CAMPUS TIMES

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New provost sets ambitious goals

Madison Steff
Staff Writer

After the difficult task of driving a 10-foot truck from Northern to Southern California with enough belongings to furnish his new apartment, Alden Reimonenq was ready to begin work at the University of La Verne as the new provost and vice president of academic affairs.

His first day at La Verne was Thursday and he is looking forward to getting to know everyone on campus.

"He is a very capable person with excellent experience," ULV President Steve Morgan said.

Reimonenq is joining the University from Cal State East Bay, where he was the dean of the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences.

With a little work, he believes that the University can meet National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business accreditation.

Reimonenq, 52, was born and raised in New Orleans in a large, poor, Catholic family with four brothers and one sister.

"I always remember being very happy as long as I could keep my head in a book," Reimonenq said.

Reimonenq received his undergraduate degree in English from the University of New Orleans. He was the first college graduate in his extended family for many years.

He received his master's degree and Ph.D. in English from Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind.

> 'I believe that self-education is as important as formal classroom instruction. I also believe that the mark of educated people is that they have learned how to learn. I will never stop learning'
> *—Alden Reimonenq, provost*

He also served as chief of staff to the president and as executive assistant to the provost at Cal State Northridge.

Prior to that Reimonenq served for 17 years on the faculty at St. Mary's college in Moraga, where he twice held the position of English department chairman.

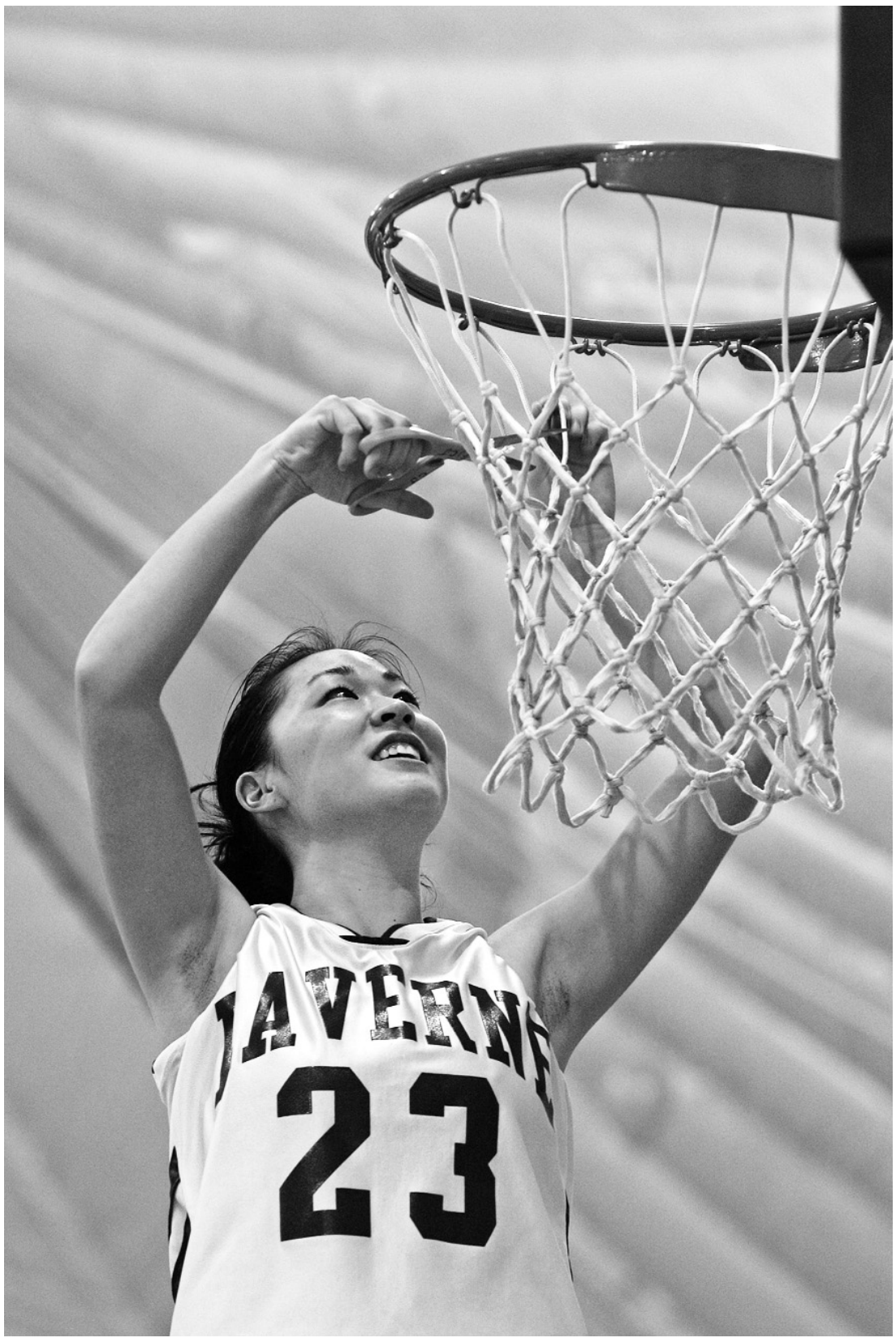
What attracted Reimonenq to La Verne, he said, is that it is a thriving institution with a newly accredited law school.

"I believe that self-education is as important as formal classroom instruction," Reimonenq said. "I also believe that the mark of educated people is that they have learned how to learn. I will never stop learning."

Many of the challenges in the University's Strategic Plan appeal to Reimonenq. Among those are hiring and retaining new faculty, and working on academic excellence in the

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We are the champions



Rhiannon Mim

The University of La Verne earned its third women's basketball SCIAC conference championship with an overall record of 19-6. Junior point guard Lindsey Shiomi set the ULV single-game record as well as the first record in SCIAC for connecting eight three-point attempts in the final game against Pomona Pitzer. **See story on page 9.**

The Path to India, Part 2

Finding cultural differences from the East to the West

Editor's note: This is the second of a three-part series inspired by Hillier's trip to India during January interterm.

Katherine Hillier
Managing Editor

It is possible to have your world outlook changed in a matter of moments. It is possible to shatter your stereotypical views in a matter of seconds. It is possible to have your life changed in an instant, and on my recent trip to the West Bengal region of India; I experienced this type of inner transformation.

Without trying, and without knowing how it happened, I came back from this trip realizing how much I lacked in cultural knowledge and understanding of other countries and religions.

As Americans we pride ourselves on our pluralistic society where people from many different backgrounds can coexist in a progressive and modern environment.

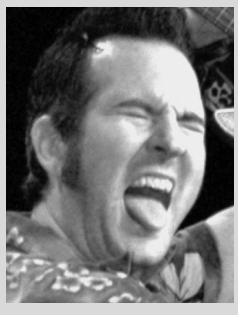
This, however cultured as it may sound, does not give Americans too much grounding when it comes to other countries. This is because as Americans we are used to experiencing a myriad of different cultures and celebrations. We don't have just one, we have many. And, in America, our diversity is one thing that makes us stand-out.

One incident in particular during our trip highlighted this cultural difference. During an evening bonfire gathering in the Himalayan city of Kalimpong, we were pleasantly surprised when the Indian men, who had driven us up the winding road into this town, pleasantly sang us a traditional song. It was moving to see such an open form of kindness from people we had just met. Later they asked us to sing them a traditional American song. We crouched around each other in a circle and soon realized that, other than famous pop songs or "Take me out to the ballgame," we couldn't think of a traditional American song to sing. The moments past and we finally decided on that classic song that we all love to sing at the opening of a Dodgers game, however we all felt a little shaken to realize that our culture was so diverse that there was no American song that we could sing that wasn't an anthem or pop song.

This realization was just one among many, that opened our

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Admissions dean has know-how

Krzak hopes to increase enrollment

Mercedes Bermudez
Staff Writer

The University of La Verne has a new dean of admissions.

With Chris Krzak's arrival, the admissions department has a leader with a new vision.

Krzak said he hopes to improve the profile of the incoming students.

Krzak brings with him 20 years of experience.

He previously was the director of enrollment management for six years at the California State Maritime Academy in Vallejo, and he spent 14 years at the University of San Francisco.

"We were looking for an experienced admissions person," said Homa Shabahang, vice president of enrollment management and professor of economics here.

The search for a new dean of admissions started last April.

The university worked closely with executive search consultant Elaine Turner.

The nationwide search had approximately 16 candidates.

Krzak and two others were interviewed in the fall and Krzak was hired ed on Dec. 11.

While touring the University, Krzak made a point of talking to students, professors and coaches, Shabahang said.

"I was looking for a new university, specifically private because it is a comprehensive university, more flexibility, and private universities take better care of their students," Krzak said.

Krzak hopes to increase enrollment at the University, which is something he accomplished at both of his previous schools.

Krzak's job as dean of admissions involves running the office of admissions and managing the recruitment and admissions process for traditional, adult, masters and doctoral degree students on both the main and regional campuses.

Krzak is also involved with the College Board and National Association for College Admissions Officers.

"I am very pleased to have Chris join us," said Steve Lesniak, dean of Regional Campus Administration.

"He brings with him a lot of experience both in private and public schools that could be very helpful for our University."

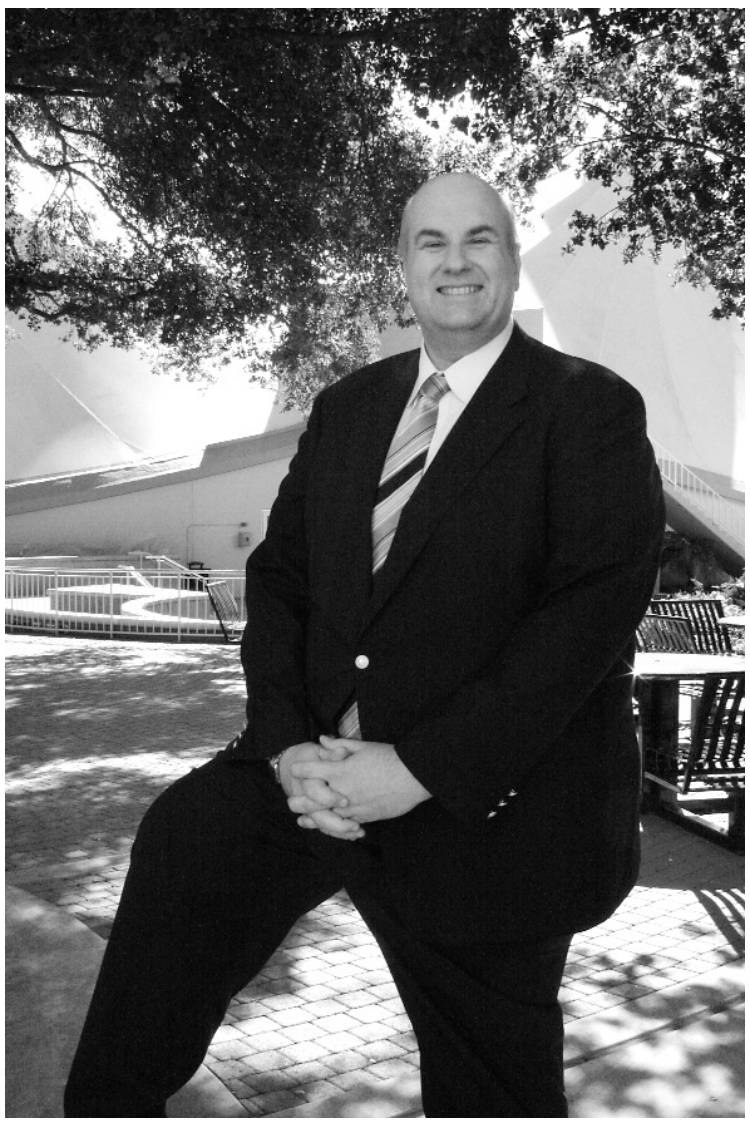
Krzak and Lesniak are both on the Senior Management for Enrollment committee and work closely together.

Krzak is already trying to make changes to the University Web site so it is easier for potential students to get information, Lesniak said.

"We made a wonderful choice because of his outstanding qualifications, wealth of experience and personality," said Carrie Lewis, assistant dean for advising and retention. "Chris will bring so much to the University because of his skills in enrollment and enrollment management," Lewis added.

Mercedes Bermudez can be reached at ***mbermudez@ulv.edu***.

'We made a wonderful choice because of his outstanding qualifications, wealth of experience and personality,'
—Carrie Lewis, assistant dean for advising and retention



Seanette Garcia

After an extensive search, Chris Krzak was hired as the dean of undergraduate admissions. Previously the director of enrollment management for six years at the California State Maritime Academy in Vallejo, Krzak was also employed for 14 years at the University of San Francisco.

Provost...

Continued from page 1

regional campuses.

He said he is also intrigued by the plan's revision of the general education program as well as its emphasis on diversity and multiculturalism as critical parts of the University's mission.

And he said he looks forward to helping to change the culture of the University to one that is teaching intensive, research driven and technologically progressive.

"Finally, the University of La Verne is attractive to me because of the kind of student you teach here: first generation, 50 percent from minority groups, working-class, adult students," Reimonenq said.

While at La Verne, Reimonenq plans to renew already established academic programs and to create new ones as well.

He said he hopes to hear the voices and opinions of others as he takes the University of La Verne to its next level of academic excellence.

"I hope to work hard to make Academic Affairs, as a division within the University, the best it can be in service to our students," Reimonenq said.

"He is a true academic administrator," said Fred Yaffe, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and professor of psychology said.

Along with being a profound scholar, Reimonenq belongs to the National Council of Deans of Arts and Letters, the American Council of Education and the San Francisco East Bay writing group.

Reimonenq is also an accomplished poet.

His works are collected in "Hoodoo Headrag," published by Windstorm Creative.

Madison Steff can be reached at ***msteff@ulv.edu***.



Kelly Rivas

Alden Reimonenq, the University of La Verne's new provost and vice president of academic affairs, comes to ULV after many years at various Northern California schools.

NEWS BRIEFS

Attention Graduates

Spring 2007 and winter 2008 graduates are invited to the 12th Annual Graduation Fair.

The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 10, in Sneaky Park.

For more information contact the Office of Commencement Services at (909) 593-3511 ext. 4765.

Passover Seder at ULV

Come to the Passover Seder commemorating the Jewish exodus from Egypt.

This event will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 28, in the President's Dining Room.

For more information contact Don Pollock at (909) 593-3511, ext. 4277, or Debbie Roberts at robertsd@ulv.edu.

Engendering Diversity and Community

The University of La Verne is hosting the Engendering Diversity and Community conference March 21 to 23.

This year's Fasnacht lecturer and keynote speaker is Nontombi Naomi Tutu. Her experiences of growing up in South Africa inspired her to become an activist for human rights.

Catch Tutu's lecture "By Our Fruits We are Known: Religion and Activism" on March 21 in Founders Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

—Alexandra Lozano

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 Feb. 28, 2007

•Supermarkets revisit contract controversy

Three Southern California grocery store union contracts expire Monday but a date for contract renewals has not yet been set.

Posted Feb. 26, 2007

•Exhibit captures 'Wild Things' of nature

Progress Space Gallery in Pomona showcased 'Wild Things,' an exhibit with something for everyone, from Jan. 6 to Feb. 25.

Davenport dumping trans fat oils

Move part of national trend

Sher Porter
Staff Writer

Sodexho Campus Services has recently adopted a policy requiring all of its dining services to use trans fat-fee oils.

Davenport already uses mostly trans fat-free oils, except in frying.

At the moment, olive oil and canola oil are used for cooking and creamy liquid fry shortening is used for frying.

According to Davenport's new executive chef, Justin McGruder, the switch to trans fat-free oil for frying will happen next week.

Consumer and health concerns prompted the switch.

"I think it's good because people shouldn't constantly eat processed foods because there's no nutritional value in it," said sophomore psychology major Annie Parker.

Freshman international business major Nataly Escobar said that she will probably have to adjust to the change in flavor.

Trans fatty acid is a saturated fat formed when hydrogen atoms are added to vegetable oils to produce margarine.

These fatty acids can be found in margarine and cooking fats, and are considered unhealthy because they raise cholesterol levels.

McGruder suggested that prices could increase because healthier foods generally cost more.

"The fatter, greasier stuff sells," sophomore Brianna Gonzales said.

"They might suffer a little bit."

Customer reaction will become clearer once the change takes place.

Although the reaction is still unknown, Aaron Neilson, general manager of Sodexho Campus Services and McGruder are hoping that the students will appreciate that they are trying to prepare healthier food.

"Taste isn't everything," Parker said.

"Just because something tastes good doesn't mean it's good for you."

"The next step is healthy eating," McGruder said.

The Sodexho policy comes on the heels of a New York City measure that will require the elimination of artificial trans-fatty acids from restaurant kitchens by July 2008.

New York City is being made the example city by being the first city to require restaurants to make the food healthier.

Taco Bell, McDonald's and KFC are among the chains already working on eliminating trans fat oils from their restaurants nationwide.

The first city to actually ban the use of trans fat oils was Tiburon in the San Francisco Bay Area.



Emmah Obradovich

Starting next week the kitchen in Davenport will stop using oils containing trans fats for frying. Davenport already uses olive and canola oils for cooking or French fries and fried foods, however, hydrogenated or transfatty oils are still used. Trans fats raise LDL cholesterol and lower HDL cholesterol. Using unsaturated fats can lower rates of heart attacks and strokes

Eighteen restaurants in the city are using the trans fat-free oils such as canola oil and low linolenic soybean oil.

"I think that sounds good," said sophomore Brianna Gonzales. "I don't think fast food is the healthiest choice to begin with."

"It's good because they are trying to make it a healthier resource," Escobar said.

However, not everyone approves of the ban. Freshman Kim Rampaul believes that the ban is unnecessary.

"I guess it's really bad for you and I understand that, but they shouldn't ban it," Rampaul said.

He believes that the ban will cause people to be more afraid of eating fast food than they should to be.

Rampaul does not like the studies that tell people what they should and should not be afraid of.

"Soon, they're going to come up with studies that everything is bad for you in some kind of way," he added.

Neilson is not sure of how healthy the hydrogenated oils are.

He says there is a possibility that health risks may arise because the body is not used to eating hydrogenated oils.

Most restaurants participating in the ban will have the trans-fatty acid free products available sometime this spring.

Luckily, students at this University will start seeing healthier options very soon.

Sher Porter can be reached at ***sporter4@ulv.edu***.

Armed with science to fight climate change

Ginny Ceballos
Staff Writer

Most 4-year-olds' interests lie in toys, cartoons and cookies.

However, Melvin Miles, research electrochemist, was curious about the moon, stars and electricity.

"I tried to generate electricity at about age 4 by using baling wire, a light bulb, and stolen matches, and received one of my early spankings," Miles said.

At age 8, he became hooked on chemistry when he experimented with his dad's chemicals in the family barn.

He began reading his father's books to learn about chemistry.

Miles went on to earn his Ph.D. at the University of Utah with a major in physical chemistry and a minor in physics. He wanted to become a scientist.

Now at age 70, Miles begins his day with a five mile run. He then researches thermal batteries at the China Lake Navy laboratory.

As time permits, he works on his cold fusion project to get ready for new experiments.

Miles' research is mostly restricted to different areas of electrochemistry, a division of chemistry that studies the relation of electricity to chemical changes.He has published 200 papers and holds about 15 patents.From 1991 to 1995, Miles worked on a cold fusion program funded by the Office of Naval Research.

However, new leaders cut funding because they were uninterested in cold fusion and thought it too controversial.

Cold fusion is the fusing of two hydrogen atoms called deuterium.

When the deuterium fuse, they form a heavier particle called a helium atom. The fusion reaction releases large amounts of energy.

Nuclear fusions usually release more than a million times the energy of chemical reactions, and high temperatures are normally required for a fusion reaction to occur. However, cold fusion can take place in near ordinary room temperatures. This phenomenon cannot be explained and is contrary to all understanding of nuclear reactions, which makes it controversial.

Global warming has become an increasingly important topic.

"The government needs to be exploring energy alternatives and cold fusion is being ignored," Miles said. "Even if there is a small chance it will work, it should be explored."



There is enough deuterium in the oceans to fulfill the energy needs of the world for 13 billion years. One gram of deuterium costs $20 and has the energy equivalent of 2400 gallons of gasoline. Also, the fusion of deuterium does not cause greenhouse gases that produce global warning.

There are, however, some problems with cold fusion. There is no government funding, the cold fusion process is not well understood and therefore lacks a complete theory, and reproducibility is poor.

Also, in order for new discoveries to be accepted, major institutions, like Caltech, must first give their approval. However, these institutions dismissed cold fusion and now funding is hard to attain.

"Science today is a new type of religion," Miles said. "New discoveries or concepts that don't agree with the scientific scriptures are to be banished without a fair hearing."

Miles believes that there could be cold fusion energy within five years if a major breakthrough occurs, but he thinks it will more likely take 50 years.

His career was damaged with the Navy because of his cold fusion research. He did not receive funding for any topic, so he decided to go back into teaching.

Iraj Parchamazad, department chair of chemistry, was impressed with Miles' work and research and invited him to become a chemistry professor at ULV.

"(Miles is) very calm, straight forward and polite," Parchamazad said. "He has a lot of human value; this is why we worked very close together."

Miles taught full time at the University of La Verne from 2003-2006.

"I liked working with students and not having to worry about research funding as I did while working for the Navy," Miles said.

He is now an adjunct professor. He left ULV for many reasons. He had cancer surgery in Jan. 2006 and was unable to teach for a few months. His wife was tired of living in apartments and wanted to go back to their home in Ridgecrest. He also was offered a position doing research in China Lake as a contractor and a private investor offered him funding for cold fusion research.

"Too bad he doesn't work for ULV anymore because he was a good lab professor," biology minor Jon Ordonez said.

Miles now works for the Navy investigating new thermal batteries for weapons that will be able to sit inside a weapon for twenty years and then be activated by sudden heating.

He hopes that his cold fusion research will make the effect larger and more reproducible.

Ginny Ceballos can be reached at ***gceballos@ulv.edu***.

Correction

A story on carpooling which ran on page 3 of the Feb. 23 Campus Times erroneously stated that the South Coast Air Quality Management District sets rules for five Southern California Counties. Ventura County has its own air regulatory board.

Problem solved: Block out the sun

With global warming becoming a day-to-day topic, many are trying to find ways they can help solve the issue. In a recent response to the Kyoto Protocol, which urges emissions reductions, the United States is doing something different: asking world scientists to develop technology to block sunlight to help fix this global warming issue.

These techniques include propelling giant mirrors in space or pumping reflective dust into the atmosphere. Scientists have estimated that reflecting less than 1 percent of sunlight back into space would compensate the warming created by greenhouse gases since the industrial revolution.

How is eliminating less than 1 percent of sunlight going to solve this crisis? Will that 1 percent affect our environment in a different way? Will it create a change in temperature across the globe?

This ridiculously expensive and dangerous idea is what our President finds to be a legit cop-out.

What keeps President Bush from agreeing with the Kyoto Protocol? The threat that we might actually have to cut back on our " toys" and it may possibly damage our economy. Oh no! We would have to decrease our usage of all fossil fuels, our consumption of all cow products and limit our waste. Never!

As the so-called leading society in the world, this suggestion has definitely shown our laziness.

By producing such an idea of blocking the sun by a certain percentage qualifies as an extremely careless act. To our knowledge, we don't know what the final outcome would be if we followed through on this procedure.

Also, even though we are blocking less than 1 percent of the sun's rays we are still producing enough greenhouse emissions on our side of the atmosphere to create global warming.

The United States has also complained that the report prepared by the IPCC is " Kyoto-centric" and does not include the positives of global warming. Which is interesting, considering the fact the United States is the leading source of hydrocarbon emissions in the world. Is there really a positive to killing the planet?

The " pros" of global warming include things such as less severe winters in some regions, more rain in dry regions, increased food production in some regions and extended plant and animal populations in other regions. In this list all pros include the word " some." Therefore, these positives could be next to nothing.



Another complaint was that the United States wants the report to emphasize the responsibilities of developing countries. In the scheme of things, all countries should obey this protocol. However, since the United States emits most of the world's greenhouse gases we need to take responsibility. Even though we are the financial helping hand to a lot of Third World countries we should try and focus on ourselves for once before we point our finger at the helpless.

In an economic view, it is interesting to know that President Bush is caught up on depleting our fossil fuel usage to save resources and money, yet we are involved in what seems like a never-ending multi-trillion dollar war in Iraq. Doesn't quite make sense. We can spend money on killing our own kids and killing the environment, yet we can't spend money to save the planet.

To hear our government demanding such action to stop global warming is a slap to the face. This " important insurance" of blocking the sun is not realistic.

Overall, we need to understand that the sun is not creating this issue of global warming, we are. Therefore, we must take responsibility into our own hands and sacrifice our laziness to help save our only home called earth.

ULV needs new war memorial

Hidden around the University of La Verne campus are several memorial sites honoring the fallen. Those two giant oak trees in Sneaky Park are dedicated to Cecil Cox and Elwood Miller, who were killed in World War I in 1918, the first La Verne alumni to give their lives in wartime service.

On the east wall of Founders Hall there's another plaque recognizing five more alumni who died in World War II: Stanley J. Hunter, James J. Johnson, Norman C. Jones, Glen E. Thomas and William Orion Cottle. On the corner of Third and C streets is another World War commemoration marker.

Now, the time has come to add another memorial.

Since the beginning of the War on Terror in 2001, 3,163 American soldiers have given their lives in Iraq, and another 536 have done so in Afghanistan. Among those are two ULV alumni: Cpl. Bernard Corpuz, who was killed by an IED attack in Ghanzi, Afghanistan, on June 11, 2006; and First Lt. Jared Landaker, whose helicopter crashed near Fallujah, Iraq, on Feb. 7, 2007.

With these deaths, the war is no longer an abstract conflict fought in some far away land in cities many Americans cannot pronounce. The war has finally hit home.

Last month the city of La Verne held a military reception honoring residents and families of La Verne soldiers serving in Iraq. In February 2006, La Verne had 85 personalized military banners placed on lamp posts throughout La Verne. Along with the banners, La Verne's own Military Banner Program promises that for those returning after their service they will be presented with their street banner tied with a yellow bow.

But what about those who don't return?

Corpuz, Landaker and any future alumni killed in the ongoing War on Terror deserve to have the same honor as those alumni killed in World War I and II. Their sacrifice was just as great.

As a University, we should make it a priority to appreciate and honor our soldiers. A similar memorial for these latest casualties should come sooner rather than later. ULV should honor those fallen soldiers while the war is still going on and not wait until it is over.

Another way the University can honor these soldiers is by recognizing Veterans' Day on campus. Not only does the University not get the day off of school, the holiday isn't even recognized with events on campus.

On Nov. 13, 2006, Claremont McKenna College had Major General William McCoy as their Veterans' Day Commemoration Speaker. Cal Poly Pomona considers Veterans' Day as one of its academic holidays. According to La Verne's academic calendar this year, Nov. 11 is simply termed " Last day to make grade option changes."

It's time the University follows the lead of the city of La Verne and neighboring colleges in recognizing the importance of Veterans' Day and why it has become a celebrated national holiday. The University should take time on that day to honor fallen soldiers of past wars and the current war (as well as those who are still serving). If we're all going to be at school anyways, shouldn't there be a commemoration speaker on our campus as well? This is an important issue that the University should consider when taking into account that troops in Iraq may increase over the next year and so far there doesn't seem to be an end to this war.

Here at Campus Times, our hearts go out to those serving in the war and their families.

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
Spring 2007

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Letters and comments may be sent via e-mail to **ctimes@ulv.edu**. The *Campus Times* may also be found online at **http://www.ulv.edu/campustimes/**. For advertising information, call (909) 392-2712.

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FROM THE EDITOR...

Top five things that drive me nuts



TOM ANDERSON

Like it or not, we all have things that annoy us, rub us the wrong way, push our buttons, or just plain set us off. For future reference, here are some of my personal top vote-getters, in no particular order.

Poorly-aligned automotive ornamentation

Yes, I know, this one seems trivial at best, but think about it: Those of us who know cars and see the lettering for "Jetta" or "E320" sitting too high on the trunk lid (or worse, on the wrong side) will assume that, at some point, you angered the sheetmetal gods by bending the backside of your ride, and that looking like a tool to all auto-savvy passers-by is your punishment. But please, if you want to make it look like you backed into a lamppost, why not go all the way and leave your whip's business end mangled for all to admire?

Political hero worship

For the record I am well aware of the fact the current administration is a bunch of graying, clueless and trigger-happy (in more ways than one) good ol' boys, and that America is faced with a litany of socioeconomic problems both at home and abroad. But for all those waxing poetic about how Hillary, Barack or your people's candidate du jour will be the best thing to happen to this country in at least a generation, I have bad news: Politicians lie, self-promote, sell-out, and otherwise give democracy a bad name regardless of what party they belong to. I can guarantee you with the utmost certainty that whoever wins the White House next year, he or she will louse up at least as many things as he or she fixes.

The sad fact of the matter is that politics in this country stopped being about whom you liked more and started being about whom you hated less a long time ago.

Pathological hypocrites

Speaking of politicians, I would be shocked if these folks didn't make up the largest percentage of habitually hypocritical people. Exhibit A: When the Democrats retook the majority in both houses of Congress, Nancy Pelosi went on and on about how she and her colleagues would bring about a return to trust, sensibility and accountability on Capitol Hill. It wasn't until after she thought the mainstream media had moved on to something new that Madam Speaker asked the military to provide her with a larger private jet than that of her GOP predecessor.

Hey kettle, I think the pot just called you black!

Gravel truck projectiles

If you travel the freeways in this part of the world, especially the 210 and 605 in and around Irwindale, you've seen plenty of these rock hauling rigs rolling along. But have you ever noticed the sickening sound of your windshield and the rest of your car being sandblasted by mineral missiles ranging in size from smaller than a tick to larger than a golf ball when you're following one? I can't fathom how the earth-hauling industry can live with the guilt of ruining untold thousands of innocent motorists' windshields, headlight lenses and paint jobs each year and not doing at least something to combat the issue. It wouldn't surprise me if the auto-body repair and/or insurance lobbies had something to do with it.

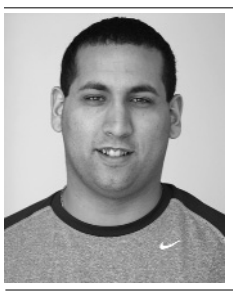
Poorly-programmed traffic signals

LV Traffic Engineer 1: "Hey, why don't we program all the signals along Foothill Boulevard to make cars stop at each one as often as possible?" LV Traffic Engineer 2: "That's a swell idea! I mean, no one would care about all the unnecessary time wasted, fuel wasted, vehicle wear-and-tear and pollution generated by doing that?" LV Traffic Engineer 1: "Yeah! Let's go out for a beer and celebrate our awesome plan!"

I don't know if the above conversation ever took place, but I don't know if it didn't, either.

Tom Anderson, a senior journalism major, is editor in chief of the Campus Times. *He can be reached by e-mail at* **tanderson1@ulv.edu**.

Turn off the TV and get your own life



GALO PESANTES

As a guy, I'm usually turned off by any mention of celebrity news and gossip going on in Hollywood. Until recently, when I heard from my younger sister that Britney Spears had checked in to rehab for the third time and had shaved her head.

My first question to her was, "Why would she shave her head?" I mean sure she had lost husband of two years, Kevin Federline, but that is hardly anything to get upset about.

After she was unsure of how to answer me, I began to worry about my sister and what others like her think of one of the most powerful pop stars of our time. I guess now you could probably categorize Spears as one of the dysfunctional celebrities of today.

I firmly believe that this problem is rampant in the entertainment industry. We hear about celebrities like Spears, Tara Reid, Lindsay Lohan and Paris Hilton that are not only tainting their own images but still influencing younger generations of women as well.

Personally I have no problem with these big stars making mockeries of themselves in the media. However when it reaches young girls like my sister and millions of others out there, I think it is our social responsibility to not pay so much attention to many of these spoiled and undeserving starlets.

The tabloids and other media outlets certainly are not going to stop reporting on the whereabouts of Paris Hilton or what club she is crashing lately. Nor is Lohan going to start wearing more clothing because some people consider it distasteful.

So if the stars are not going to stop their over the top behavior and the media is still going to break it as news, what can we do for it to stop affecting us?

There is not much to do, except to stop watching it or paying any attention to it. I know it is harder for women than it is for me; since many do consider Paris Hilton as one of their role models or Lohan as one of their favorite actresses.

I think there is a point that you have to be somewhat offended when you see or hear about Lohan's fire crotch incident or Hilton's best selling pornographic video. At some point enough is enough.

These beloved celebrities have blurred the line between what is appropriate and what is downright out of control. Because of course wearing the short skirt with heels and no underwear seemed like a great decision then. Was it really worth it in the end for all those who had to see it?

The problem will continue to be that people are attracted to this kind of news because it enriches their lives and their own conversations. But for the rest of us, who are little offended, a little aggravated and little insulted to what some of these female celebrities do now a days, do this:

Resist the temptation by not picking up the latest issue of anything that includes entertainment news, or tuning into your favorite entertainment show on TV or clicking on that link because it contains some juicy detail about Paris Hilton or even talking to someone about something you heard about Tara Reid from a friend.

It might or might not work for you. But in the end you have the choice whether you want to know the celebrity nonsense or not. As long as female celebrities continue to go wild people are going to want to know about it. Unfortunately, it doesn't look like it's going to get better any time soon.

Galo Pesantes, a junior communications major, is sports editor of the Campus Times. *He can be reached by e-mail at* **gpesantesf@ulv.edu**.

Let's all get wasted and avoid reality



JILLIAN PEÑA

What is it with college? Is there some unwritten rule that says college students all must become raging alcoholics in order to have the "full" college experience?

"College will be the best years of your life." Really though, how many times have you heard that? Why should college be the best years of my life? If these are the best then why do anything else? We should all become the new Van Wilders of the world if that's the case. We might as well ride out the college experience and make it last as long as possible. Why even graduate? Let's all hang out here!

Well, I don't know about the rest of you, but I am ready to get out of here. I am so ready to see what else the world has to offer me. Not that I don't love La Verne and not that I haven't had a good time in college, I just feel like there are bigger and better things waiting for me.

Maybe I am the strange one. Maybe I grew up too early or maybe I just skipped that phase in my life where being drunk everyday is priority.

We all know that one guy, who everyone swears is 85 (pardon my exaggeration, but you get the point) and he still lives in the dorms and parties every night. Or the other guy who went off to grad school to make something of himself, but for some reason you see him on campus every weekend partying it up with the freshman. Or the chick who gets drunk at every party and uses it as an excuse to make out with anyone with a penis.

I always just laughed it off. These people are afraid of growing up. They're afraid of the big bad working world. I feel sorry for them. They drowned their fears in their alcohol and partying, instead of attempting to over come them.

I thought these were individual cases, but the longer I'm in school I have begun to see this pattern emerging everywhere. What scares me the most is that it has started happening to the people I love.

As I get older and graduation is approaching quickly, I am excited to see what the world has to offer me. But for some of my friends it seems to be quite the opposite. I have started to see striking similarities to the 85-year-old, the wasted grad student and the skanky lady.

Hospital trips and nights spent in the bathroom vomiting are slowly becoming routine for their lives. There is nothing I can do but sit back and watch it happen.

I have tried to talk to them, I have tried to say something that will change their behavior and instead of results I have just been pushed out of their lives. They would rather hang out with all the others who are trying to avoid reality as well.

There is nothing wrong with having a good time. In fact, there is nothing wrong with drinking. I'm not saying that I have never touched the stuff. I have had my fun, but there is a problem when you do it in excess. There is a problem when you have to be drunk to enjoy yourself.

Why does everyone feel that is absolutely necessary to have at least three beers in their system before they can have a good time? The last time I checked hanging out with your friends should not require a tall can.

Whatever happened to just hanging out, laughing so hard your side hurts or just watching a movie?

As for my friends, I miss the ones I have lost to alcohol but I cherish the relationships I have now. I'm glad I grew up a little early, now I'll have more memories that I can remember clearly and less that are lost in the fog of a hangover.

Jillian Peña, a sophomore communications major, is editorial director of the Campus Times. *She can be reached by e-mail at* **jpena2@ulv.edu**.

Winter showers bring spring fashions

The spring fashion forecast is in: bright days ahead

Michelle Ajemian
Staff Writer

The weather forecast for spring is full of bright as the sun dresses, sky blue blouses, fertile fields of floral skirts, lightning bright metallic shoes and voluminous cloud-like jackets.

With the weather and fashion forecast transitioning from fall to spring, it is time to toss out those chunky sweaters, dark colors, tweeds and sky-high pumps.

This season the dominant spring trends seen all over the runway, magazines and stores include ballet inspiration, brights, floral and mod.

The ballet look is not to be taken literally for young trendsetters should not be walking down the street in a leotard and tutu.

More so this look is all about pinks and beige; along with loose hanging satin blouses, voluminous skirts and wrap sweaters.

"Ballet flats are really popular for spring," said Kristen Chocek who works for Groove Footwear in their brand development and marketing department.

Delicate headbands, charm necklaces and ribbon bracelets also add an extra ballerina twirl to any outfit.

The ballet trend brings about controversy in the fashion world over a very important topic: leggings. Are they in or are they out?

Leggings compliment the ballerina trend by pairing it with a wispy skirt or oversized sweater.

Think: just got out of the dance studio ensemble. Critics want to ensure that leggings are not used in any fashion to further the 80's trend.

"Leggings make every girl's legs like fabulous," Lauren Zagurski, a junior business major said when responding to the controversial topic.

Color is always in for spring but this year, bright colors are a statement within itself.

"Color, baby," Kelli Kasmir, head designer for Groove Footwear said, when responding to spring trends.

Bright and jewel tone colors like blue, green, orange, fuchsia, purple and yellow were all over the runway.

The trend was catapulted into the spotlight when Reese Witherspoon wore a vibrant yellow Nina Ricci knee length dress with satin red diamond encrusted heels to the Golden Globes Awards this past January.

Spring and floral go hand in hand, but this season floral is a force to be reckoned with as featured on the Marc Jacobs and Valentino runways.

A disclaimer about fashion: trends come and go, but when they resurface they do it in a fresh, bold way.

Feminine floral has been sprouting everywhere and the fashion world is excited for a breath of fresh air from the particularly dark and rich patterns of fall.

> 'Mod is year-round; it just matters who can pull it off.'
> *- Tasha Lo, sophomore*

The luminary of the floral trend is the rosette. As it sounds, the rosette is a three dimensional rose-like flower scattered on dresses, headbands, purses and sandals.

The rosette is the perfect accompaniment to any outfit for it is a fresh and fun way to spice up any outfit.

A trend that is transcending the test of fashion time is the 60's inspired mod look.

"Mod is year-round; it just matters who can pull it off," Tasha Lo, a sophomore business administration major, said.

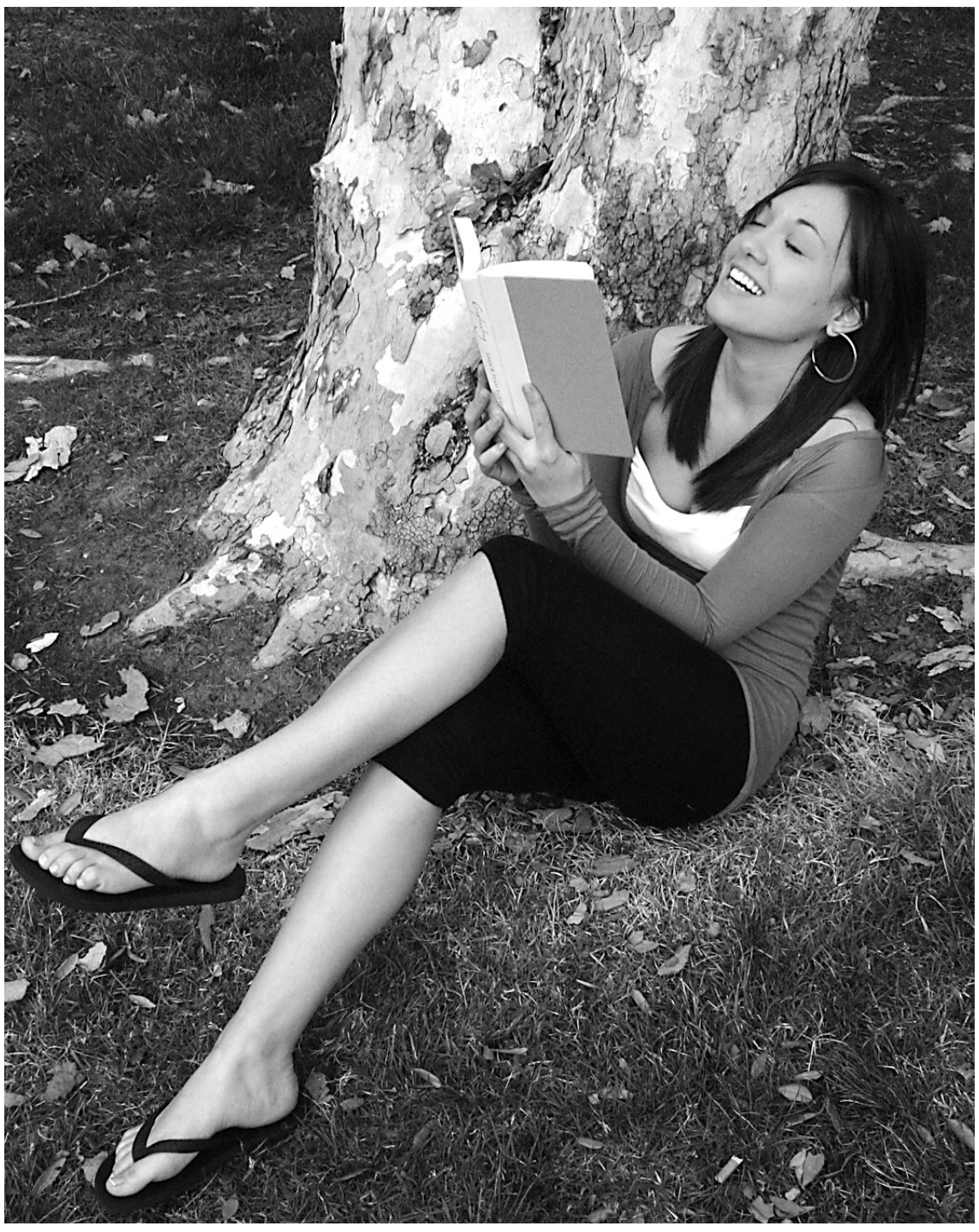
Big sunglasses, bold patterned mini dresses and beautiful asymmetrical lines describe the mod muse.

The combination of black, white and silver can make any look a mod look as long as there is one chunky accessory or patent leather shoes.

The mod look is a simple one to achieve, but taken to the edge can make the average trendsetter look like the British beauty Twiggy a la the 1960s.

From bright blouses and floral frocks, to mod mini dresses the fashion forecast is promising with a trend for everyone to become inspired by and make their own.

Michelle Ajemian can be reached at ***majemian@ulv.edu.***



Lauren Pollard

Dressed in leggings, one of this year's most popular spring trends, sophomore Jessica Misuradze said she finds the style, "…a great way to feel comfortable yet still fashionable and feminine."

'World of Warcraft' 'pownz' all other games

Alexandra Lozano
News Editor

Online role playing games are becoming more popular among gamers straying away from expensive game consoles.

Games like "World of Warcraft" and "Second Life" provide their audience, not only a break from expensive console games, but an online world where gamers can chat with each other as they complete quests and level up.

For some, "World of Warcraft" isn't just a game – it is their world. "World of Warcraft" has become a phenomena of popular role playing games despite its $15 monthly fee.

"I started [playing] in May 2006," said sophomore sociology major Chase Paddock.

Paddock noticed that he was paying $60 for Xbox games but that the small fee for "World of Warcraft" seemed like a bargain. "I only pay $15 a month and that's the only game I play."

Paddock got interested in the game while dorming at UC Santa Cruz.

Everyone on his floor was playing "World of Warcraft."

"It only takes a week to learn everything," Paddock said. "Most of the people who play are addicted. It's like a habit to break like drinking or smoking. I know of people who play like 10 hours."

What's the attraction? It might be the social interaction without actually interacting with people. Others, like Paddock, may get suckered into the game.

It doesn't even have to be fun; it's about creating status and the quest to be ranked number one. That's what makes someone cool online.

By day you're taking 17 units at a local university and by night you're a level 70 Elf Druid.

"They're not interested, they're addicted," said Jesur Habek, freshman biology major. "You can do so many things, it just gets addicting. It really has everything from any RPG and it's easy to do, you can do so much stuff. And since it's an RPG, your character moves up each level through experience and missions."

South Park parodied the game in the episode "Make

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Arts, etc...

HAPPENINGS

Belrose Duo

The La Verne music department is continuing its Spring Concert Series with a performance by the Belrose Duo.

Junko Ueno Garrett, on piano, and David Garret, on cello, will take the stage in Founders Auditorium at 8 p.m. on Tues., March 6.

General admission is $5, student admission is free.

For more information call (909) 593-3511, Ext. 4921.

Michio Leviev

The fourth performance in La Verne's Spring Concert Series will be Michio Leviev, a jazz piano soloist.

Leviev will begin his performance at 8 p.m. on Thurs., March 8 in Founders Auditorium.

Student admission is free, general admission is $5.

For more information call (909) 593-3511, Ext. 4921.

Ready! Set! Quilt!

Come get your stitch on at the Quilt, Craft and Sewing Festival.

The festival will be held at the Fairplex, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m on Thurs., and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fri. and Sat..

For more information call (909) 623-3111.

Ozomatli

Ozomatli will perform at at 6:30 p.m. on Thurs., March 8. at the Glass House in Pomona.

Tickets are $20 to $22.

For more information call (909) 865-3802.

Snow Patrol

Snow Patrol will play at 8:15 p.m. tonight at the Gibson Amphitheatre at Universal CityWalk..

Don't miss your chance to purchase last minute tickets to see this breakthrough Irish band live in action.

General admission is $37.50.

Tickets can be purchased at **ticketmaster.com**.

—Lilia Cabello

Senior project captures Complex 'Electra'

by Jessica Bell

photography by Leah Heagy

An epic tale of resentment and vengeance, "Electra" revealed a world of tragedy and tears, illustrating one woman's risk-all journey for justice.

Marking the beginning of a professional acting career, Rhiannon Cuddy played the role of a lifetime, capturing the "many layers" of Sophocles' "Electra" after almost a year's work, with the presentation of her senior thesis Saturday in Dailey Theatre.

The result of a late night IHOP revelation, collaborative efforts between a cast and crew of more than 20 members and many long hours, "Electra" has placed her one step closer to success and dreams fulfilled.

"I loved just coming up with who she was, just exploring her world which is completely different from my own," Cuddy said. "The challenge of her was the best part for me."

Beginning after the death of Electra's father, King Agamemnon, "Electra" is centered on revenge, ultimately revealing a tale of familial betrayal.

For seven years, mourning becomes Electra; living solely for the promise of revenge upon the return of her brother Orestes (Sam Guzik), she laments her father's wrongful death and her mother Clytemnestra's (Sarah Morales) cruel ways.

After receiving a prophecy from an angelic, gargoyle-esque woman (Tanya Wilkins), Orestes makes his vengeful return.

Death is foreshadowed in no subtle terms, as he receives orders to avenge his losses, not by "shield nor army" but "secretly" and "with his own hands."

Clothed in the colors of sorrow, Cuddy slowly emerged onstage, gently tossing flower petals from a flute clasped in her hands. But before the petals fluttered to the floor, the flute was shattered, sending a booming crash through the theater and immersing viewers in Electra's "cage" of misfortune.

"It was a huge formidable role; she had to be intelligent and cerebral but simultaneously careless and reckless in the play," said director James Darrah, a ULV alumnus.



Mourning the death of her father Agamemnon, Electra stands stricken with grief. Electra was played by Rhiannon Cuddy. Cuddy, along with six fellow ULV theater students and alumni, are planning to debut their first play at the Luna Playhouse as the Umbrella Machine Theatre Company in June.

Though the Sophocles classic was slightly tailored to fit Cuddy's performance vision, the tale remained, for the most part, true to form.

Employing sarcasm and genuine emotion, Cuddy fully captured the soul of a woman imprisoned by sorrow.

Though Aspasia (Natasha Velasco) and Melaina (Seanette Garcia) serve as beacons of hope and voices of reason, she proves inconsolable, overpowered by an unquenched thirst for retaliation.

Electra's sister Chrysothemis (Stephanie Barraco) presented a contrasting approach to anguish, wearing bright colors and a stoic expression.

Keeping rhythmic time to almost cheerful music and spinning gracefully across the stage amid handfuls of confetti, she chooses to mourn in only self-rewarding ways, turning an indifferent eye to the malicious and unfaithful acts of Clytemnestra.

Clashing viewpoints present conflict throughout the play, providing a gritty display of the tribulations triggered by revenge.

Electra, fueled by hurt and hatred, begins to lose hold of sanity, as the lines between wrong and right, or justice, become blurred.

While Morales captured the essence of evil in exact wicked stepmother form, demonstrating general lack of concern for her misdeeds, Guzik took on the persona of a madman.

Standing center aisle, fake blood smattering his pale face, he was seemingly conquered by malevolence, or, perhaps, remorse.

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Concert Review

Big Fish reel in ska-tastic show

Lilia Cabello
Assistant Editor

I'm not a big fan of ska, but I have to give it up for Reel Big Fish. They totally rocked the Bridges Auditorium last Thursday night. The opening acts, Chase Long Beach and Curt Phillips, were alright, but Reel Big Fish really shined.

Chase Long Beach is a six person group, featuring two girl members, including the lead singer. Reminding me of an early No Doubt, they had a cool sound. Each of the members had very strong stage presence. The lead singer appeared comfortable on stage and the trumpet and trombone playing was admirable, but they were relative amateurs when compared to Reel Big Fish.

Curt Phillips was the second opening act, and he was completely out of left field. His emo folk rock, or "emolk" as I call it, was a sincere attempt to win over the crowd.

It took the crowd awhile to warm up to him though. His shyness and quiet personality were a surprise at first. However, opening up towards the end, he was genuinely shocked to look up and see that the crowd was waving their lit up cell phones in the dark, much like the lighters floating in the air at legitimate rock concerts.

One attendant came over to Phillips, slapped him on the back and summed up his performance with the phrase, "You put on a good show man, but it was just to the wrong crowd."

Security guards were everywhere, pushing people out of the aisles and into their seats.

When Reel Big Fish came out, everyone moved as far forward as they could, heading for the front row.

Reel Big Fish is a six man band from Orange County. Its members are Aaron Barrett on lead vocals, Ryland Steen on drums, Dan Regan on trombone, Scott Klopfenstein and John Christianson on trumpets and Matt Wong on bass. I have to admit, the guys were just fantastic.

As they came out, the "Star Wars" theme played, and everyone screamed. Barrett shouted out "Everyone do the fish!" With that exclamation, the band jammed their way into the first song. People were getting down, dancing almost swing style to the music. Fish was catchy, much more well-tuned than either of the opening acts.

It was easy to get the crowd excited. The band members are goofy and outgoing. Barrett and Klopfenstein cracked jokes and made the audience feel at home. Occasionally the other members of the band danced, or maybe skipped, across the stage.

With a lot of songs inspiring the crowd to sing along, the performance held an easy, laid back atmosphere.

I have to admit that they played their instruments well and the songs were catchy, even if I thought the lyrics less than par. It made a big difference in their performance that Reel Big Fish was funny, irreverent and were able to play their music with flare.

Fish blasted their way through the rest of the evening, Steen thundering out tsunami drum rolls when inspired, and Regan hop-dancing across stage whenever the urge came upon him. Compared to the opening acts, Fish was polished and refined, yet still managed to fully rock out, becoming a musical attack on the senses.

The musicians had worked well together, being energetic, loud and fast.

When the lead vocalist from Chase Long Beach came out to sing with Fish, the band was able to include her in their commanding stage presence.

Even as Barrett continually plugged their new live album, people danced in the aisles as if they had gone insane.

Jumping, singing, writhing audience members poured out of their seats and into the aisles, causing security guards many problems.

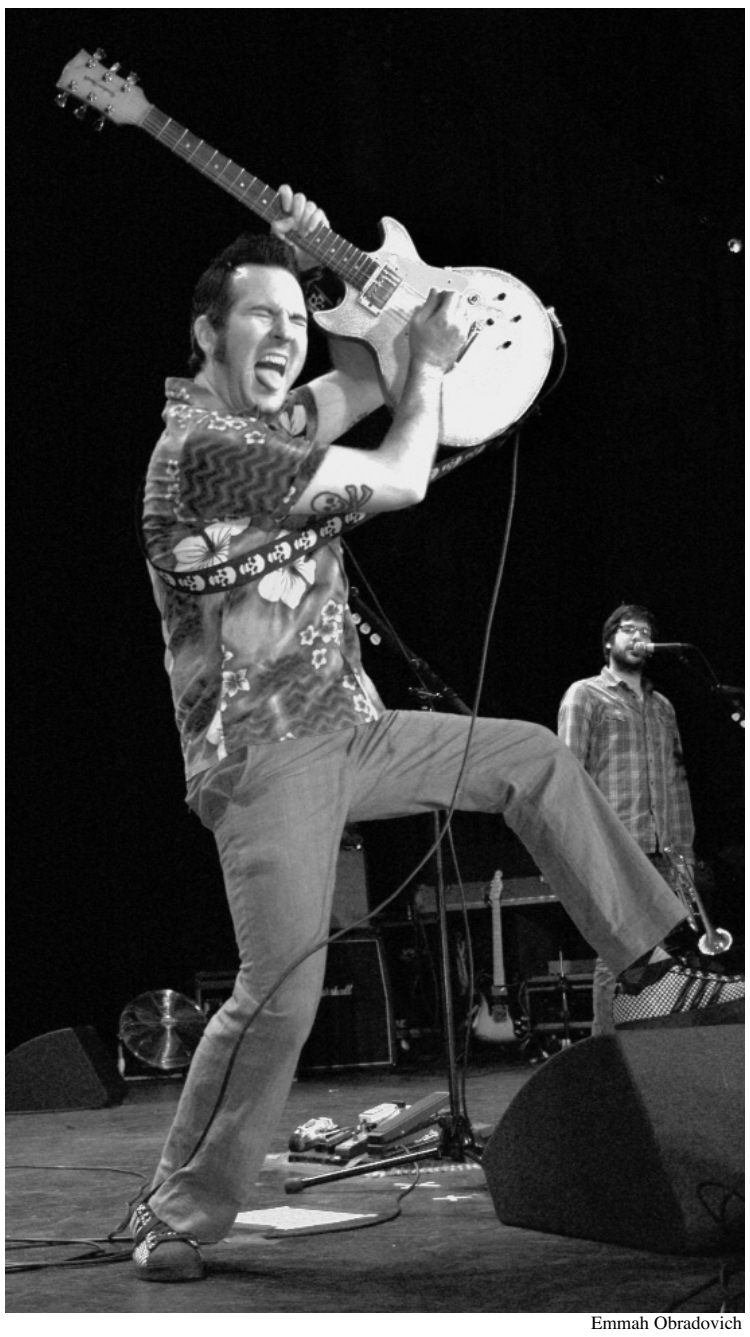
When the band abruptly ended their show, the audience cheered for an encore and out they came.

Reel Big Fish jammed their way through a few more songs before the show officially came to an end.

Despite my inability to enjoy ska, I do like Reel Big Fish.

They are a witty, well-put together group with a lot of experience and the talent to keep their music fresh, funny and smart.

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



Emmah Obradovich

Reel Big Fish, a famous ska band, performed Wednesday evening in the Bridges Auditorium at the Claremont Colleges. Aaron Barrett, the lead vocalist and guitar player, is one of six members. The band consists of a drummer, guitarist, trumpet players, and vocalist.

Theater Review

'Wicked' reveals downside of the green life

Erin Konrad
Staff Writer

Okay, fine I'll admit it – I'm a musical theater geek.

I love the burst-into-song, boy-gets-the-girl kind of shows.

But for the past couple of years, the musical that has captured my heart (and filled my head with its catchy songs) has been "Wicked."

I had the privilege to see the show on Broadway.

So when I heard the production was going to start an indefinite run at the Pantages Theater in Hollywood, I had my doubts that the splashy sets and colorful costumes would make the transition.

I was certainly pleasantly surprised.

The play, based on the novel by Gregory Maguire, tells the story of "The Wizard of Oz" from the Wicked Witch of the West's point of view.

The audience learns that the Wicked Witch was not really evil, just very misunderstood due to her bright green skin.

Elphaba – taken from the phonetic sounds of L. Frank Baum, the author of "The Wizard of Oz" – just wants to be accepted.

The tagline for the show is "So much happened before Dorothy dropped in".

Elphaba and Galinda – she later shortens her name to Glinda – are distinct opposites when they meet each other at school.

Hatred brews between the two witches; Elphaba is shunned for looking different and Glinda is loved by all for her perky blondness.

While both girls struggle to find themselves, they ultimately find friendship.

The bond between the two is easily felt due to the wonderful chemistry of the leads.

Elphaba, played by Eden Espinosa, shines as a strong girl who reluctantly learns to trust her own talents.

Galinda, played by Megan Hilty, provides much of the show's comic relief.

She is exceptional as the snobby, self-absorbed witch who ultimately befriends Elphaba.

The impressive vocal talents of both Espinosa and Hilty allow the music, written by Stephen Schwartz, to tell the story.

In songs like "The Wizard and I" and "I'm Not That Girl," Espinosa treats the audience to Elphaba's true vulnerability and the dreams she has of fitting in.

Hilty's incredible comedic timing shines through in "Popular," perhaps her most unforgettable song.

The true defining moment for "Wicked" comes in the last scene of Act I.

Through a series of misunderstandings, the people of Oz have deemed Elphaba an enemy.

Elphaba sings "Defying Gravity" – the song that was surely the reason Idina Menzel (the original Elphaba on Broadway) won a Tony.

This powerhouse ballad speaks of feelings that almost everyone has experienced sometime in their life – feeling lost, alone, or discouraged.

These feelings of isolation are one of the reasons this show has seemed to catch the attention of so many young girls.

Elphaba feels utterly hopeless because of her differences; not looking like everyone else has caused her to be an outcast.

But near the end of the song, Elphaba sings, "I'm through accepting limits/Cuz' someone says they're so/Some things I cannot change/But till I try, I'll never know."

The song finishes with Elphaba flying (literally, with the help of some of the most fantastic staged special effects I've seen yet).

Once the curtain came down for intermission, many people around me were crying at the truly touching song.

The message of hope rings throughout the entire show.

It doesn't matter if you're different, you can still accomplish your dreams.

Because everyone knows there are always going to be bumps in the yellow brick road, and it's not easy being green.

Erin Konrad can be reached at ***ekonrad@ulv.edu***.



Leos fall to Chapman in tourney

ULV tops Sagehens in finale

Taryn Aguilar
Staff Writer

After clinching a Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title for the third time in team history, the La Verne women's basketball team suffered a 108-97 loss to Chapman in the first round of the NCAA tournament Feb. 28 at the Hutton Center in Orange.

The Panthers came back from an 18-point deficit in the second half to force an overtime in which Chapman rallied for the win.

La Verne faced the Pomona-Pitzer Sagehens in their last conference game on Feb. 22.

The teams went shot for shot with each other but it was not long before the Leopards went on a shooting spree.

It only took ULV 12 minutes to get out to a 32-13 lead and their points did not come in streaks; they were consistent in making shots the entire game.

La Verne shot 63 percent from the field and 79 percent beyond the arc.

The stand-out Leopards of the night were Trenecca Jones and Lindsey Shiomi.

Jones had 20 points with 12 rebounds which led to her 15th double-double of the season.

Shiomi had the game high 26 points and she also set the school record with eight 3-pointers in a game.

She accomplished the feat with nine minutes left in the 2nd half and if she had not been taken out, Shiomi would probably have shattered the record even further.

"I was definitely not trying to do it," junior guard Shiomi said. "It just happened."

Their leading scorer of the night was Raquel Viramontes with 15 points but there was not really one player they turned to to make the clutch shots.

Pomona-Pitzer did have good fundamentals but it was failing to work for them as they were unable to drive the ball to the basket.

They made the occasional 3-pointer but lay-ups seemed inaccessible at times with ULV's strong defense keeping them at bay.

Without being able to penetrate the three-point line, Pomona-Pitzer was forced to pass and too often they ran down the shot clock and were forced to rush their shots.

ULV was deserving of this win and of the SCIAC championship. This group of women is the third team in ULV history to win the league title.

"It's always good to be a part of the history books," sophomore forward Jones said.

"This is what they've wanted from the beginning," head coach Julie Kline said. "It's a credit to their determination and hard work to achieve their goals."

With this last league win, the SCIAC conference champion Leopards concluded their season with a 19-7 record.

Taryn Aguilar can be reached at ***taguilar@ulv.edu***.

'It's always good to be a part of the history books.'
—Trenecca Jones, sophomore forward



Rhiannon Mim

University of La Verne freshman Jennifer Wong managed to keep possession of the ball in the final game of the regular season, and defeated Pomona Pitzer 92-55, Feb. 22. The Leopards shot 35 of 36 from the field and 11 of 18 beyond the arc. The SCIAC champions fell to Chapman in the first round in NCAA Division 3 Championship, 108-97.

Track athletes shine in Claremont

Teams set for strong season

Lauren Reed
Staff Writer

With the results from the Pomona-Pitzer All-Comers Track Meet on Saturday in Claremont, the Leopards track team looks to have a promising season.

Senior sprinter Darnell Gilbert, the reigning Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference champion in the 100 meters from last season, was victorious once again with the 100 meters in a time of 10.90.

He is ranked No.2 all-time on the ULV list in the 100 meters with a career best 10.79 seconds.

Also, sophomore hurdler Jesse Carrington earned first in 110 meter hurdles with a time of 16.10.

"With the addition of Lonel and Jon we should improve a lot as a team. My focus is to repeat as champion in the 100 meter and hopefully lead the team to nationals in the 4 by 100 and in the 100," said Gilbert.

Newcomer Lonel McKnight, had an impressive showing when he finished 2nd in the 200 meters with a time of 22.13.

Definitely contributing to the team's improvement, he joined Dwayne Griffith, Jon Virgin and Gilbert in the 4 by 100 placing 3rd.

He also contributed in the 4 by 400, joined by Griffith, Virgin, and Travis, finishing 3rd.

Jon Virgin, also a newcomer transferring from Cal State Fullerton, gives the men's side new hope.

"Season's looking promising with the addition of Lonel and Jon, much better than last year. The 4 by 100 looks more promising than anything, Saturday's time was 41.63, the fastest La Verne has had in a very long time," said Griffith.

The men hope to finish higher than seventh at the league championships in this year as opposed to last year, but to take the victories from Saturday and excel into the season with them.

On the women's side, the athletes to watch are Veronica Andrews and Chelsea Sherier.

Both seniors represented ULV at the Outdoor Track and

Continued on page 11

Baseball on a roll after three wins

LV sweeps Oxy in SCIAC play

Galo Pesantes
Sports Editor

A rocky pre-conference schedule did not faze the Leopard baseball team as they emerged with three straight victories over Occidental in conference games on Feb. 23-24.

La Verne started the three-game series at home at Ben Hines Field by sending senior starter Mark Simmons to the mound against the Tigers.

Simmons did not have his best outing by giving up 8 hits in six innings of work but struck out eight batters in his efforts.

In the seventh inning, sophomore Grant Wheatley had his best performance of the season in a relief appearance.

Wheatley shut down the Tiger offense in giving up a lone hit in three innings and three strikeouts in picking up his first win of the season.

The Leopard bats also came through when needed with RBIs in the game by outfielder Brandon Mikkleson, catcher Scott Marcus, and outfielder Daniel Talbot.

However, the biggest runs for the Leopards came in the final inning of play.

After pinch hitting for left fielder Dimitre Mondette in the seventh inning, junior Brad Licher came up huge for the Leopards in the last inning.

Following a single by Talbot, Licher stepped up to the plate and hit a two-run walk-off home run to win the game in dramatic fashion, 6-5.

"Definitely, it was unexpected," said Licher. "It was a flash call and I was trying to bunt, but I ended it up hitting it." Licher said.

Still, the home run seemed to not only sparked the Leopards during Friday's game but also led to a pair of wins in the Saturday doubleheader at Occidental.

La Verne began the opening game with a run in the first inning by Marcus to lead in the early going, 1-0.

Left hander Sal Diaz got the start for the Leopards and was a major part of the success against Occidental in game one.

Diaz pitched masterfully for seven innings, holding the Tigers to only two runs on five hits in seven innings of work.

In the eighth inning, freshman pitcher David Contreras relieved Diaz for the last two innings in sealing the game for the Leopards.

In addition to the exceptional pitching, the Leopards unleashed an offensive assault against the Tigers.

Second baseman Daniel Constanza and Marcus led the way for the Leopards with six RBIs combined while catcher Ryan Jordan and shortstop Mehl added 2 RBIs each.

After the 15-2 win in the first game, the Leopards continued to succeed in game two with Jon-Michael Hattabaugh taking the spotlight.

The freshman first baseman hit two singles as well as a two run home run in the ninth inning to finish the game with an impressive 3-for-4 outing.

In addition, Licher kept his hot bat going in finishing 3-for-5 during game two.

Pitching was also instrumental in the win for the Leopards in the second game.

Junior Ryan Rose took the mound for ULV and looked to gain his first victory of the season.

Yet like Simmons, Rose gave up eight hits in six innings but also struck out four Tigers and gave up only two walks to Occidental.

'It was a great, great way to start the season by sweeping Oxy. It puts pressure on a lot of teams for the rest of the season.'
—Mark Simmons, pitcher

The bullpen then closed out the game and got the win for Rose and the Leopards.

The combination of junior Jimmy Wilfong and freshman Tim Jolly struck out three and allowed only two hits in the eighth and ninth innings, leading the Leopards to victory in the final game, 7-4.

"It was a good day all together," said Mehl. "We finally got out all the facets of the game working all together. Our pitching stepped up and we finally got our offense rolling."

Many on the team continue to believe that Licher's home run was significant in getting conference play started right for La Verne.

"It was a great, great way to start the season by sweeping Oxy," said Simmons. "It puts pressure on a lot of teams for the rest of the season."

The Leopards have now improved to 4-6 overall and an impressive 3-0 start in conference play.

Next up for the Leopards is Claremont-Mudd-Scripps, who will host La Verne today at 2:30 p.m. at Arce Field.

The team will then return home tomorrow for a doubleheader against the Stags with the first pitch at 11 a.m.

Galo Pesantes can be reached at ***gpesantes@ulv.edu***.



Kelly Rivas

Fielding a line drive down the third base line, junior Trevor Boucher keeps the ball in play and the hitter to a single. The Leopards were hanging on by a nail at the bottom of the ninth down by one run to Occidental. Brad Licher hit a two -run homer at the bottom of the ninth to win their first SCIAC game of the season. The Leopards defeated the Tigers 6-5 on Feb. 23 at Ben Hines Field.

'Warcraft'...

Continued from page 6

episode satirized the addiction to move up levels.

Stan, Kyle, Kenny and Cartman play for weeks trying to move up 50 levels.

All of them eating junk food, drinking Rockstar energy drinks to stay awake and not stopping to use the bathroom.

They become obese and unsociable while trying to defend themselves against a player who has reached the maximum level.

"It's exactly like that," Paddock said. "[For] some people there's no life outside 'Warcraft.' I never wanted to become like that, just play when I'm bored."

Game Crazy employee Cameron Bosley believes the attraction is the fact that gamers can interact with people from around the world.

"Personally, I wouldn't want to play it, it just looks stupid," Bosley said.

"I haven't played for two months," Habek said."They were Christmas presents, they came as prepaid cards."

Once the cards were used up, Habek decided he wasn't going to fall into the addiction like many others around the world have.

"Some people play for 10 hours straight, that's just ridiculous," Habek said

"It's a nice way to spend an hour or two as a break from homework, but some people go to the excess and play way too much. It's unhealthy."

"Everything you would want to do possible in real life is available through these games," said Habek.

Because of his busy schedule as a biology major, Habek has given up videogames.

Paddock was banned from the game because of inappropriate language.

"The whole game is connected to one chat room," Paddock said.

"I didn't like what was happening. I voiced my opinion one way and got banned."

Paddock was a level 66 human rogue.

"Humans are part of the alliance faction and rogue. They're basically like a ninja," Paddock said.

"I could get my account reinstated but I'm done," Paddock said. "It's a good stopping point. Don't start playing. I'm not going to play the game anymore."

Alexandra Lozano can be reached at ***alozano@ulv.edu.***

Men's basketball loses final game

Keisha Clay
Staff Writer

The University of La Verne lost its final men's basketball game of the 2006-2007 season, 77-72, to the third ranked team in the Southern California Intercollegiate Conference, the Pomona-Pitzer Sagehens.

The game was Feb. 22 at the Frantz Athletic Court. This was the second lost of the week for the Leopards, on Feb. 19; they lost to the Occidental Tigers, 85-54, in Eagle Rock.

By the end of the first half, Pitzer led the Leopards, 37-30.

In the second half, the Leopards entered more focused and ready.

Junior forward Robert Hughes was so focused, that he lost a shoe while scoring a lay up.

Hughes ultimately dunked the basket which finally put the Leopards ahead of the Sagehens momentarily, 59-57.

The Leopards held the rebound edge over the Sagehens 45-44, and also had fewer turnovers than the Sagehens, eight to their 12.

Despite the Leopards' efforts, they still were not able to hold the Sagehens down for the res of the game.

"I wish we could have sent the seniors off with a win. Unfortunately it didn't turn out that way," said Kyle Luhnow a sophomore power forward from San Diego.

ULV's senior point guard, Jamel Brown of Brooklyn, N.Y., finished the game by leading his team in scoring with a total of 12 points.

This was his Brown's final game as a Leopard, but the reality of never playing with his teammates again has not hit him yet.

"Everyone definitely played hard and put their A-game forward, it just wasn't enough," Brown said. "We had our ups and downs started out with 20 [players] and ended up with 10."

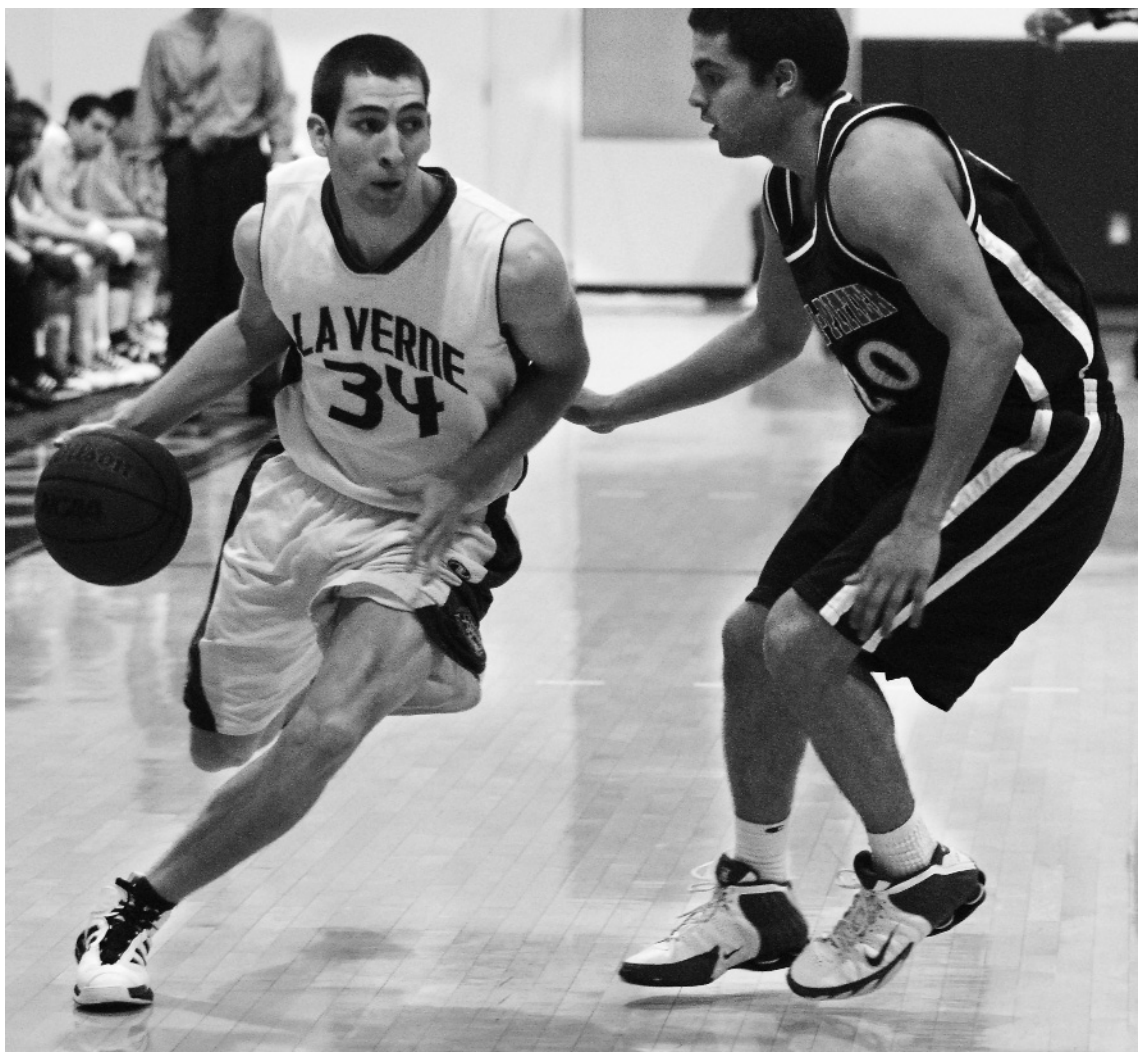
"I really had fun, I wish we could have done better," said Billy Nicolini, a freshman guard from Novato. "We played hard."

Nicolini along with freshman Brandon Cunningham and junior Drew Terry finished Thursday's game with 10 points apiece.

"We don't believe in moral victories, we came out played hard even though we came up short, we are going to come back stronger next year," said James Daniel, a junior forward from Riverside. "We had a young team with a lot of talent."

Keisha Clay can be reached at ***kclay@ulv.edu***.

'I wish we could have sent the seniors off with a win. Unfortunately it didn't turn out that way.'
—Kyle Luhnow, sophomore power forward



Christina Carter

ULV freshman guard Brian Mancilla makes his move past Zeeshan Hydner, a junior from Pomona-Pitzer, toward the basket during the first half of Thursday night's game. In their final attempt to finish the season strong, the Leopards suffered a tough loss of 72-77, bringing their season to a close with a record of 4-10 in conference and 5-20 overall.



Seanette Garcia

Defending league champion in high jump and javelin, University of La Verne senior Veronica Andrews works toward the title of All-American. After being placed one spot short of the title in the 2005 NCAA Championships, Andrews seeks to break her records at the Pomona-Pitzer All-Comers meet Saturday. The track and field teams will compete tomorrow at Redlands.

'Electra'...

Continued from page 7

Settling scores, Orestes ultimately fulfilled Electra's ambitions, committing matricide and proving the price of justice steep.

"Electra has been the most trying, personally heartbreaking, and the most beautiful character I have worked on and hopefully created," Cuddy said in her program notes.

Cuddy has already begun to develop a professional career, creating a theater company, the Umbrella Machine Collective, with a group of ULV alumni.

"I was very pleased with the production as a collaboration," Darrah said. "It represents the exact type of work Umbrella Machine will produce."

Cuddy said she would continue her acting pursuits, welcoming many more 'laughs, tears, sweat, blood, bumps and bruises," with the professional debut of "Electra" at the Luna Playhouse in June.

"Acting-wise, I first had to find the right way to approach (Electra)," Cuddy said. "Then I was able to go for it."

Jessica Bell can be reached at ***jbell@ulv.edu***.

Track...

Continued from page 9

Field Championships last year.

Sherier has had a good start to the season by earning an NCAA indoor provisional qualifying mark in the pole vault, clearing 11'- 5 3/4" at the Mountain T's Invitational indoor meet Feb. 3 in Flagstaff, Ariz.

On Feb. 17, Sherier joined by junior Katrina McCoy, placed 4th overall in the pole vault clearing 10 feet, 8 inches.

The tandem's results were the highest for any athletes in Division III.

Andrews finished the among Division III competitors in the javelin with a distance of 107 feet, 8 inches.

Junior Valerie Woods also finished, highest in Division III also, placing in 8th in the long jump, with a distance of 16-41/2.

On the track, senior Alexis Candelaria finished in 11th place in the 3,000 meter relay with a time of 10:34.76.

To no surprise, Candelaria also finished tops among Division III runners.

With multiple players contributing to the success on Saturday, other conference teams should definitely be fearful of La Verne this year coming into the season as underdogs.

"I think we'll do okay, we have a very small team but as individuals I'm confident they will hold their own," said head coach Pat Widoff.

Next up for the La Verne track and field teams will be the SCIAC Invitational to be held Mar. 3 at Redlands.

On Mar. 10, the squads will then travel for the Ben Brown Invitational in Walnut.

Lauren Reed can be reached at ***lreed@ulv.edu***.

India...

Continued from page 1

eyes to the differences between the Indian culture and that of our own country.

These cultural differences constantly caught us off guard and gave us a glimpse into a different world.

Religion was the topic of this trip, and we spent most of our time in India visiting various religious sites in Kolkata and the Himalayas.

We studied the Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist and Jain religions and listened to lectures from their religious leaders and scholars. Coming from America, where Eastern religions are not as prevalent, it was interesting to study the moralistic guidelines of these various religions.

They opened our eyes to a new way of thinking and also showed us the many moral strands that seem to unite all religions.

In times where many people are still killed and threatened due to their religious backgrounds, it was amazing to see such religious similarities.

One experience a few of us witnessed shocked us at first, and revealed our ignorance of other religions and their traditions.

Upon our much anticipated arrival into Kolkata, while waiting for our luggage on the baggage conveyor belt, we observed two men grab their bags and immediately pull out two knives from them, and attach them to their belts.

Fear was our first reaction, and as our eyes raced from the weapons to the men, we felt afraid and confused.

Later we realized that these men were Sikhs who had chosen to follow a strict path within that religion.

Sikhs who choose this path must follow five steps of personal discipline in a demonstration of their dedication.

One of these five steps is to wear a sword to symbolize dignity and to display the willingness to fight for injustice and the protection of the weak. The knives were simply symbols and not weapons, however that was a new concept for us.

Despite this, these religions were all searching for the goodness in people. Whether this goal was attained by recognition of the karmic cycle of life or though following various steps to enlightenment, all four of the religions we studied had a universal goal, and that goal was moralistic integrity.

Buddhists find this on the path to enlightenment while Jains find it in the recognition of equality for all living things. Even western religions like Christianity search for this ultimate moral perfection through the ten commandants.

Although the faces of god and personal fulfillment appear to be so different from the outside, taking a trip to India was a way to see the inner workings of these beliefs and this revealed a more universal face of religion - a face of peace and goodness.

While the American culture may not have a song that unites us all, we do have diversity among us that can give us little piece of the world through the uniting of many cultures under one roof.

Although a trip to India can still shatter a person's world outlook, it is nice to come home and see so much culture in my own country, and I feel lucky to have had the opportunity to take a trip into the East and see some of what India has to offer.

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

LEOPARD SCOREBOARD

AT THE BUZZER

NCAA Tournament, 1st Round
Women's Basketball, Feb. 28
Chapman--108
La Verne--97

Men's Basketball, Feb. 22
Pomona-Pitzer--77
La Verne--72

SCHEDULE

Today
Baseball vs. Claremont-Mudd-Scripps
@ Claremont, 2:30 p.m.

Track & Field
SCIAC Invitational
@ Redlands, 11 a.m.

DID YOU KNOW?

The last time the La Verne women's basketball team won the Southern California Intercollegiate Conference championship was in 2003.

Leopards lose to top-ranked Athenas

Galo Pesantes
Sports Editor

After dropping home matches to Redlands and UC Santa Cruz, the La Verne women's tennis team traveled for its second road match against the Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Athenas Feb. 24, losing 8-1.

"At one point, five of our players were up in their singles matches," head coach Brian Harrison said. "But Claremont pulled through and won it in the end," Harrison said.

With the loss, the Leopards fall to 1-3 on the season and 1-2 in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference play.

The Athenas improved to 4-0 in conference play, which currently ranks them alongside the Pomona-Pitzer Sagehens atop the SCIAC in first place.

"Basically we came in seeing Claremont as a good team," senior Jessica Baker said. "They are one of the toughest teams in the nation."

Despite their record, ULV has played several nationally ranked teams like the Athenas and is part of one of the most competitive conferences in college tennis. However, the Leopards are optimistic about the rest of the season with many seasoned players on their roster.

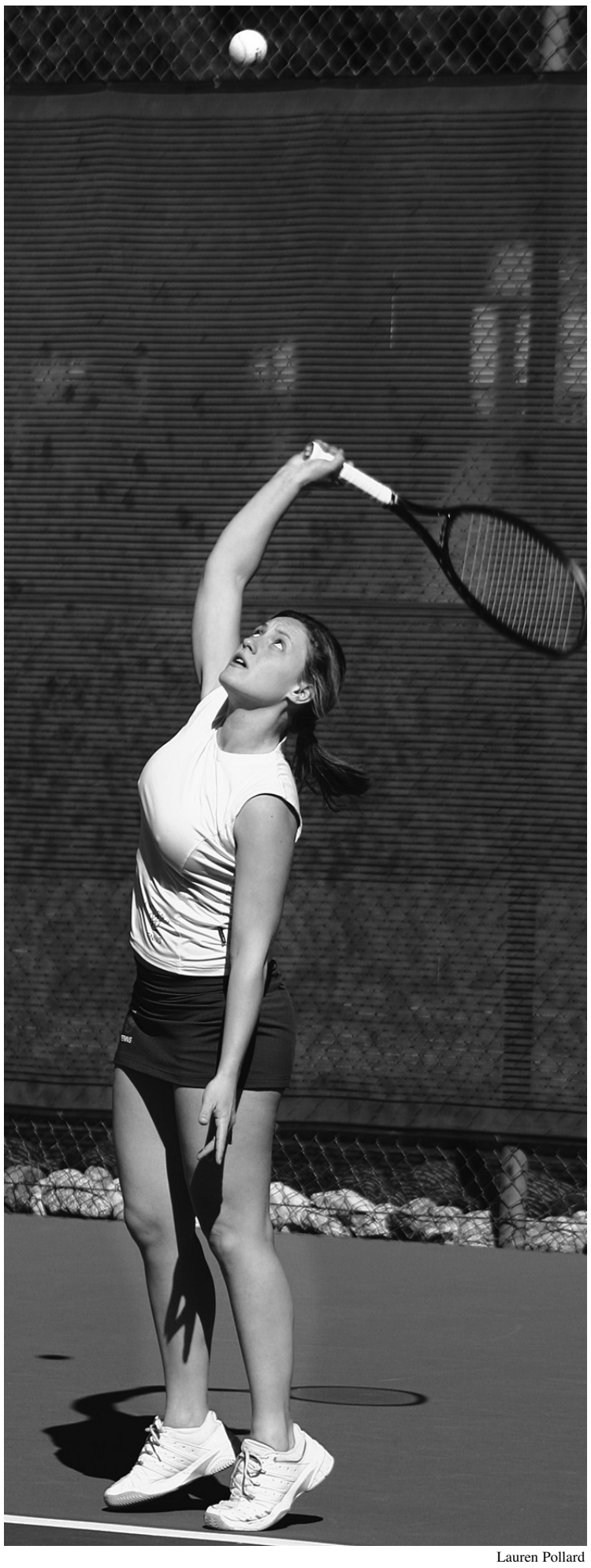
The team is looking to rely on several seniors and upperclassmen this season to lead them to more victories.

"We need to take all the experience we have and step it up a little bit," Baker said. "We are more mature and we need to build on all our prior experiences."

La Verne has two more away matches against Biola and Westmont before returning home for three consecutive matches. The Leopards will be looking to earn their first home victory of the season when they return on March 16 against Albion.

"The losses are not going to let us get down on ourselves," senior Alisa Nadjaryan said. "We are going to continue to work hard to get more wins this season."

Galo Pesantes can be reached at ***gpesantes@ulv.edu***.



Lauren Pollard

Serving to Claremont-Mudd-Scripps, Francesca Chiaramonte took the rally, resulting in a point for the Leopards in her match. The Leopards went on for a 1-8 loss in the fifth away match of the season on Saturday.