Christmas presents.

What makes the iPod so unique compared to a Walkman is that it can hold thousands of songs.

Due to the availability of listening time, users tend to use this device on a continuous basis.

"I think the way we see students wear them for a prolonged period of time could definitely do damage," said Lauren Gasaway, a sociology major.

In fact studies show that since the 2001 release of the iPod many people have developed hearing problems.

The dime-sized, disc-shaped earphones are claimed to cause hearing loss.

Using earphones on a constant basis causes turmoil to delicate cells within the inner ear.

These cells help the brain process sound and, over years of abuse, these structures will stop working properly.

Hearing damage is also caused from use of high volume music over an extended period of time.

Sound that is more than 85 decibels exceeds the "safe range."

If decibels are consistently set higher than that, there is a good chance of causing hearing damage.

iPods are 120 decibels at maximum volume.

If you are a teenager you will notice when you are about 30-years-old.

"I think they can [cause damage] if not used properly," said Anna Morris, a liberal studies major.

"People have them constantly attached to their ears, which is probably a bad thing," she added.

However, very few documented cases show hearing loss from long-term use of handheld stereos.

One way of preventing hearing loss from using any MP3 player is by purchasing a good pair of headphones.

Good pairs of headphones are designed to block out ambient noise, eliminating the need to pump up the volume so high.

Many people say that they don't know what "too loud," is but if the person standing next to you can hear the music, then it is most likely too loud.

When you remove the earphones and hear ringing, that could be another sign of the volume being too loud.

"I think students need to take the research seriously because so many people play their music so loud and it is so close to their eardrums," said Dan Nunez, an avid iPod user.

The French government has set a limit of 100 decibels in all MP3 players to help prevent hearing loss.

In response, Apple has made similar adjustments to its product.

But if iPods and other MP3 players are given the limit of 100 decibels, hearing loss is still possible.

The basic conclusion to this problem would be to purchase a good pair of headphones, lower the volume and watch the amount of time you invest in listening to music via MP3 players.

Allison Farole can be reached at ***allison.farole@yahoo.com***.

'I think the way we see students wear them for a prolonged period of time could definitely do damage.'
—Lauren Gasaway, sociology major



Maria Villalpando

Listening to Michael Jackson's "Beat It" on her iPod, Siddeeqah Shabazz, alumna of the University of La Verne, graduated with a degree in theater arts in January 2006. Shabazz starred in the theatrical production of "Miss Nelson is Missing" in Rancho Cucamonga.

Cuddy...

Continued from page 13

and see her work develop to the next level with a strong ensemble."

Meanwhile, Cuddy is eager to get into character and transform herself into the cold, brooding and vengeful woman.

"Electra is a dark person, with bottled up emotions about to explode," Cuddy said.

"I always play characters that have a reason for what they do, but Electra's line of reasoning is different; it's so exciting to play a character like her," she added.

Cuddy said she was preparing for the performance by developing her personality as Electra.

"There are certain things I do with every character I perform, but developing each character is different," she said. "With Electra, I'm going to start with her thought pattern."

Cuddy wants the audience to sympathize with, not just understand, Electra.

"I want her to come together as a character so people can relate to her," Cuddy said. "I want her to be complete for the show."

Flaten has known Cuddy since her freshman year and said he was confident that she would completely immerse herself in her character.

"Rhiannon is an intelligent and powerful actress; well trained and very focused," Flaten said.

"She has worked hard at learning her trade, her craft. She has great self-discipline and the ability to bring all of her resources of voice, physicality and creative vision to any role she takes on," he added.

'I always play characters that have a reason for what they do, but Electra's line of reasoning is different; it's so exciting to play a character like her.'
—Rhiannon Cuddy, senior theater major

Having held the auditions in November at the Luna Theatre in Glendale, Cuddy said she was satisfied with the cast.

"I'm very happy with the people we have — almost all of them are La Verne people," she said. "I can't wait to delve into this Greek world with them all."

Cuddy was correct to use the word "delve."

The script is a deep, twisted plot of the effects and cycle of revenge in a household.

Electra is a young woman whose father, King Agammemon of Mycenae, was murdered by her mother and her lover.

Rose Portillo will play the murderous mother Clytemnestra and Tony LaScala will become her accomplice Aegisthus.

Electra sends her brother Orestes, played by Sam Guzik, away with his tutor, Christopher Smith, to save his life, since Orestes has inherited his father's throne.

Eight years pass and Electra has been treated as a slave and allowed no friends.

Her only friends are her ladies in waiting, played by Natasha Velasco and Seanette Garcia.

Electra is even at odds with her younger sister Chrysothemis, played by Stephanie Borraco, the favorite, more submissive of the daughters.

When Orestes and his tutor come back, Orestes is surprised at how poorly his beloved sister Electra has been living.

Although unwilling at first, Orestes listens to Electra's plans for revenge and together they carry them out against their mother Clytemnestra and Aegisthus.

Cuddy said she looked forward to the performance and that she admired all the performers, regardless of their role.

"I just can't wait to get started on this production," she said.

"Anybody who has the guts to go out there and take the initiative to put on a good show are the people who have the passion to do it, because it's very much a group effort," she added.

Lilia Cabello can be reached at ***lcabello@ulv.edu***.

Drum ensemble beats march on

West African rhythms echo through Dailey

Kady Bell
Arts Editor

With practiced uniformity in rock steady rhythms created by swift hand movements, the West African Drum Ensemble and special guests the Kingsmen Alumni Corps Drumline guided the audience into beats varying from the aural tradition to a military-esque marching band style of sound Wednesday in Dailey Theatre.

Issuing a quick succession of slaps known as a "call" on his djembe drum, Steven Biondo, founder and director of the ensemble, jump started the night with "Mendiani," a rhythm inspired by a dance for young virgins that originated with the Malinke people of northeast Guinea.

Following his lead, his larger than average class carried the next tune, titled "Alou Kassa" through mellow and heavy adjustments in speed, bobbing heads and tapping sometimes bare feet to the continuous and practiced product of more than 20 djembe and dunun drums.

Though many students have repeated the course time and again for additional opportunities to master the art of West African drumming, Biondo said the majority of the class onstage was new, attending weekly practices to reach the level of proficiency demonstrated during the performance.

"You should know that everyone here is new and learned this in basically 12 class sessions; there's a vocabulary you have to know," Biondo said as he explained the trio of strokes used — bass, tone and slap — to generate the complex rhythms reverberating through the air.

The rhythms varied in pace, decibel and story, ranging from the jingles and upbeat taps to the drum performed in "Alou Kassa," initially meant to motivate farmers in the fields of the Guinean Highlands, to the swinging syncopation of "Jata," a series of modern cadences mimicking a lion's approach.

Biondo said he tried to incorporate new material into the class each semester but that he frequently brought back audience favorites such as "Favreau," first measuring the ability of students to play complicated progressions taught in the aural tradition.

"I switch people around at the beginning of class to see what they do best but they kind of gravitate toward what they want to play," Biondo said.

The performance of "Favreau," another modern rhythm produced by the Soungalo Coulibaly of Mali, received the most animated participation, with students slapping the drums next to them in unison and exchanging smiles and nods of encouragement.

"It's because of the breaks; it has more variety and the crowd likes it, so you feed off of the crowd," said Elide Flores, a senior psychology major and a seventh semester ensemble member.

Biondo said many of his students were new to the stage experience and that he had schooled them in the act of engaging audience participation.

"You don't want them to have that 'deer in the headlights' look, so I warn them and ease them into it," Biondo said.

"When you come out to perform, people are going to clap and I tell [students] they have to give something back, make eye contact; it's like a circle," he added.

Once the last beat of "Favreau" sounded, he easily switched gears, dawning a new shirt bearing the Kingsmen logo and a set of tenor drums before taking his place among a large group of drumming professionals.

The drum line was invited to perform with the ensemble to introduce students and audience members to a new sound, also celebrating the 35th anniversary of its first Drum Corps International Championship title, Biondo said.

Displaying fancy handiwork, as blue and white striped drum sticks were tossed into the air and made into additional instruments during short staccato versions of such well known rhythm parts as "George of the Jungle," the Kingsmen lent a large scale parade vibe to the event.

Biondo also said the stoic expressions on most of the men and women in the drum line were bred from concentration, showing the expertise wrought by more than 40 years of excellence.

"There was a mixed audience; some people come and don't think they're going to like one thing and end up liking it all," Biondo said in response to the large crowd that gathered, whether to see the drum line or the newest incarnation of the popular ensemble.

The different styles of drumming seemingly blended into and complimented one another, proving that various types of percussion can serve as more than behind-the-scenes instruments.

"I didn't think too highly of drumming before," said David Duong, a senior business administration major.

"I thought of drums as back-up instruments, but this performance changed my mind," he added.

Kady Bell can be reached at ***rzezna65@yahoo.com***.

Theater Review

Scandalous 'Rocky Horror' shocks ULV

Jillian Peña
Staff Writer

The Dailey Theatre was filled with an assortment of parents, students and visitors on Nov. 30 as the Chapman University cast of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" came to strut its stuff one last time in a performance that combined song, dance, comedy, drama and a lot of skin.

If you have never seen the movie, or a live production of "Rocky Horror," it is very difficult to guess what you are about to encounter.

This was the case for over half of the audience members, most of which were University of La Verne students, who found out about the performance through Campus Activities Board advertisements.

Before the production even started, most of the students began to second guess what they had gotten themselves into.

Two of the lovely ladies from the Vixen Cabaret came out into the audience and asked for those who had never seen the show live to raise their hands.

Once hands were raised, cast members walked around the audience with red lipstick, marking the foreheads of those with their hands stretched with a giant letter "V."

"Virgin, Virgin, Virgin!" was shouted by the cast, and then all with scarlet letters branded on their heads were asked to make their way to the stage.

"I had no idea what to expect," Cerina DeSouza, a sophomore communications major said.

"I'm just really glad that I didn't have to do the first thing," she added in reference to the cast giving out Big Stick Popsicles and then assigning virgins to eat the popsicles while other virgins held them by their private areas.

They played a few other similar games before the show actually began, and, because of this, they lost a few audience members.

"We left, and I was pissed." Jamie Mahoney, a senior communications major said. "You just don't do that to people."

After the virgins were sufficiently humiliated, the show began with a performance from the Vixen Cabaret.

The performance was similar to soft-core porn except for the fact that this was set to choreography.

With nothing but Xs of tape covering the performer's breasts, they simulated an orgy onstage while erotic videos were projected on the screen in the background.

Once again the performance lost a few audience members.

"I was unaware of the sexual nature of the pre-show and I was quite embarrassed," said Samantha Toia, CAB comedy chair and organizer of the event.

"If I would have known, I may have scheduled them just for the actual performance with out the pre-show," she added.

'I was unaware of the sexual nature of the pre-show and I was quite embarrassed. If I would have known, I may have scheduled them just for the actual performance without the pre-show.'
—Samantha Toia, CAB comedy chair

When the main attraction finally began the members of the audience that had stayed seemed to relax and settle into their seats.

The "Rocky Horror Picture Show" DVD was projected onto the screen and the cast acted along to it.

They mouthed the words with the characters from the movie, but what was most amazing was how accurate the cast was at imitating each movement and facial expression to match the movie.

Ivan VanMoran has directed and starred as Frankie in the show for the last four years.

He said it was something that he was extremely passionate about.

"Rocky Horror" is a story about exploring your sexuality in any way imaginable.

Through a series of twists and turns of comedic events, the beauty of accepting our sexual desires is expressed.

"I love doing it; it is creative and inspiring, but I especially love the fact that I can get away with anything in this outfit," VanMoran said as he pointed to his corset, fishnet stockings and five-inch high heels.

In collaboration with the Student Society of Entertainment Arts, VanMoran started the production when he was a freshman and now it has become a tradition at Chapman.

ULV's CAB decided to invite the cast to perform so that VanMoran and the cast could put all their hard work to use one last time.

The turn out of about 60 people at ULV was less than the cast was used to.

VanMoran said he hoped that Chapman would continue with the tradition of performing the show every year, possibly even returning to ULV.

"I hope we continue to do it; with Ivan leaving I want to help carry on the tradition," said Chapman freshman communications major Ana Roth, who played Magenta.

"Plus it was nice this year being able to come here and do it again," she added.

Jillian Peña can be reached at ***jpena2@ulv.edu***.

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The Bells' Toll on Rock 'n' Roll

All we want for Christmas



JESSICA & KADY BELL



"And you ask me what I want this year, and I try to make this kind and clear."
—John Rzeznik

With a few choruses of "Jingle Bell Rock," sips of spiced eggnog and a deep-bellied "Ho-ho-ho" between licks of a classic peppermint cane, good ol' Saint Nick will check his naughty and nice list twice before spreading yuletide cheer through holiday wishes fulfilled this season.

To aid Santie Dearest on his way, we have compiled an early list of our own; one complete with a sleigh full of musicians and stockings stuffed of good vibrations rather than toys.

This year, we are not asking for "empty love or designer things," hula hoops, 10 golden rings, partridges in pear trees, or even new sets of front teeth.

All we want for Christmas are a few musical miracles.

Santie, please work some of your jolly, cherry-cheeked magic on the rock 'n' roll scene, making these Bells ring.

Satisfy our appetites for destruction.

May the urban myth album known as "Chinese Democracy" see twinkling multi-hued light in 2007.

If Axl spent as much time in the studio as he does getting his hair "did," we would not have to make this hungry plea.

Nip the "sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll" cliché in the bud.

May singer-songwriters cease to credit their musical masterpieces to time spent smoking in the boys' room

Yes, John Mayer, we all know the muse behind "Continuum" was pot, your on-the-road pal, but don't worry, we love you still.

And if there is enough room for a Harper in that sled, please pick up Ben, dropping him in La Verne.

It would truly be a miracle on Third Street.

No worries, we'll drive him home, right after he pleases us like we want him to.

Let us shake our moneymakers again in August and every month after.

May all of our favorite crows, black and counting, release new material, touring the world for the low, low ticket price of $12.95 and banishing those pesky online fees.

Perhaps the Robinson pair could even reconnect under the mistletoe and Robert Plant could hand-deliver his new box set, stopping in for a little tea, Zeppelin talk and a few verses of "Tangerine."

> 'May singer-songwriters cease to credit their musical masterpieces to time spent smoking in the boys' room. Yes, John Mayer, we all know the muse behind "Continuum" was pot, your on-the-road pal, but don't worry, we love you still.'

Keep the "Music is Life" slogan alive.

May Tower Records stay in business, learning its lesson and charging reasonable album prices.

Yield a motive to exchange "Ten" style high-fives.

May grunge return for another bout of head-bangin' fun.

If Justin Timberlake can bring sexy back, then the holy bands of the 1990s could certainly lead a heavenly plaid revival.

And if possible, living a day without emo and forever with Arrow 93.1 would be the ultimate ear-saving gift.

Please Santie, when Uncle Joe played classic rock, it really rocked.

If only Jim Ladd and free form radio could overthrow Clear Channel and other conglomerates, banning play lists and making the airwaves listenable once again.

Start an unforgettable political fire.

May Bono kick Bush off the presidential chair, ruling the United States on a maxim of peace, love and rock 'n' roll.

His inaugural address would definitely be memorable.

If only Freddie Mercury could rise from his rock star slumber, leading Queen into musical ecstasy for one last night in honor of longtime fans and friends.

While we are at it, may John Bonham, Layne Staley, Jeff Buckley, the entire "forever 27" crew and all other gone-too-soon musicians chant hallelujahs in the church of rock 'n' roll once again.

Give us something to believe in.

May retro mosey out of the rock world, welcoming hair bands in from the cold and ensuring a glam resurgence.

Poison, armed with Aquanet and spandex o'plenty, could headline the way.

Hey, we're sticklers for Bret Michaels and Sebastian Bach could use a better gig than "Gilmore Girls."

If only Ryan Adams could prove to be the most prolific songwriter of all time and release another five albums, we would be very merry.

Ensure black magic rambles on.

May Led Zeppelin finally take its rightful place at the top of a "best album" count, beating the Beatles in the classic war of song.

Robert Plant would hammer Paul McCartney in a vocal contest any day – and that's the way it ought to stay.

And if only "Rolling Stone" would return to its glory days, outlawing unworthy musical genres from its critical pages and saluting only those about to rock.

We promise not to cry or pout, to be good simply for the sake of goodness and to share these musical tidings, ensuring better days.

So Santie, "take these words and sing out loud:" may 2007 mark the year the rockin' world begins again.

Or goes 'round, shall Queen reunite.

Jessica Bell, a senior communications major, is web editor of the Campus Times. She can be reached by e-mail at ***ledjessilin@yahoo.com****.*

Kady Bell, a senior communications major, is arts editor of the Campus Times. She can be reached by e-mail at ***rzezna65@yahoo.com****.*

ULV plans...

Continued from page 1

Tennis Pavilion;

• Demolishing the Old Gym to provide room for the Sarah and Michael Abraham Campus Center and approximately 30 parking spaces;

Students welcome the plans but also have some concerns.

"If anything, I look forward to not wasting so much time looking for a parking spot, as long as they don't increase the cost of tuition dramatically," said Robert Patton, a sophomore international business and language major who commutes from Glendora.

"The tennis court right now is in horrible condition," said David Duong, a senior business administration major and president of the campus tennis club.

"There are cracks in the court surface, the nets are torn and there are no lights, and if they're going to build new facilities, we'll have better courts to play but we have to drive there," he added.

Other proposed changes could impact the community as much as the students.

They include demolishing the campus bookstore on the northwest corner of Bonita Avenue and D Street to build a two-to-three-story multi-purpose commercial building that will serve ULV administrative functions and create space that the community can lease as shops and offices, and creating a three-story parking structure on the southeast corner of Bonita Avenue and C Street to serve the multi-purpose commercial building.

Many residents feel the expansion may jeopardize La Verne's history and Old Town's quaint ambiance.

"A three-story parking structure is going to be a zoo," said Adrian Quintero, a 14-year La Verne resident.

"It won't blend with our stores," said Barbara Allison, an employee at Ellsworth's Stationers.

"You gotta keep the Old Town charm because the public doesn't want to come down to see the mixed-use building," said Abel Gandara, owner of Get a Haircut salon on Third Street, just east of D in Old Town.

"But we need the parking plan," Gandara added.

Other people in the community see the proposal as an opportunity.

"This area needs more business because there isn't enough to attract people," said Don Hauser, owner of the Coin Depot on D Street in Old Town.

"It's a must. We've been crying for the city to do something about parking for 15 years," said Philippe Sigal, owner of Sigal Diamonds, also on D Street in Old Town.

"I think it must be negative as far as the feel of the downtown area goes, but that's not a sufficient reason to hold back business and college expansion," said Daniel Nevills, a 15-year La Verne resident.

> 'I think it must be negative as far as the feel of the downtown area goes but that's not a sufficient reason to hold back business and college expansion.'
> *—Daniel Nevills, a 15-year La Verne resident*

Unlike the rest of the proposals, the Bonita Avenue mixed-use development is only in its infant stage of planning and will take considerable additional public review even if the Campus Master Plan gets approved by the city, said Hal Fredericksen, La Verne community development director.

"The expansion plan is necessary to accommodate the administration and educational needs of the University as it continues to grow and develop," said University of La Verne President Stephen Morgan.

He predicts an increase in enrollment in the next 10 to 15 years.

Not all the new construction proposals would obliterate historic campus buildings.

In fact construction plans propose to preserve and reconstruct the historic Hanawalt House, which burned down in December 2004.

In addition to the Campus Master Plan, the University must also present its Environmental Impact Report as part of the expansion proposal.

This is required by California's Environmental Quality Act, which outlines the construction impact.

The Campus Master Plan was unveiled to the public for the first time earlier last month in a hearing before the City Planning Commission.

The University will present further research of the Campus Master Plan proposal at the extended public hearing before the Planning Commission at City Hall on Jan. 3.

Afterward the Planning Commission's recommendations to the expansion plan may be considered for official decision by the City Council as early as Jan. 16.

If approved, the University plans to begin the project with the construction of the Abraham Campus Center in November 2007.

Len Ly can be reached at ***lly@ulv.edu****.*

Leopards drop 3rd straight

Point Loma beats ULV, 101-54

Jason Jarvis
Staff Writer

The La Verne men's basketball team lost its third consecutive game Wednesday with a 101-54 loss to Point Loma Nazarene.

The loss drops the teams overall record to 1-5 on the young season as they lost to La Sierra on Nov. 29 and West Coast Baptist on Nov. 30.

"I think we're underachieving and not executing when we need to," sophomore guard Jake Garcia said.

After a long trip to San Diego, nothing seemed to go right for the Leopards. Point Loma jumped out to a 57-29 halftime lead and proved to be too much for the Leopards as they shot 17 of 30 from behind the three-point line.

The contest against West Coast Baptist was a close one as the Leopards would fall 81-79.

Senior guard Tyrone Marshall led the way for the Leopards with 17 points and junior forward Robert Hughes also chipped in with 15 points of his own.

Junior center George Federovtsev had a double-double with 11 points and 13 rebounds.

The 66-60 loss to La Sierra on Nov. 29 was definitely misleading.

The Leopards were ahead for most of the game, including a halftime lead of 33-31.

However it would be a tale of two halves, as the second half would be a totally different game.

After shooting almost 54 percent in the first half, that number would drop to 31 percent in the second half.

La Verne would lead by as many as eight points with a score of 43-35. In the second half, La Sierra would make a run of their own.

With the score tied at 56, the Golden Eagles would outscore La Verne 10-4 the rest of the way. Despite a late three-pointer by junior forward Drew Terry to pull the Leopards within three, La Sierra would hold on to get the win.

"They definitely have a lot of talent," ULV alumnus Matt Hatch said. "I think they'll be able to turn it around."

The trio of Terry, Federovtsev and Marshall would again lead the way for the Leopards.

Terry led La Verne with 13 points on the night as Federovtsev had 12 points to go along with his six rebounds.



Kelly Rivas

Leon Flaherty, a forward from La Sierra, fails to make the shot, thanks to the efforts of guard Tyrone Marshall from La Verne. The ball was rebounded by the Leopards' forward Drew Terry.

La Verne ended the first half, 33-31, against the Golden Eagles but allowed the Eagles to swoop in and take the game, 66-60, Nov. 29 in the Frantz Athletic Pavilion.

Marshall ended up one point shy of a double-double with nine points and 10 rebounds.

Junior forward Ryan White led La Sierra with a game high 23 points as he also grabbed seven rebounds.

The win improved the Golden Eagle's record to 2-3 on the season.

"This was the first time this season I thought we played well as a team," La Sierra head coach Joel Haldeman said. "I think [La Verne] will be very good, they just have a lot of new players."

The good news for the Leopards is that their next eight games will all be held at home, including the first three games of the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference season.

The conference opener for the Leopards will be Jan. 10.

Jason Jarvis can be reached at ***jjarvis643@yahoo.com.***

Leos sink Poets, 128-101

Kevin Zeni
Staff Writer

While the La Verne men and women's swim teams have not been able to rack up a meet win in their first two match ups against Biola and Occidental, all they needed was a trip to Whittier to turn things around.

With the women narrowly winning 94-88 and the men trouncing the Poets, 128-101.

Both teams improved to 1-2 overall and 1-1 in Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference play.

This was the first year the Poets have been able to put together a women's team.

"Last year all we had to do was swim one race and we had already won the meet," sophomore Kristina Miller said after the meet with Occidental.

Leopards sophomore Gerald Bolson broke the ULV record in the 50-yard freestyle with a 21.12 second mark, breaking the previous record by more than half a second.

Bolson also won the 100-yard freestyle and senior captain Casey Heinen won the 500-yard freestyle and the 100-yard butterfly.

Sophomore Chad Loury and senior Mike Anello were the only competitors in the diving events, finishing one and two respectively.

On the women's side, freshman Kelli Nottingham won both the 50- and 100-yard freestyle with freshman Megan Moore taking the 1,000-yard freestyle and junior Laura Larsen winning the 200-yard freestyle.

"They've been one of the weakest teams," head coach John Hallman said.

"A few months ago their water polo coach took over the team and they've been more competitive but it should be the opposite of [the meet against Occidental]," he added.

For the most part it was quite the opposite.

Where the Whittier meet went smoothly and ended up with a win, the Occidental meet had some unplanned mishaps and ended in a ULV loss.

There was a delay of approximately 25 minutes due to the absence of one of the officials.

After the delay, Hallman and Tigers coach Peggy Carl agreed to start the match with fill-in officials from the crowd until the missing official showed up for the women's 200-yard freestyle.

The women of ULV won the first race of the meet, the 4x100-

Continued on page 19

Ferrara pitches fresh ideas for LV

New head coach takes the field

Morgan Dobis
Staff Writer

After a 20-year love of the game, becoming a Division I all-star and assistant coaching for years, Anna Ferrara was presented with a opportunity that every retired athlete dreams of: a head coaching position.

"I knew I had to step-up as a head coach rather than a brand new face," Ferrara said. "I was really sad to see Robin go and I didn't really know what was going to happen but I knew it would be difficult for the girls to start brand new."

Ferrara grew up in Diamond Bar.

She began playing softball at age 6, not because her father loved baseball but because her mother liked softball and thought her girls should give it a try.

She attended Diamond Bar High School where she played on the varsity softball team for four years.

Ferrara bounced around the infield in various positions but perfected her left-handed slap hitting, earning All-California Interscholastic Federation honors twice.

She was also a four time All-Sierra League and three time All-Valley selection.

After all the success she had in high school, she received a full ride to Ohio State University.

"At Ohio State we really had a sense of family within the team, but just the team," Ferrara said. "Here it is different."

"The community is smaller and there is a sense of family within the team and within the community. I really enjoy that," she added.

Ferrara made her mark with the Buckeyes as an outfielder and displayed her speed, setting a school single-season record in 2002 with 40 stolen bases.

She ended 2002, her senior year, with a batting average of .507 with 105 hits, which were also Ohio State single-season records.

Ferrara was also honored with First Team All-American the first player awarded this honor for OSU.

Ferrara's other collegiate accomplishments were achieving First Team All-Great Lakes Region, First Team All-Big Ten, OSU Most Valuable Player and OSU Most Valuable Offensive Player.

"Her knowledge and experience of the game will play a big role in her coaching," said senior second baseman Suzanne Riker.

"She is always coming up with good strategy by picking up on the other teams' strengths and weaknesses," Riker added.

In 2002, Ferrara graduated from Ohio State with a bachelor's degree in human ecology.

As soon as she graduated, she was back in California.

She got a job at surfing apparel manufacturer Quicksilver, Inc.

Ferrara worked there for a year and a half until she realized it was not making her happy and she needed a change.

"It was hard to be in an office all day," Ferrara said. "I was still giving private softball lessons and was really missing softball so I decided to go back to school for my master's."

When Ferrara left Quicksilver, she began assistant coaching at Diamond Bar High School.

She had a friend who was assistant coach for the women's soccer team at the University of La Verne who kept encouraging her to call the softball coaching staff.

Ferrara called but the plan fell through because they didn't need help at that time.

In 2004, the ULV softball team lost its assistant coach and Ferrara happened to call once again.

She was pleased to hear that head coach Robin Haaker-Durant had an assistant coaching position open.

"I am really excited about this year, Anna is really organized and on top of things," said sophomore Kelly Ince.

"She is really helping us to unite more as a team and she is dedicated to our success," Ince added.

Ferrara's assistant will be an alumna of the La Verne softball team, Kelley Silagyi.

Silagyi is an accomplished softball player earning Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference player of the year in 2004 and 2006 along with All-American honors.

She also set La Verne records for career home runs, with 37, and single-season slugging percentage, with .947.

"I think as a head coach, Anna will do very well," Silagyi said. "She brings a lot of knowledge from a Division I team and now that she has more control, she can implement all the ideas she already had as an assistant."

The duo of Ferrara and Silagyi hope to continue the traditions of La Verne softball while trying out some new ideas.

"As a coach, I just want the girls to have fun while working hard and enjoy their time on the field, because for most college softball players this is the end of their softball journey," Ferrara said.

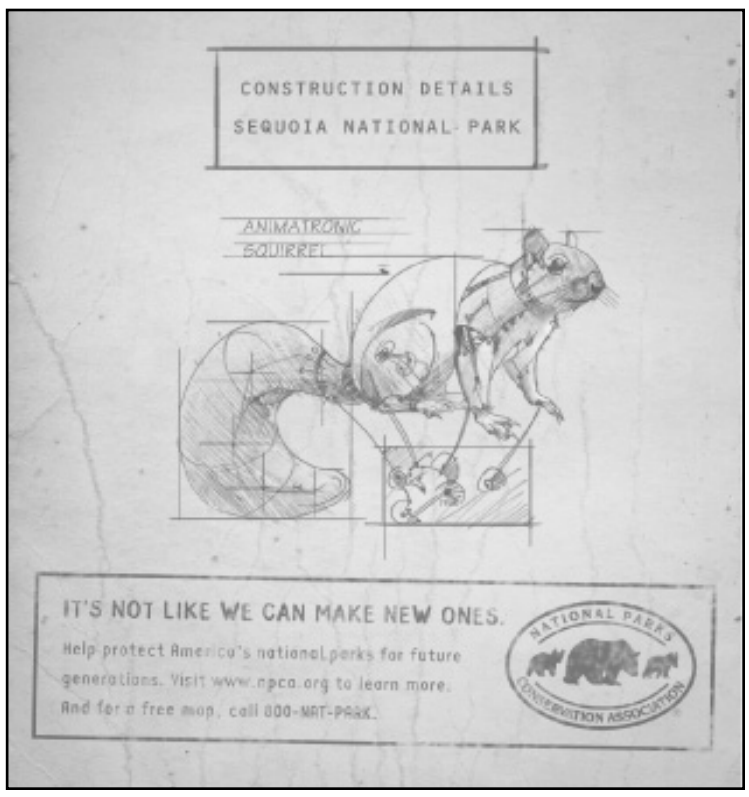
Morgan Dobis can be reached at ***m.dobis15@yahoo.com.***

> 'As a coach, I just want the girls to have fun while working hard and enjoying their time on the field, because for most college softball players this is the end of their softball journey.'
> *—Anna Ferrara, softball head coach*



Rhiannon Mim

After serving two years as an assistant coach, Anna Ferrara was promoted to head coach of the La Verne softball program. During her years as assistant coach, the team had 60 wins and a record of 32-12. A graduate of Ohio State University, Ferrara holds several Ohio State softball records, including single season batting average (.507). Ferrara is planning to graduate from ULV in May 2007 with a master's degree in educational counseling.



Teams finish season at Regionals

Freshmen women place well

Morgan Dobis
Staff Writer

The National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III West Regional Final was the end of the season for both the La Verne men's and women's cross country teams.

Each team in the West Regional came with their top five runners.

The top five women from the La Verne competing were Jacqueline Steele, Amanda Siebert, Bridgette Mitchell, Rachelle Hacmac and Stephanie Fuentes.

Steele and Siebert were the top runners for the Leopards on the women's side.

Steele placed 69th with a time of 25:30.93 and Siebert followed in 70th place with a time of 25:33.93.

"Our top five girls were all freshman that was by far the youngest team," head coach Josh Nordell said. "If we keep developing we are going to be really sound."

The winner Sarah Zerzan of the women's race was from Willamette whose team took the West Regional final.

She won the 6-kilometer course with a time of 21:45.68 despite the fact that she had a cold.

Even though Steele felt she could have done better she was happy with what the team had done.

"We all ran really well and improved over the season," Steele said.

Experience is what has been gained from an improving season by the women's cross-country team.

"We are excited that we all learned together how it all works in college competitions," Steele said.

The women's team is young but after improving from placing last the year before to sixth place in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference they are optimistic about next season.

"As a team we want to keep improving," Steele said. "Hopefully we will get some new recruits that will make our team stronger."

Steele along with the majority of the cross-country team took a week off but now plan to begin training for track and field, which picks up in January.

Efrain Partida, Jacob Delgado, Quentin Haggard and Michael Cordova ran as individuals for ULV on the men's side.

On the men's side the race was won by Julian Boggs from Colorado College, finishing the 8-kilometer course with a time of 24:32.60.

Partida is a senior and was the top finisher for La Verne, finishing 52nd with a time of 27:04.50.

"That was probably the worst race of my season," Partida said. "Jacob had an awesome race and ran for a personal best."

Partida said that many things had attributed to how he did in the race but overall his body was tired from running since May.

Junior Delgado came in 68th with a time of 27:33.20, his own personal best.

"This is definitely exactly what he needed," Partida said. "This is his junior year and a personal best will motivate him for track and next season for cross-country."

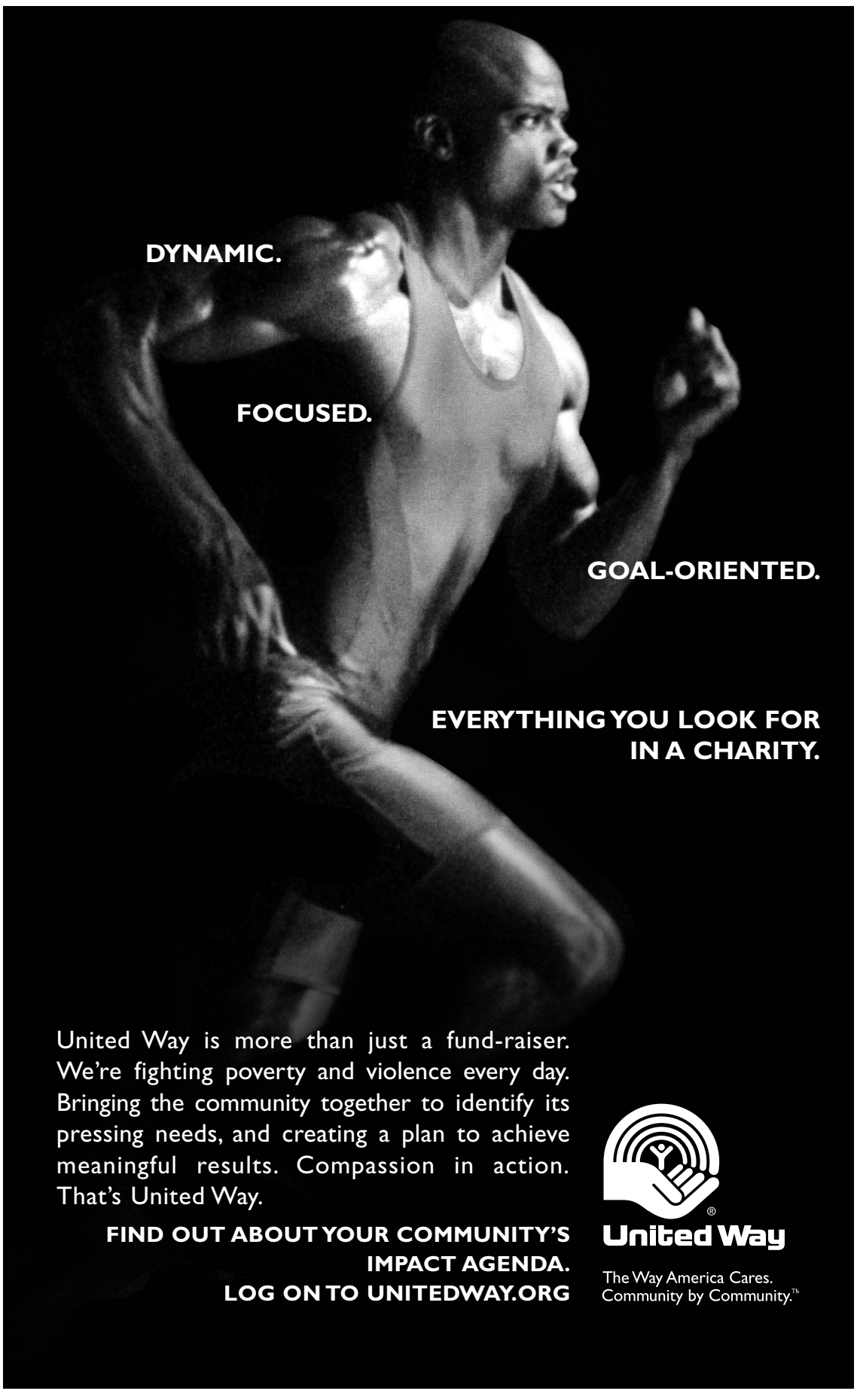
Partida will graduate this year but still plans to come back and train with the team to hopefully run in some of the open meets for cross-country.

Partida feels that the La Verne cross-country team and running has taught him life lessons.

"One of the biggest things is perseverance," Partida said. "Just staying in there and working with what you've got."

Morgan Dobis can be reached at ***m.dobis15@yahoo.com.***

> 'One of the biggest things is perseverance, just staying in there and working with what you've got.'
> *—Efrain Partida, senior runner*



Swim...

Continued from page 17

yard medley relay, with a time of 2:00.63.

But they were unable to keep the momentum going.

The University of La Verne lost the meet by a whopping 141-78.

The men fared slightly better, losing 130-111, however they were only down by three points before the diving events were factored in.

"Oxy's come up real big," Hallman said. "I thought we had an outside shot of winning in the beginning of the meet, but we would've had to stay on our A game and we couldn't."

Hallman sees the effort his teams are exerting and he is watching carefully for chances to improve before the meets to come.

"I think we swam really well. It really came down to five touch outs. We were on the bad side of four and the good side of one," Hallman said.

Heinen accounted for most of the wins for the men's team.

He won the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:03.45, the 1,000-yard freestyle with a time of 10:39.93, and the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:09.18.

Heinen understands the importance of practice, even during the team's occasional breaks.

"When I'm not in season I swim on a club team near my home in Paso Robles," Heinen said. "I train with them, so when it's time for the season here, I'm ready to go."

Both the men and women's 100-yard freestyle races were unofficial due to a clock error.

But even the clock error couldn't stop the women of ULV from winning some other sprint races.

Freshman Mahina Melli Reyes won the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:15.23.

Reyes also won the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 0:56.91.

Moore won the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:07.55.

Although the teams continue to do well, there are some down falls to having smaller teams than other schools.

"We have a lot of good swimmers," sophomore swimmer Krintina Miller said. "We just don't have a lot of bodies."

"We have a lot more guys than women so we weren't able to get as many points," Miller added.

The Leopards' next meet will be the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Winter Vegas Invite Dec. 16-18 in Las Vegas.

Kevin Zeni can be reached at ***kzeni@ulv.edu.***

> 'We have a lot of good swimmers. We just don't have a lot of bodies. We have a lot more guys than women so we weren't able to get as many points.'
> *—Kristina Miller, sophomore swimmer*

Women fall to Chapman



Rhiannon Mim

The La Verne women's basketball team started the season strong with a three-game winning streak, which ended against Chapman Nov. 27. The Panthers overpowered the Leopards, 83-66, and scored 47 points by the end of the first period. La Verne guard Lindsey Shiomi passes the ball around Chapman's guard Linda Ly to fellow guard Marissa Raya, who scored 22 points with five rebounds in the game. The team travels to La Sierra at 1:30 p.m. today.

Lighting...

Continued from page 3

the best, they do a great job. It really makes it feel like Christmas," he added.

The local Cub Scouts troop 413 performed the Pledge of Allegiance to start the council meeting before heading outside to talk with Santa.

"This is our second year here," La Verne resident Keith McHugh said. "My favorite part was the Cub Scouts doing the pledge of allegiance, but I think [my son] Eric has something else to say."

"My favorite part was Santa," Eric said. "He gave me a bear and a candy cane and I told him I want a [Star Wars] Imperial Cruiser."

All the parents in attendance thought it was great to be able to have their kids spend time with Santa.

"We've lived in La Verne for 20 years and this is our first time coming here," resident Isabelle Gonzalez said. "We loved it."

Her children Vanessa, 3, Travis, 5, and Dominique, 12, also enjoyed the tree lighting, singing and Santa.

"We've been showing up to this event for 14 or 15 years now," Santa said. "We also do charities, Casa Colina and several churches, but we really enjoy appearing at the Foothill Family Center twice a year for Christmas and 'Christmas in July.' They have a great program there every year."

As far as hot gifts children are asking for, Mr. and Mrs. Claus mentioned the boys are going more high-tech whereas the girls are staying traditional.

"The Nintendo Wii is a hot commodity," the Clauses said. "For the girls, though, they always ask for dolls or a real live puppy."

Kevin Zeni can be reached at ***kzeni@ulv.edu.***

'We've lived in La Verne for 20 years and this is our first time coming here. We loved it.'
—Isabelle Gonzalez, La Verne resident

Expo...

Continued from page 12

Casino-related games were offered for those with a passion for gambling.

"There's such a variety of fun," said Camille Attell, who posed as Frex Par the yuletide elf.

"We just keep giving away and entertaining the public," she added.

Toys for Tots had a booth as well.

This offered visitors the opportunity to not only donate toys to families of Marine soldiers but to stock up on Christmas gifts, which were offered at the booth as well.

Proceeds from the gift purchases went to the children of Marines.

"They could either take it home or they could drop it into these beautiful Marine Corp. boxes," said LaReina Whatley, a Toys for Tots representative.

"Last year we helped out 49,000 kids, this year we have to top that," she added.

Proceeds from the expo go to charities to help children in poverty around the world.

Now that Life Entertainment Inc. got its feet wet, it plans to eventually expand the expo in the future.

'I'd like to see it as a mini version of the Los Angeles County Fair with fun rides and real snow and an ice skating rink.'
—James Lafave, event producer

"I'd like to see it as a mini version of the Los Angeles County Fair with fun rides and real snow and an ice skating rink," Lafave said.

For more information on the Winter Sports Expo visit **www.northpolesnow.com**.

For more information on Toys for Tots, call (800) 796-5341.

Yelena Ovcharenko can be reached at ***yovcharenko@ulv.edu.***

LEOPARD SCOREBOARD

AT THE BUZZER

Women's Basketball, Nov. 27
Chapman–83
La Verne–66

Men's Basketball, Dec. 6
Point Loma Nazarene–101
La Verne–54

SCHEDULE

Today
Women's Basketball @ La Sierra, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday
Men's Basketball vs. Chapman @ La Verne, 7 p.m.

DID YOU KNOW?

The record for the longest touchdown return on a missed field goal was 108 yards and is held by two Chicago Bears players – Nathan Vasher (who did it on Nov. 13, 2005) and Devin Hester (who did it Nov. 12, 2006).