CAMPUS TIMES

APRIL 2, 2004 | SERVING THE UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE COMMUNITY SINCE 1919 | VOL. 112, NO. 21

ASF prez to serve 2nd term

Adrianna Gardner
Staff Writer

Following the best voter turnout the University of La Verne has seen in years, Associated Student Federation Forum President Travis Berry retained his position for another term this week.

And while Berry will serve again for the 2004-2005 academic year, this week's election marked the first contest for the Forum presidency in three years. Each of the previous two elections had only one candidate.

"I am extremely happy to have been chosen for reelection," Berry said. "Apparently the students are confident in my work as president, and I will continue to work hard for them."

Berry added that the competition was good for him.

Shortly after hearing the result, Wendy Schwartz, the opposing candidate for presidency, called Berry in his office to congratulate him.

Dana McJunkin was elected for the vice president position, and Sarah Morphis was elected into the public relations seat.

Derek Chacon, who ran uncontested in this election, will take the position of secretary.

The votes were certified by Dean of Student Affairs Loretta Rahmani and Associate Dean of Student Affairs Ruby Montaño-Cordova.

Noting that the race has been one of reflection, Berry said he was grateful for the opportunity to run against Schwartz.

Berry's agenda includes taking student concerns about tuition increases and financial aid decreases to the Board of Trustees and administration.

He said the Forum will focus on improving communication and putting on programs the students want.

"Students need to know that I will continue to leave the doors of my office open," Berry said.

Commuters experience campus living



Jessica Valerio

The Commuter Fair offered different inflatable air games and booths brought by various clubs and organizations on campus Wednesday. The Associated Students Federation Forum sponsored the sumo wrestling inflatable mat. Several students lined up to wrestle one another. Freshman John Drayer looks out for friend Raymond Kodaker after a fall on the mat. **See story page 2.**

Travel scams target college students

Study finds 62 percent mark-up

Julie Kim
Staff Writer

Spring break offers a respite for exhausted students everywhere, but as the much-anticipated week draws near, college students should be wary of travel agents looking to take advantage of them.

According to the California Student Public Interest Research Group, surveyed travel companies charged up to 62 percent more than the advertised price.

CALPIRG, an environmental and consumer organization with chapters at seven University of California schools, examined 17 travel companies that publicized on campuses all over the country.

The report, "Spring Broke: How to Avoid a Spring Break Ripoff," found that all posters, leaflets and advertisements "contained hidden, confusing and misleading fees."

"Spring break is supposed to be a chance for students to relax and recuperate," said CALPIRG Higher Education advocate Merriah Fairchild in a recent statement. "Instead, travel companies are using it as a chance to fleece students."

Some of these companies included Beach Life Vacations, Leisure Tours International, Student City and Extreme Vacations.

Paradise Parties had the largest difference between the advertised price, $499, and the actual price, $1,016 – a 103.61 percent increase.

The report noted that these companies used six types of concealed charges: international departure and arrival taxes, processing fees, peak week surcharges, late booking fees, departure city surcharges, travel insurance and fuel surcharges.

"Alone, none of these fees amount to a significant sum of money," according to the CALPIRG report. "However, the cumulative effect of these fees is to increase the trip's cost dramatically."

For example, 76 percent of the travel companies charged an additional $30 to $80 for trips during peak weeks in March or April when Spring Break coincides for various universities.

In addition, 59 percent of the surveyed travel companies added a "late" booking fee of up to $30 for clients who did not reserve three to four months in advance.

Moreover, 13 out of 17 companies, or 76 percent, automatically billed for an optional insurance fee.

According to the report, hidden fees for each travel package were usually in fine print at the bottom or on the back of the ad – if there at all.

But David Kung, professor of business administration at the School of Business and Global Studies said students need to be aware of advertising gimmicks. He noted, "Advertisements are there to attract attention… but you have to stop, read and be careful."

Corey Bianchi-Rossi, vice president of marketing for Bianchi-Rossi Tours, denied allegations of hidden agendas.

"The people who did the survey didn't do a lot of research," he said.

He noted that the majority of travel companies didn't include add-on fees in their advertisements because the law didn't mandate it.

"Even car industries don't advertise the extra costs," Bianchi-Rossi said. "We wouldn't have any customers if we were the only ones who publicized them."

Kung agreed: "It is acceptable to not disclose taxes in ads."

In addition, Bianchi-Rossi said several variables determined the definitive price: departure city, travel location, occasion and the number of people – just to name a few.

Besides the expenses, the survey also warned students about other catches.

According to the report, travel companies could change flight departure dates, times, cities and even hotel accommodations.

In addition, many of the students lost their legal rights when they purchased travel packages.

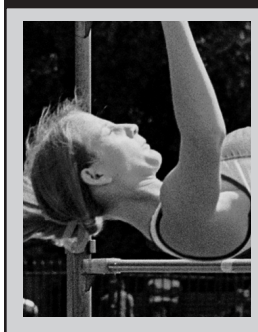
"I'd rather plan it out by myself… than use one of those companies," said Callie Fikter, a junior broadcasting major.

"We urge students not to get distracted by the teaser price you see on a poster or flyer," Fairchild said. "Be sure to find out about all of the hidden fees that come with each package, and make sure you read the fine print."

Students were advised to call the Attorney General's office to check for any complaints that were made against a company.

For more information, visit **www.calpirgstudents.org**.

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Fair entertains commuters



Jessica Valerio

The Rainbow Alliance attended the Commuter Fair Wednesday. "(We're) trying to have fun, be creative and most importantly, create awareness of the many queer musicians that are out there," said Jonathan Serret, vice president of the club. The club was promoting its open mic night held Wednesday in the Cabaret Theatre. The Commuter Fair is sponsored by the Associated Student Forum.

Mike Myers
Staff Writer

The Associated Student Federation's Commuter Fair Wednesday in the quad attracted both resident and commuter students.

"The Commuter Fair is focused on the commuters," said ASF President Travis Berry. "It is a day to celebrate for the commuters."

About 60 percent to 70 percent of students commute to the University of La Verne.

This commuter fair offered free food, sumo wrestling and boxing with over-sized boxing gloves; raffles to win shirts and coffee mugs and music. Booths were set up by clubs and organizations to attract commuter interest.

"We are trying to get more people to come to our meetings and let people know that we are out there," said Veronica Gamino, a member of the Rainbow Alliance.

"We try to have a commuter fair between March and April annually," Berry said.

"The commuter fairs are held in the quad because it is the best place to get students together," he said.

"I attend the commuter fairs for the free food," said sophomore Justin Wolfchief.

Sumo wrestling was a favorite for attendee Blaine Bacher.

"Yes, I enjoyed beating up James Breitling in sumo wrestling," the sophomore said.

The event, which lasted from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. brought out on-campus students as well as commuters.

"The food was free and I get a chance to mingle with other students," said sophomore Erica Pembleton, who lives on-campus.

"I enjoyed the Commuter Fair," said freshman Raymond Kodadek, who also participated in the sumo wrestling. "It was really fun and funny."

MEChA to start chapter

Beatriz Mendoza
Staff Writer

Chicano awareness, political awareness and community outreach are just some goals on the agenda of a group of students attempting to form a Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlàn organization on the La Verne campus.

Since September MEChA, translated in English as The Chicano Student Movement of Aztlàn, has been working toward becoming an official club with about a dozen members.

"It's a matter of paperwork," said Carolina Guillèn, a sophomore anthropology major.

Students have the required number of members and have already written their constitution.

If MEChA is approved, they will be able to conduct official meetings with a definite time and location.

"There is a need for another Latino club on campus," said senior psychology major Ignacio Urena. "We want a stronger identity and unity."

MEChA was founded in the 1960s when minorities were fighting for a better future and civil rights.

The first group was formed at UC Santa Barbara in 1969. Since then, many college campuses have organized their

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Annual festival postponed

Beatriz Mendoza
Staff Writer

Because of a combination of hiring freezes, budget difficulties and increased workloads, the International and Study Abroad Center will not host an International Festival this semester, for the first time in 13 years. But they hope to bring it back next fall.

This spring, however, local and international students will not be able to hear the music of different cultures or taste the food and experience the richness and diversity that came with the International Festival.

"It's good for international students," sophomore Jenna Campbell said. "Maybe more international students wanted to share their heritage with ULV this year."

Senior Oscar de Leòn, who participated in last year's International Festival by displaying two booths, one from Guatemala and another from Lebanon, said that he will miss the music, food and activities.

"It's a shame because it was a good event," de Leòn said. "You learn a lot about the different cultures."

Phil Hofer, director of the International and Study Abroad Center, said the main reason for not having the festival is the additional responsibilities he has acquired because of the lack of employees due to a hiring freeze.

For several years the International and Study Abroad Center has had assistants, but this year there is a lack of help in the center.

Hofer has had to juggle multiple responsibilities despite the recent approval to fill one vacant position.

There are certain obligations the International Center must maintain and one of them is tracking students through the Student Exchange Visitor Information System, he said.

Although SEVIS has been around since 1992, an increase in concerns of terrorism in the United States has caused the system to pick up its pace and implement stricter guidelines for international students.

SEVIS, among many things, monitors international students, their majors (and whether they change majors), where they move and when they travel.

"One person has the added responsibility to track international students through SEVIS," Hofer said.

According to Phil Hawkey, executive vice president, enrollment growth was not as strong as they expected.

"In order to help deal with budget difficulties we had to cut back on expenses," Hawkey said. "The International and Study Abroad Center had to vacate positions."

ULV's current hiring freeze

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'In order to help deal with budget difficulties we had to cut back on expenses.'
-Phil Hawkey, executive vice president

Comm. students win prestigious awards

Adrian Medrano
Staff Writer

University of La Verne communications students won numerous prestigious awards recently from the Society of Professional Journalists and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association.

La Verne Magazine won in the SPJ Mark of Excellence Region 11 student competition and a CSPA award. The Campus Times won seven national CSPA awards, while LVTV won 11 honors.

Journalism majors Matt Paulson, junior, and senior Kenneth Todd Ruiz, won a CSPA award for their story, "Fire leaves local destruction," for a Fall 2003 Campus Times issue. The story focused on the local fires.

Junior journalism and English major Bailey Porter received an award for her photograph titled "ULV Walks Out" for Campus Times in Spring 2003 which featured a peace rally held on campus to protest war in Iraq.

"We get our assignments every week and work to uphold our own standards and the high professional standards set by the publication," Porter said. "When we do that, it's the highest accomplishment, but receiving these awards is an additional honor."

Sophomore photojournalism major Adam Omernik won an award in the sports photography category with a picture of "Men's soccer vs. Whittier." Omernik also won an award for his photo layout "Rocky Horror Show."

Recent ULV graduates Jason Cooper and Jennifer Contreras also won for their layouts. Cooper's "Oaxaca" and Contreras' "War Protests" were part of their senior projects.

LVTV swept the video categories including the News Package, Feature Package and Documentary categories.

The entire staff won the award for a documentary "Latino USA."

Recent graduates Johnnya

Continued on page 7

Americans deserve truth on 9/11

It has taken more than two-and-a-half years for the commission investigating the intelligence failures preceding Sept. 11 to adjourn.

The idea was simple; try to figure out what went wrong and what could have been done better in an effort to prevent future attacks against the country and its citizens.

Originally, President Bush denied the need for such an investigation, but eventually changed his mind and pretended like it was his idea. He signed into law the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States in late 2002.

And it has been an uphill fight ever since. Despite the President's promises of full cooperation in the investigation, almost every request from the commission has met been mishandled and stonewalled.

After hand picking the chairman and panel of the group, the President gave the panel an unrealistic time limit on concluding their work.

Under pressure, President Bush agreed to allow them more time.

The President next claimed that he would be too busy to testify. Instead of just promising to spend what time he could spare, the White House announced the President would make himself available for one hour only.

That is one hour from a President, who by August 2001, according to the Washington Post, had spent 42 percent of his presidency since inauguration "at vacation spots or en route." That works out to 2,278 hours of vacation time. Not a bad deal compared to the 170 hours or so the rest of us typically get during a year.

Bush's own former counter-terrorism chief Richard Clarke (who also served under former presidents Ronald Reagan, George Bush, Sr., and Bill Clinton) told the Commission that the White House ignored the threat of terrorism prior to Sept. 11, and was preoccupied trying to find a reason to attack Iraq. He said that Bush's national security adviser, Condoleeza Rice, seemed uninformed and unconcerned with al-Qaida.

President Bush admits to being preoccupied with "Desert Badger," which has since turned out to be a plan to provoke Saddam Hussein into shooting down our planes in the no-fly zone as a pretext for war. Good to see such high regard for our troops.

Clarke claimed he wrote memos pleading with the administration to face the threat of al-Qaida, which went unheeded.

> The commission exists not to assign blame. But the only way to prevent the same mistakes from happening is to figure out exactly how they happened in the first place. It's common sense.

Condoleeza Rice last week was claimed she would love to talk to the commission, which had been asking for her testimony, but was barred by the Constitution from appearing before it. This was untrue, the Constitution prevents her from being forced to do so.

Again, under pressure, the White House agreed to let her appear, in public testimony, after a full court press to assassinate the character of Clarke, a former member of their team.

President Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney, however, still only have an hour planned, and it will be spent in a private session and not under oath.

But the longest-running argument between the commission and the White House has related to their requests to see the Presidential Daily Briefs. These are the daily updates provided to presidents by the CIA for the past 40 years.

According to the CIA, almost half of the briefing contents are already covered by newspapers, so it is hard to imagine that much sensitive information remains from four years ago. And anything relating to Osama bin Laden's plan to attack the United States is hardly a secret almost three years after he did just that.

So why not just release them, even if they make the White House look less than perfect.

The commission exists not to assign blame. But the only way to prevent the same mistakes from happening is to figure out exactly how they happened in the first place.

It's common sense.

Instead of just admitting to having dropped the ball a bit, the White House seems incapable of admitting to a single mistake.

When one of their own suggests otherwise, they engage in Machiavellian intrigue, such as suggesting that Clarke is a homosexual or that General Jay Garner, their original choice to lead occupied Iraq, likes to wear women's underwear.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

In last week's *Campus Times*, there was a front page article which mentioned the lack of candidates for the ASF program in previous years ["Election offers first choice in 3 years," March 26]. While there is an opposition candidate for the position of president this year, further reading would show that there is consistently low participation in ASF in general, particularly by the student body. The first question that comes to mind is one which is constantly asked by marketing professor Janis Dietz – What is the customer's perception of the problem, and how can you fix that?

In my three years here at ULV, I have noticed a few things about ASF. Although I have never actually been involved in it, it is my perception as a student of the general body that ASF is "lame" (for lack of better terminology) and really doesn't do much. Not only do I see a lack of students desiring to get involved in the body that represents them, but for the most part, students don't appreciate those who do represent them. I walk around on campus and see signs suggesting who I should vote for to represent me in various ASF offices. In reality, I have yet to vote in any election on campus (whether it be for homecoming king or queen, ASF elections, or anything of that matter). The irony is that I consider myself a politically-savvy student in general. So my lack of caring for my own student government at school raises red flags.

Some may recall a letter to the editor I wrote a few weeks back which was targeted at apathetic voters here on campus. And while this essentially focuses on the same topic, I believe the blame lays somewhere else in this situation. This time I don't believe it's the lack of encouragement from peers to get involved in the democratic process. I believe it to be more in the hands of ASF itself.

If someone were to ask me, "Who is ASF, and what do they do for me," my response would simply be, "Oh, they're our student government, and aside from free bowling once a semester, I don't know what they do for me." I'm sure they do accomplish a lot more than free bowling, but in my eyes, I don't see it.

Perhaps ASF should take some action to actually involve their student body in the activities that they engage in on a regular basis. I wouldn't have the slightest idea when ASF holds meetings or how I could get involved in contacting ASF officials. This is a problem. While I am only one of 1,500-plus students on this campus, I'm pretty sure I'm not the only student with this view of ASF.

So as this letter goes into the inbox of the editor and the week of elections pass, I will abstain from voting for any person in any position until ASF can prove to me that they truly are representative of the student body.

I would be interested to see exactly how many students voted not only in this election, but in previous elections. My guess is that it is substantially lower than the 35 percent voter turn out that is routinely seen for the "real" elections every November.

Jacob Leveton
Junior

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 2004

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The *Campus Times* is published weekly by the Communications Department, except during examination and vacation periods, by journalism students of the University of La Verne, 1950 Third Street, La Verne, Calif. 91750. The *Campus Times* is a laboratory publication for Newspaper Production classes, Journalism 220, 320 and Photography 327.

Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the *Campus Times* editorial board. Signed columns are the opinion of the individuals and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the *Campus Times.* Letters to the Editor are due by Tuesday at 3 p.m. Letters must be typed, no more than 400 words in length, relate to a topic covered in the *Campus Times*, and are subject to editing for clarity and space.

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...

No more Mr. Nice Guy



KENNETH TODD RUIZ

Call me sentimental, but there was a time when people were valued for their accomplishments. Old fashioned metrics like strength, intelligence and skill were important. What is the measure of any man or woman today? It only seems to matter how "nice" one is.

Those who pursue their own interests, are capable and successful, are afforded no respect or regard if they are not perceived as "nice." Go to a funeral, and what seems to matter most is how nice the person was. How selfless.

Why is this such a great thing?

Someone could accomplish nothing, not actually do anything useful for themselves or anyone else, but be honored because they avoided saying anything offensive.

Only in this, the Age of the Victim, are the selfless, the sacrificing and the directionless afforded such esteem.

But, I know, that's not a very nice thing to say.

Aren't there other qualities one should be remembered for?

My own standards have evolved and shifted as I have. Societal clichés informed me of the obvious lessons as a child. To go beyond the superficial to something more meaningful.

Sure it's judgmental to look for certain qualities in people, but it's a natural imperative everyone follows, so why not try to shape it with some logic.

My earliest criterion, as a young child, was that intelligence mattered most. This seemed an enlightened approach as an 8 year old. It didn't take long to realize that there are plenty of smart people who were also useless idiots.

So, for a time, I adopted the prevailing attitude, and thought being "nice" was the pinnacle of actualized humanity. That didn't last long either. Too many smarmy nice-niks are wolves in sheep's clothing. There is nothing wrong with being a wolf, but stupid is the wolf that actually believes itself to be a sheep. The ascension of the "nice" is really the rise of passive aggressive behavior in our culture. Instead of honestly pursuing what we want, we deceive others and ourselves by couching everything in non-assertive language. The net result is a world of bitter, unsatisfied people.

Nice is deceitful. Nice is fake. Nice is buying dinner for your date then being churned when she doesn't put out.

In a sentimental gesture, I decided to look for honesty in those around me, but King Arthur had an easier quest than that.

As my internal pendulum swung into the politically unfavorable realm of Social Darwinism the realization came that some things, in fact, could be taken at face value. Not oversimplified, but also not abstracted beyond meaning. With a solid intuitive base, sometimes you really can judge a book by its cover.

But this is inconsistent. How often has that lust-inspiring person you decided to approach become entirely unattractive after one minute of conversation, while an average-looking individual can sometimes transform into the embodiment of sex appeal after a short conversation.

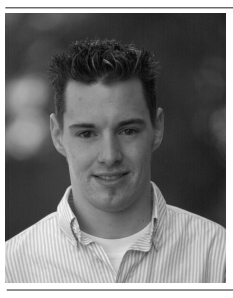
Next was Imagination. Then humility. The most confident people are often the most humble because they are not out to prove anything. They can admit their limitations, and that maybe, just maybe, they are wrong about everything.

Of course it's too simple to think there is one quality that defines the measure of any man or woman. Although I skew toward the misanthropic for the species as a whole, I enjoy almost every individual. And all I really care about today is the ability to laugh. To find the humor in everything, especially ourselves. And that takes confidence, imagination, humility and more.

In the end, isn't laughter the most honest response to the human condition?

Kenneth Todd Ruiz, a senior journalism major, is editor in chief of the Campus Times. He can be reached by e-mail at **kruiz@ulv.edu**.

Having a birthday is no party



MAX ZÄNKER

"Go shorty, it's my birthday. I'm gonna party like it's my birthday."

Believe it or not, today marks exactly – or not exactly if you take the nine hour time difference to my home country Germany into account, so let's just assume that you read this before 3 p.m. – 23 years that I've been vegetating on this planet.

My birthdays always make me happy, but on the other hand, I realize that birthdays get less and less exciting from year to year.

And it is not because I feel too old.

Wasn't a birthday great and exciting when you were young?

Didn't all the colors shine brighter in the light of the birthday sun, and on this one day everything seemed like it was made especially for you? And wasn't it cool when your parents arranged surprises and birthday trips to make this a special and perfect day?

But I think I've grown up. I am a so-called adult now. And, especially on my birthday, I feel like this took away my license to have fun.

What was the exact age when I stopped having fun with birthday party games like hide-and-seek or a nice soccer game, and replaced it all by getting drunk and delivering small talk and flirting like it's not my birthday but an ordinary Saturday night?

However hard I try, I cannot return to this childish kind of fun without the stupid bad conscience saying that I am too old for this.

I had the same feeling walking down "D" Street a few days ago. Watching the children on the playground of Roynon Elementary School play punchball gave me a kind of nostalgic feeling.

I feel like I'm not able to play anymore. Of course I can still kick the soccer ball around in intramurals, but I definitely lost my sense of innocence.

When I kicked the ball back in my childhood days, I did not think about anything, I could not embarass myself missing the goal or even the ball. It was never in a nerve-racking one-on-one duel against a friend. It was always about my soccer stars' last moves and goals from the weekend.

When I kick or shoot the ball nowadays, I have only one thing on mind: Winning.

And if I can't win, I am at least hurting myself to prove to myself and everybody who wants to know that I am giving my best. It is all about dedication, not about fun.

Have I really come that far?

What keeps me from having fun? Is it my age, my pride or did I just lose the ability?

So, yes it's my birthday, but am I gonna party like it's my birthday?

No. I can't, for several reasons:

Reason number one: I am too old to have stupid and childish fun, like it was in my childhood days.

Reason number two: I cannot spend my birthday with my family like the old tradition.

Reason number three: Because of Lent, I cannot get drunk on my birthday, a tradition since my childhood days.

Reason number four: I have a midterm on my birthday at 8.30 a.m.

So I lay back and refocus on the things that really matter on a birthday: Birthday presents.

Welcome to a student's life and happy birthday to me.

Max Zänker, an international student, is LV Life editor of the Campus Times. *He can be reached by e-mail at* **zaenkerm@bits-iserlohn.de**.

Crusing into adulthood



VALERIE ROJAS

I am not even exactly sure how it happened. I just strolled into the big, impressive building to take a look around. I was not sure what I wanted, but I was pretty convinced that I did not want anything to tie me down for the next five to six years.

But somehow, I managed to walk out with my name on a contract and an agreement to shovel out $265 every month to a group of middle-aged men in business suits…for the next five years.

I am now the owner of a 2003 Ford Focus, retail priced at more than $15,000. The fact that I am in charge of paying off that price tag scares the begeezus out of me.

And what's even scarier is the insurance bill. Along with my monthly car payment, I am required to fork over another $300 just to make sure nothing happens to my new set of wheels.

Now, all of this seems fine and dandy. Kids like cars. They mean freedom. They mean independence.

But when I look at my sparkly little silver four-door, I see none of these things. I see commitment. I see the fact that no matter how much I hate waking up early on a Saturday to go sell bracelets or pierce ears, I cannot afford to sleep in. For the first time since I was hired, I now need my job.

I need to watch every penny I spend. I need to decide if I can really afford a new CD here and there, a show every other weekend or a crate of Dr. Pepper in my refrigerator. I now have to be (gasp!) responsible.

I have my own car payment. I am finally a big kid.

So, this is the part where I freak out and all the worrying begins.

What if I do not make my payments on time? What if making my payments on time means missing out on all the fun things in life, like food and shelter? What if I lose my job? Then I lose my car, my excellent credit history, and any chance at having a future free from the lurking calls of the bill collector agencies.

I have spent the last few evenings laying in my bed thinking about all of these crazy what-ifs.

These fears are on my mind constantly, both in and out of class. They have become my latest distraction and have probably been annoying all my friends just as much as they have been annoying me.

I just got the car and already I want to throw in the towel. I am ready to leave a note on the windshield, park the car in front of the dealership, change my identity and move far, far away to a town free from the hassles of five-year contracts and finance plans.

Alright, so maybe I am getting a little ahead of myself here. I have yet to make my first car payment. I am still counting down the days until it is due.

Maybe it will not be as hard as I am making it seem. I mean, other kids do it all the time, right?

Well, whether they do, it really does not affect me. I still have to hand over a large amount of each paycheck I get my hands on, just so I can be able to make it to the work that allows me to pay for the transportation that gets me to this job that I cannot stand in the first place.

Maybe I worry too much. What I need is a good, long drive to escape all of this headache and financial stress.

Oh never mind.

I just remembered those irritatingly high gas prices. Oh well…

Valerie Rojas, a sophomore journalism major, is Arts editor of the Campus Times. *She can be reached by e-mail at* **skalivornia@hotmail.com**.

Local restaurants offer variety

Melissa Lau
Editorial Director



Blanca Rocha

Michael Choi prepares sushi lunch specials at Aoki Japanese Restaurant on the corner of Bonita and D Street in La Verne. The restaurant has been serving lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday for seven years. It offers lunch specials during the busiest time of day and a variety of sushi, including California rolls and salmon skin, for dining in or take-out.

Tired of eating at delicious Davenport?

University of La Verne students are looking to local restaurants for an alternative.

And they are finding that beyond the borders of the University, there is a plethora of local eateries to try – for pretty good deals.

One favorite within walking distance is Warehouse Pizza.

"Their salad is my favorite salad ever made," said Michelle Baccus, a sophomore business administration major.

She enjoys the dressings and the cheeses.

She also suggests trying their meatball sub.

Also within walking distance are the Japanese favorites Aoki and the Bowl House.

Aoki offers a variety of traditional Japanese platters as well as sushi.

"I like the Crunchy Rolls, senior Samantha Kern said. "They're good."

T Philips, formerly known as Heroes, offers a variety of classic American entrees and ice cold drinks.

"They have a great sourdough chili bowl," junior Bryson Miller said.

If you want to explore beyond the borders of good old downtown La Verne, there are a variety of options to choose from.

Cramming for a test, but need fuel and looking for the convenience of a drive-through?

Try the 24-hour Alberto's on Garey Avenue. It offers a platter of super fries for $4.

Other places to try if you're looking for Mexican food are El Merendero on Fairplex Drive or Casa Jimenez on Garey.

Casa Jimenez has a 99 cent breakfast deal Monday through Friday.

Also, for $6.95, it offers an all-you-can-eat lunch.

You can order two or three items, which also come with soup and salad.

Have an appetite for Mediteranean food? Aladdin Jr., located at 3161 North Garey Ave. offers a lunch buffet daily for $8.99, available between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Add a Hookah pipe for the full experience.

El Taco Nazo, at 320 East Foothill Blvd. in Pomona, offers fish tacos in addition to various traditional food.

On Wednesdays, fish tacos are only 99 cents.

If you feel like Chinese, try Tasty Goody or Magic Wok on Foothill.

Tasty Goody is located at 10740 Foothill Blvd.

It also offers lunch bowls for $3.29.

You get to choose one meat item with chop suey plus chow mein, fried rice or steamed rice.

Magic Wok offers a lunch special for $4.19. They are located at 2212 Foothill Blvd.

It comes with fried rice or chow mein, the choice of one meat item and fried items. However, the portions are smaller than Tasty Goody.

For Lent, or if you just feel like eating fish, try Mr. Fish and Chips, located at 1453 Foothill Blvd. It is open from 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Looking for an alternative to Warehouse Pizza?

Try Roland's Red Devil Pizza, at 1465 Foothill, which is open from 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week in the Clark Shopping Center. Roland's also delivers. And aside from the usual pizza, Roland's offers salads, pasta and grinders.

Its dine-in lunch special is available from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For about $6.50, you have the choice of a mini pizza, salad and beverage, or a sandwich, salad, beverage, or spaghetti with meat sauce, salad and beverage.

Gambino's, located at 2086-C Foothill Blvd. in La Verne, offers a variety of Italian food including sandwiches, pizza and complete dinners.

Another popular place is the Bagelry, which is located at 2095 Foothill Blvd.

It offers bagels, bagel sandwiches and loaves of bread.

If these places don't please your taste buds, you can't go too far wrong with the classic In-N-Out burger. "You can't beat their Animal Style No. 1 and a lemon up," Miller said.

For Lent, or if you just feel like eating fish, try Mr. Fish and Chips, located at 1453 Foothill Blvd. It is open from 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Students shed their pounds for Spring Break

Juan Aguila
Staff Writer

Once again it is that time of year when college students invest bundles of money for the trip of their life-time to some of the best known spring break spots.

From the beaches of Cancun to the clubs of Rosarito Beach and the lake parties at Lake Havasu, it is time to leave college courses behind and get into - or out of - the clothes to party in.

An important aspect of this college ritual is getting your body in shape for spring break.

Students are known to start working off holiday pounds during January for the best look by April.



"I try to always stay fit, so I won't have to worry about looking fit for spring break," said Michael Aguila, a senior criminology major. "Push-ups and sit-ups are overlooked in my (opinion), if you just stick to it you'll see the results," Aguila said.

Most students, however, must get ready for spring break, whether by going on a diet or by just not pigging out at Davenport.

But do last minute shape-up plans work?

"It's a little too late at this point to get in shape," assistant athletic trainer Tim Nausin said. "Appearancewise, you might see some change, but it is unhealthy for your body to just through yourself at push-ups and sit-ups."

Nausin said that crunches and push-ups are good ways to spot-reduce weight but that can't be all you do.

You have to check your calorie intake, the portions you eat and your lifestyle in general. "You have to have good lifestyle choices," Nausin said.

"When spring break comes around, I look forward to spending time with my friends and family and not about hitting the gym extra hard," said Luis Chavez, a junior broadcasting major.

"Why are people going to be fit just for spring break? If you're going to be fit, then be fit, not just for spring break but for life."

There are a lot of techniques that people use to get fit but if they realize that this should be a lifestyle not a yearly routine, the "I need to get ready for spring

Continued on page 7

Leopards chewing good in the hood

Students spit, don't smoke

Ken Colby
Staff Writer

One of the fastest growing tobacco trends is becoming popular with students at the University of La Verne and could possibly affect them in a negative way.

However, it is not smoking. It is "Dip" or chewing tobacco.

According to Cindy Denne, director of student health services, there are an estimated 20 million chewing tobacco users in the United States, and the average user is between the ages of 18 and 25.

Dip is the most common form of smokeless tobacco, followed by chewing tobacco.

Dip is typically a shredded form of tobacco that looks similar to coffee grounds and is placed between the gum and lip, where it dissolves.

It is known to be a little stronger than chewing tobacco and can leave you with a lightheaded feeling, or a buzz you might get from drinking one beer.

Food & Fitness

One in a weekly series exploring trends in health and nutrition

chewed.

Denne said that smokeless tobacco delivers more nicotine to one's bloodstream than cigarettes.

She said nicotine is a highly addictive drug, nearly as addictive as cocaine.

According to Denne, smokeless tobacco can lead to a number of health problems, including cancer, gum recession, bone loss around the teeth, abrasion of the teeth as well as bad breath and stained teeth.

Alex Rodriguez, a junior, started chewing tobacco when he was 15 years old.

"It started as a social thing. My friends did it, so I joined in," Rodriguez said. "It helps relax me, when I get stressed I just put in a pinch and I'm good."

This form of tobacco is not new, but is a growing trend among ULV students.

"When I came to ULV, very few people did it, so I stopped for a while. Then, earlier this year, I found out my friends were doing it so I started again," Rodriguez said.

Doug Green, a student athlete, has been dipping on and off since he was 16.

"I guess I started dipping because I was bored one day when I was hanging out with my friends in high school, and I've been around it my entire life since my dad dips," Green said. "I can quit cold turkey, I just choose not to. When you quit you always crave it; you just have to have the will power not to do it."

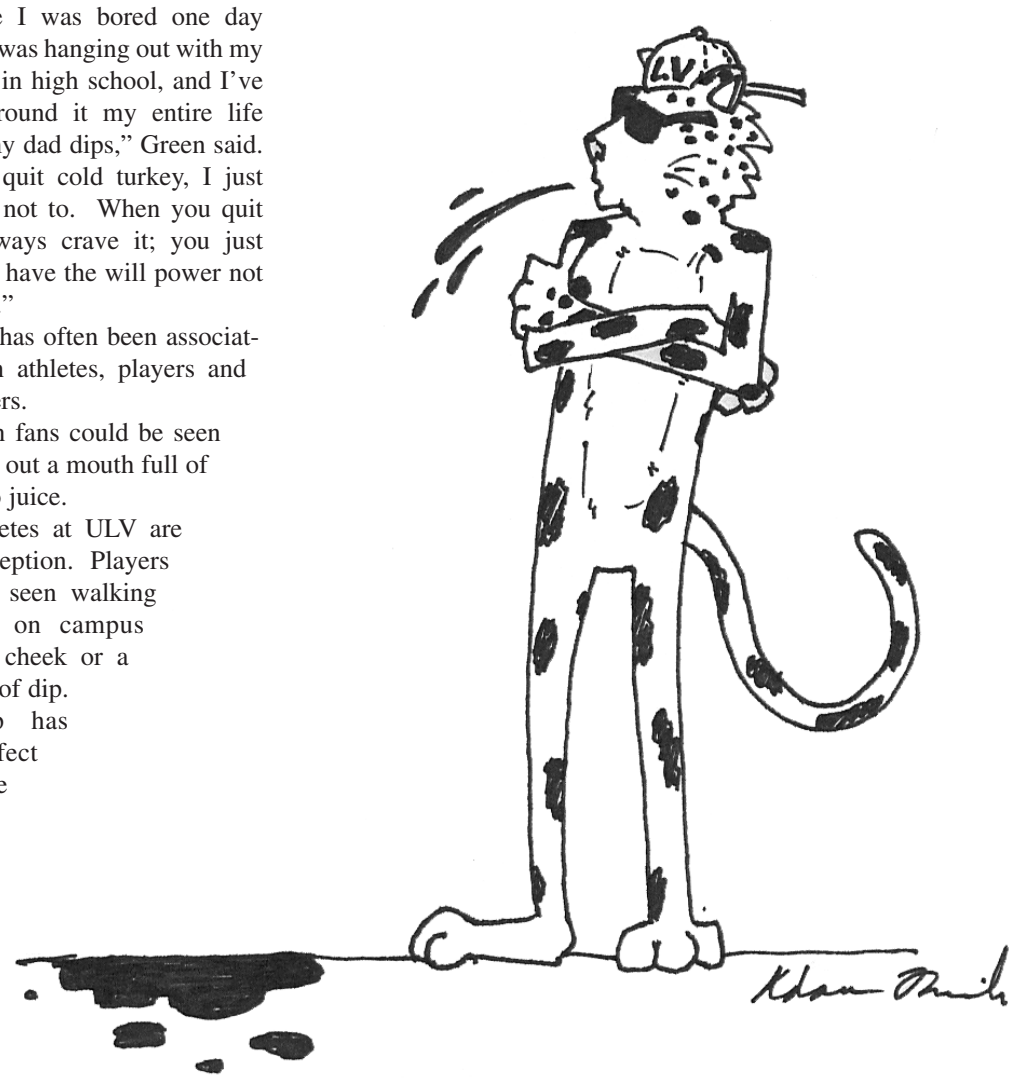
Dip has often been associated with athletes, players and managers.

Even fans could be seen spitting out a mouth full of tobacco juice.

Athletes at ULV are no exception. Players can be seen walking around on campus with a cheek or a lip full of dip.

"Dip has no effect on me as an athlete. I don't dip while I'm playing, but during the season it has no effect at all on me," Green said.

According to Denne smokeless tobacco users may have slower learning and adjustment to new requirements, slower and more irregular movements, and less accurate overall performance compared to non-smokers.



Whether athletes believe that they are affected when using smokeless tobacco, they are mistaken, it will have many silent effects, she said.

Among the increase in smokeless tobacco users are female athletes between the ages of 18 and 25, however they often do not chew the tobacco, but put it in their armpits and between their toes where it saturates through the skin and into the bloodstream.

They believe by doing this way they will get all the benefits of the tobacco without adverse affects of chewing it.

"They not only risk addiction but run other health risks in the areas of use, for example if someone uses tobacco in between their toes they may develop skin rashes, loss of skin," Deborah Parsons, assistant professor of movement and sports science, said.

"Smokeless tobacco does not mean harmless tobacco," Denne said.

'Smokeless tobacco does not mean harmless tobacco.'
– Cynthia Denne, director of student health services

Festival...

Continued from page 2

is expected to be lifted after July 1, Hawkey said.

"We've got good indicators and are very optimistic," he said.

If everything runs smoothly, the International Festival will be rescheduled for the week of Nov. 15 during International Education week.

Peter Frost cools workplace conflict

Janelle Krug
Staff Writer

Author Peter Frost will speak about his most recent book "Toxic Emotions at Work: How Compassionate Managers Handle Pain and Conflict" at 6:30 p.m. on April 7 in La Fetra Auditorium.

Frost will speak about the impact of different emotions in the workplace.

"In a nutshell, I talk about how toxic pain disconnects people from their work and impacts on their well-being," Frost said.

He will also discuss how the work environment relies on the roles of leaders to turn it from a toxic environment to one of healthy productivity.

Frost is a professor at the University of British Columbia in Canada.

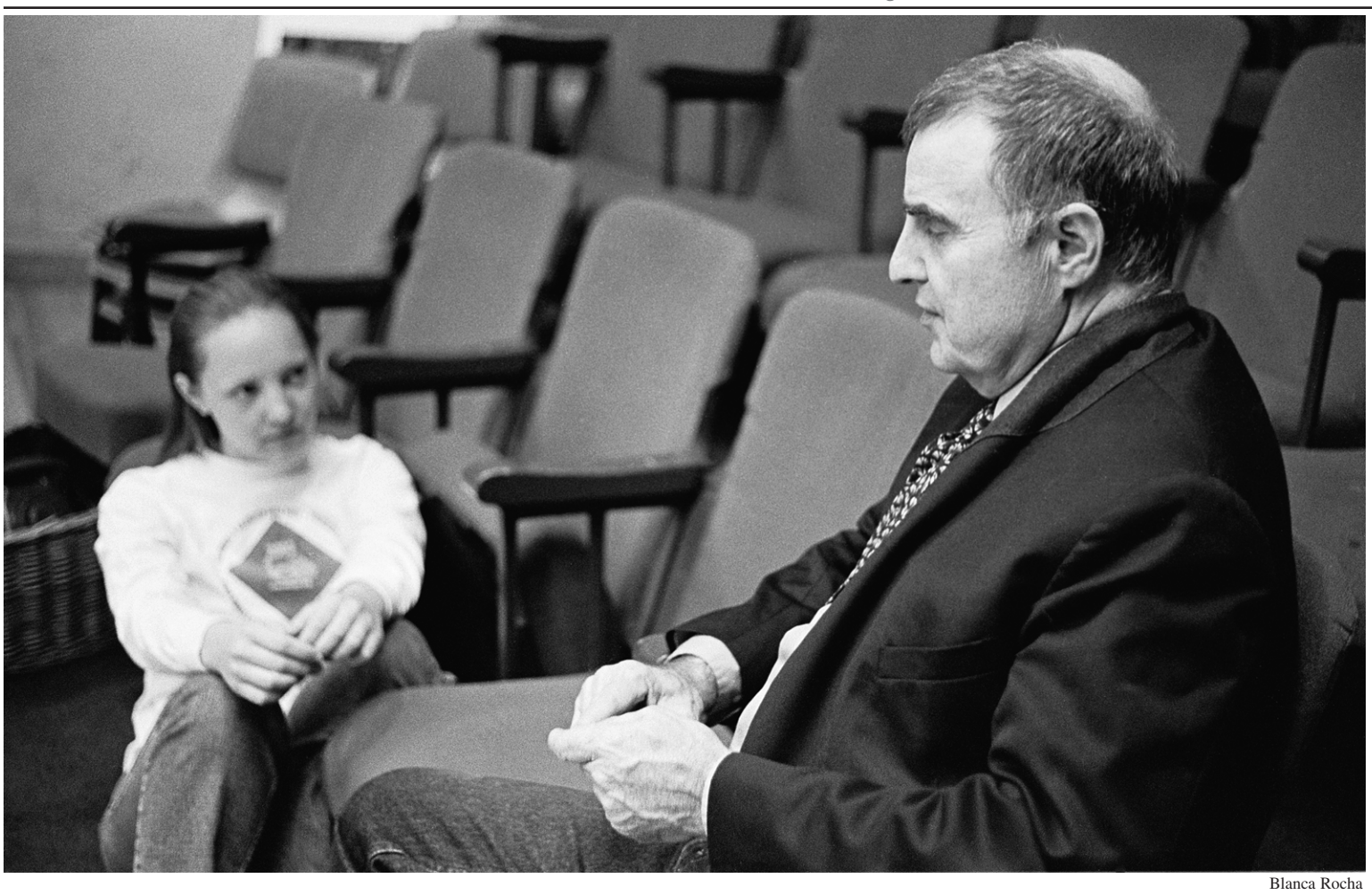
Frost has given talks on his books in the U.S., Canada, Brazil, China and Australia.

"I am delighted to be coming to La Verne to meet the community and to discuss the book," he said.

The lecture is part of the "Coffee, Cake, and Conversation" series sponsored by the masters program in leadership and management. The MSLM has brought 40 different scholars and authors to ULV.

"(The series brings) interesting people with interesting stories," said Carol Sawyer, a professor of organizational leadership, "a great way for people to learn."

For more information call Ext.. 4943.



Blanca Rocha

David Flaten, chairman of the Theater Arts Department, leads a meditation group in the Cabaret Theater every Tuesday morning at 8 a.m. Theater major Becky Campana is part of the group that has seen a decline in participation since last semester, when they had six students attending. The meditation is a way for students to relax during tense times like midterms and finals.

Students benefit from meditation

Ken Colby
Staff Writer

Anxiety and stress continue to rise among college students and a profound yet simple alternative to traditional pharmaceutical solutions is taking hold in dormitories and campuses.

As if a déjà vu from the 1960s has been spontaneously birthed, meditation is catching on as an easy, inexpensive, and effective method to calm the mind and heal the body.

Since David Flaten began his meditation program, he has received numerous of phone inquiries and even more emails from students and faculty, trying to find a way to slow down.

Flaten credits today's students with looking for drug-free solutions to the quandaries that have plagued campuses for decades – an unstable global environment, increased pressure and competition to deliver good grades and the obvious emotional conflicts that surround work, school and home.

"A tremendous amount of light energy enters a person's body," Flaten said.

"People are a combination of lightness and darkness, when you meditate you take in the light expelling some of the darkness."

His mediation session takes place every Tuesday morning in the Cabaret Theater, and is a powerful meditation based on the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi.

"In this meditation we become instruments of divine blessing for the planets as well as the whole humanity, kingdoms of nature and our loved ones," he said.

"This meditation is focused on service, working as a whole and a group, to bring light and healing to the world."

Becky Campana a junior at ULV has been doing this meditation for just over a year.

"It's a grounding experience. It has helped me relieve stress and realize that I don't need to carry those minor issues with me day to day."

> 'It's a grounding experience. It has helped me relieve stress and realize that I don't need to carry those minor issues with me day to day.'
> *– Becky Campana, theater major*

Students and faculty members have long been advocating a program like this.

"It's been a grounding force in my life through all the typical and unexpected challenges I faced growing up," communications major Ben de Ayora said. "Each day I realize the benefits whether I'm stuck in traffic, facing emotional turbulence or studying for a test,".

De Ayora sees this renewed interest in meditation by students as a positive step towards changing the way the world will operate as these college meditators graduate and enter the work force.

"I started meditating earlier this year, my roommate did it all the time and I decided to try it. To my surprise it is the most relaxing thing I have ever done," senior Julie Hanna said. "I know some students think it's stupid or weird but after you give it a try, you will fall in love with it."

In addition to the increasing number of research studies that continue to herald the medicinal benefits of meditation, Flaten anecdotally cited the number of meditating people that each day reap the more personal value of calming their minds, easing their anxieties and increasing their focus.

"It's an opportunity to enter the stillness, with all the mambo jumbo of today's society. Meditation helps make your minor dramas not such a big deal any more," Flaten said.

Break...

Continued from page 5

break" mentality would not even exist.

Cardiovascular workouts are known to be good way to get in shape.

Cardio exercises are designed to elevate your heart rate and any time you raise your heart rate for an extended period of time, your body is working hard enough to achieve results.

A workout that achieves this cardiovascular goal is Tai Boe. In Tai Boe you do non-impact punches and kicks with various movements to achieve a high heart rate in a workout that has been the craze for some time now.

For men, the areas that they seek to shape up are the arms, abs and oblique area, otherwise known as love handles. Workouts like sit-ups and push-ups can take care of this, but you have to also have a healthy diet.

Women tend to want to focus on the stomach and legs. Workouts like Winsor Pilates are among those recommended.

As a college student you just have to start somewhere and follow through.

"You have to have a game plan, and be able to follow through because there are no quick fix programs," Nausin said.

As for next week's exercise endeavors.

"I think because I got the week off ... I get lazier, so I don't really work out," said freshman criminology major Kyle Musselman.

"If I do go to the beach ... I might want to work out afterwards but not before, I am too lazy," he said.

College students do not always have the money or the rock-hard bodies the media says all people should strive for. They might not be as rich as rock star and as fit as an athlete, but that does not imply that they cannot have fun at spring break.

They simply hang out with their friends to make sure that, as a group of buddies, they have the best time of their young college lives.

MEChA...

Continued from page 2

own MEChA chapters.

In 1982 ULV formed its first MEChA club, but it was later replaced with the Latino Student Forum because many students thought they had to be of Mexican descent to be a member.

"Chicano doesn't necessarily mean you're Latino or Spanish," Urena said. "It's a philosophy."

MEChA's mission is to promote higher education, culture, history, self-determination and political involvement.

The club opposes racism, homophobia, sexism and oppression of any kind according to MEChA members. .

"It's been difficult," said freshman journalism major Laura Bucio. "Many people have stereotypes and think we're radical activists, but we're not. We just want to help the community."

> 'Many people have stereotypes and think we're radical activists, but we're not.'
> *-Laura Bucio, freshman journalism major*

Associated professor of sociology and MEChA advisor Hector Delgado and Gregorio Daniel, a student in the graduate program in Education at ULV, have been assisting the students in forming the organization.

Awards...

Continued from page 2

Center, Michelle Renteria, Nathan Baca, Christian Lopez, Agustin Avalos, Ayana Moultrie, Nick Schober and Danny Lee also won awards for their work on LVTV.

For the News Package category, Center won for "Citizen's Academy;" Renteria won for "Habitat for Humanity;" Baca won for "Fire Update;" Lopez won for "Terrorist Survival Plan;" Avalos and Center won for "War Protest;" and Center and Moultrie won for "Muslims in La Verne."

For features, LVTV swept the category with Schober and Lee's "Van's Skate Park," Mark Chiapelli and Gayane Grajian's "It's Raining Leos," Chiapelli and Nate Michael's "Pumpkin Patch" and Jorge Lezzam, Samantha Hodges and Doug Bradley's "Logan's Candies."

Recent graduate Jaclyn Roco won a CSPA award for "From the Editor," for La Verne Magazine.

La Verne Magazine was also recognized with three SPJ awards, including Honorable Mention for best all-around magazine.

The students earned two of three awards in the only magazine category, magazine nonfiction. The recipients of the SPJ awards were at the Region 11 Conference awards ceremony in San Diego on March 20.

"It's essential that the University send students to such things," Ruiz said. "But without participating in these events we exist in a vacuum."

In the SPJ competition, ULV students were up against students from Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Roco won first place for her story titled "Weaving a web of controversy," a story about the Brown Recluse Spider. Ruiz won third place for his article, "The Fairgrounds summer of infamy," about the incarceration of Japanese Americans at the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds during WWII.

The SPJ Mark of Excellence contest is one of the most prestigious journalism contests in the western United States.

Arts, etc...

HAPPENINGS

Sam Maloof Exhibition

Between April 4 and May 2 in the Millard Sheets Gallery (Building 3) at the Fairplex, 25-30 pieces of furniture from the Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation Collection will be shown. The pieces of furniture show the evolution of Maloof's designs from 1950 to the present. The exhibit is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and admission is free.

At 5 p.m. on April 3, there will be an opening reception where Maloof will sign his latest book, "The Furniture of Sam Maloof." Admission for the reception is $65.

For more information or to purchase tickets call (909) 865-4560 or visit **www.fairplex.org**.

Cool Cruise VIII

April 10 will see the return of the vintage car show to Old Town La Verne. About 700 vehicles will be on display, including the showcase vehicles: Willys, Altereds and Gassers. There will also be live entertainment, raffles and food. All ages are welcome.

'Through the Loophole'

Starting April 12 and running through May 28, the University of La Verne Harris Art Gallery will present a multimedia installation by digital artist Lucy H. Griesbach called "Through the Loophole." The exhibition will feature Griesbach's works, which mix the world of science with the practical. The gallery is open to the public Monday through Friday.

For more information, contact art studio manager Dion Johnson at ext. 4273.

- Nila Priyambodo

Latin musical traditions get 'Passion' flowing

by Erin Zabarnick

photography by Gloria Diaz



Guitarist Michael Ryan, percussionists Michael Bennett and Tracy Ryan filled Dailey Theatre with music of "Gypsy Passion." Friday night's concert was part of the Michael Ryan and Friends concert series. Songs influenced by the Spanish guitar, "Nyah," "Fields of Gold" by Sting, "Hungarian Cafe," and "Espaná Nueva" entertained the audience. The night also featured "Adagio," a solo performance by Ryan.

Gypsy Passion, a band inspired by the rich heritage of Latin musical traditions, performed last Saturday evening in Dailey Theatre.

The show consisted of seven performers, including Michael Ryan, who started the band 10 years ago and has been playing guitar and singing for the last 20.

Ryan's wife Tracy, a University of La Verne alumna working in the Human Resources Department, is in the band on percussion. Michael Bennett, a senior music major, is also a percussionist. Kendall Smith, a senior music major, plucks the bass.

Some of the more professional performers are Ron Powell, another percussionist. Powell has played with pop musicians Kenny G and Madonna.

Ken Soderlund, sings and plays guitar, synthesized guitar, tuba and mandolin. Hai Muradian, who plays flute, has performed with Ryan for three years.

This talented group of artists joined together to create a magical evening of music.

Along with the music, the background, lit with soft blues, teals and turquoises, set a relaxing mood. As the colors heated to orange and red, the pace of the music followed.

"This was an excellent and intimate setting," said Soderlund.

An accordion played as people filed into the theatre already packed with students, faculty, and fans from ULV and surrounding communities.

Gypsy Passion played two sets with a brief intermission, giving audience members a chance to buy CDs.

Their distribution manager, Edward Fuller said, "It's wonderful to be part of a group of people who spread the gift of music."

> 'It doesn't matter if I'm playing for 100,000 people or 10 people, I'm onstage because I like playing music.'
>
> *-Ron Powell, musician*

The band played more than 13 songs, some deep and passionate while others made the audience dance around in their seats.

The crowd went crazy when Powell and Bennett played a percussion solo together, hitting and banging everything on the set.

"Mike Bennett outplayed me on the wall," Powell said.

"It doesn't matter if I'm playing for 100,000 people or 10 people, I'm on stage because I like playing music." Powell said.

Together Powell and Bennett played over 50 different instruments from the percussion family. Almost everyone in the band played more than one instrument. They were passionate and demonstrated a great sense of timing.

Another highlight of the night was when Muradian, on the flute, came up with a blues song after he was given three topics from the audience: banana peels, soggy shoes and the war in Iraq. Using the topics, the crowd loved the song Muradian put together in just minutes.

"Personally, as a flute player, I get to put energy into the subtle and subdued," Muradian said. "And every note I play gets heard. It fills my ego and I like that."

Gypsy Passion performs four concerts a year.

The Ryans, Muradian and Soderlund can be heard every Thursday night at Casa de Salsa in Claremont. Ryan plays solo at the Candlelight Pavilion almost every night.

"Mike has brought a new feel to the place and I am just happy to be here having fun with a talented group of musicians," said Mark Bollinger, co-owner of Candlelight Pavilion.

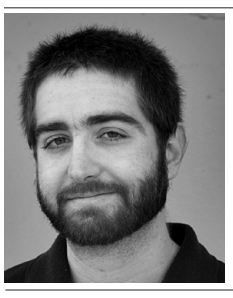
Ryan plans on developing a new set with a more Brazilian feel in the near future, but things are still up in the air.

"Tonight was great. You reap the benefits of rehearsing," Smith said.

"It's not about the noise on stage, it's about the big hearts and good attitudes among the people you work with," Bennett said.

Feedback

Paying tribute without publicity



TAYLOR KINGSBURY

April 8 marks the 10th anniversary of the day Kurt Cobain's body was found.

You purists can "celebrate" on April 5, the day his life is believed to have ended, but for those affected by Nirvana's music, the 8th is the day that remains frozen in our minds.

Ten years later, Cobain's presence is still as prevalent on every mainstream media outlet as it was the day before the discovery of his body.

This month, his face adorns the cover of dozens of national magazines, each one putting a different caption next to it to convince nostalgic Nirvana fans that they need to add it to their archives. Ironically, every article summarizes basically the same thing: that Cobain shot himself because the fame and recognition his music yielded sucked away the joy he attained by playing it.

We know their motivations; not to commemorate the passing of a legendary musician, but to make money off our desire to commemorate it.

As Nirvana fans, perhaps we should instead be considering that the man we are mourning is gone because of the way he was idolized, and the way that directly combated the purity and honesty of the music he gave us.

In death, Kurt Cobain has become a mythical, messianic figure. You can buy your "Kurt Cobain: 1967-1994" T-shirts at Hot Topic, read through his personal journals at Barnes & Noble, or take a peek at his unabridged suicide note on the Internet.

But, would Kurt really want us doing any of this?

It's safe to say that no one reading this knew the man well enough to accurately answer that question. But for those who have truly let the music of Nirvana into their soul, the answer is painfully obvious.

The same man whose death we have commercialized for the last decade resisted his fame from its outset.

This same man returned the Lexus he splurged on because he felt like a jackass driving it.

This same man was also an immensely gifted artist, yet kept his paintings so thoroughly hidden from view that to date, even the most ravenous Nirvana fan has the means to see a mere handful of them.

This same man submitted a follow-up to "Nevermind" entitled "I Hate Myself and Want to Die" that his label initially refused to release.

This same man refused several touring offers that would have made him rich beyond his wildest dreams, but would have forced him to share the bill with bands he intensely despised, i.e. Guns N' Roses.

This same man used the most high profile gig of his life, on MTV's "Unplugged," as an opportunity to jam with his friends the Meat Puppets, and to cover songs by Leadbelly and the Vaselines.

Note that until that performance, the mention of any of those acts to an average Nirvana fan would have drawn the blankest, most puzzled stare the human face has the ability to conjure.

If we trace the history of Nirvana, we can clearly see that Kurt Cobain never wanted to be a demigod, he just wanted to make an honest living playing his music.

And if we trace the history of Kurt Cobain, we can clearly see that the man himself was no messiah. He was a volatile junkie who repeatedly threatened the lives of journalists, elicited sympathy by threatening to commit suicide on a regular basis, and threatened to disband Nirvana if his band mates did not agree to split a meager 25 percent of the band's royalties. Oh, yeah, and he had terrible taste in women.

Considering the tragic circumstances of his demise, it's easy to figure out why subservient fans have been drawn into the mythos.

But, Nirvana's music is ripe with intelligence, so more intellectually minded listeners should be able to figure out that something far more substantial than Kurt Cobain's life ended in April 1994: Nirvana.

I do not mean to speak ill of the dead, so do not misunderstand me.

That day is forever etched in my mind as well, and I can tell you where I was (Collector's Only in Anaheim), what I was wearing (a Groo the Wanderer T-Shirt), and what I was eating (a foot-long tuna on white and French Onion Sun Chips) when I learned of Kurt Cobain's death.

But, Cobain was very human, and to treat him as anything but is a travesty to his memory.

It seems to me that ten years after his demise, we have not learned a thing from it.

If you want to honor the memory of Kurt Cobain, don't pry into his private thoughts, give your money to a corporate chain who bought the rights to a photograph of him and put it on a T-Shirt, or scoop up a stack of mainstream magazines who never printed a single story about Nirvana until everyone in the world had already heard of them.

If you truly love and cherish Kurt Cobain's existence, light a candle, turn out all the lights, put your headphones on, and let the immense majesty of "Lithium" rattle your eardrums.

Ten years on, we are no closer to resolution.

We have no concrete reason, no answers, and no grand understanding of this complex man that none of us ever met.

All we have are three studio albums, a compilation of obscurities, an acoustic session, a shoddily assembled live disc, and a handful of outtakes.

But, for those who truly keep Nirvana, and Kurt Cobain, in their hearts, that is more than enough.

Taylor Kingsbury, a senior journalism major, is a columnist for the Campus Times. *He can be reached by e-mail at* **happyendingrocks@hotmail.com**.

Legacy of public art reflects La Verne identity

Public art encouraged in city plan

Kenneth Todd Ruiz
Editor in Chief

A centennial of La Verne history is found not in the library archives, but painted, crafted and sculpted on the city's walls and public spaces.

From the ubiquitous orange crate labels recalling the town's citrus origins in Old Town to abstract murals reflecting the foothill landscape along Arrow Highway, this small town is big on public art.

In recent years, city hall has updated the city plan to promote public art displays in the city.

"The plan is a blueprint for the future of the city," said Arlene Andrew, senior planner for the city. "It's a deliberate move to encourage public art."

She said that new developments in the business corridor along Foothill Boulevard have included numerous public art components, such as "It's Your Fault," a multi-colored sheet metal sculpture of the fault lines that run through the area.

The city has gone so far as to establish art requirements in the Arrow Highway business park.

Up to 1 percent of funds for new developments are required to be spent on public art or go into a city fund for that purpose.

"We look for something incorporated into the design, not just plopped down in some corner," Andrew said.

Such integrated designs include the facade of the Bagelry on Foothill Boulevard, with it's inset mural.

> 'It's part of preserving our heritage and culture.'
> *—Jon Blickenstaff, La Verne mayor*

The plan cites several goals to "foster cultural awareness through public art projects, promotion of the arts and programs commemorating La Verne's history."

More than 20 examples of public art are found within La Verne borders. Damien High School boasts the oldest known of these, a 1939 mural on the wall of a music building. A classic example of art deco design, the mural represents musical instruments and choir singers, signed at the bottom by the "Class of '39."

In an effort to keep things local, the city tries to draw upon local artists for the projects.

Brian Worley, director of facilities management at the University of La Verne, applied colored layers of stucco in 2001 to compose "Mountainscape" on the walls of a storage facility at 1960 San Dimas Canyon Road, as well as "Mountain Waves," a cut-glass mosaic at White Avenue and First Street.

Recent arrivals to the neighborhood have added to the city's creative landscape. When Kohl's opened its doors last year on Foothill Boulevard, the "Pride of La Verne," a mural emblazoned with the setting sun reflected off San Dimas Canyon, was included on the eastern wall.

In 1995, when The Bagelry moved into its peach-colored home, the owners commissioned "Citrus Traditions," an abstract ceramic tile mosaic incorporated into the buildings facade.

Skewed past the point of abstraction, "It's Your Fault" is a crayola-colored representation of the region's geologic fault lines painted onto sheet metal panels in front at Foothill Boulevard and Moreno Avenue.

"It's part of preserving our heritage and culture," said Mayor Jon Blickenstaff of the artwork.

Difficult to pin down on a favorite, Blickenstaff said the new mural on the side of the fire department resonates personally with him.

Showing three scenes, the mural depicts fire fighters from the past and today.

"I was a volunteer for 14 years in the fire department," he said. "I was wearing that uniform."



Choir returns from four-state tour

Choir earns standing ovation



Reina Santa Cruz

Scott Farthing, assistant professor of music and director of choral and vocal studies, and the 45-member La Verne Chorale went on its first tour in more than six years. The tour began in Modesto then made its way to Portland, Ore., Namba, Idaho, Reno, Nev. and finally back to La Verne. On Sunday the Chorale performed at the Church of the Brethren, bringing its tour to a close.

Nila Priyambodo
Staff Writer

The University of La Verne's choir, consisting of 45 undergraduate students, wrapped up its five day tour with a performance Sunday at the La Verne Church of the Brethren.

The performance included a wide variety of choral music, with songs ranging from the Renaissance period to the 20th century.

Works performed included a song from Africa called "Kpanlongo;" three songs that promoted peace, called "Song of Peace," "Soldier's Elegy" and "God Bless America," and a song written by Scott Farthing, assistant professor of music and director of choral and vocal studies, called "Come Travel With Me."

"Tonight's performance is all about the power of music," Farthing said. "The music we sing tonight uplifts our soul."

Performances were made by the chorale, the women's choir, the men's ensemble and Carol Stephenson, the University's singing coach.

Stephenson sang four songs written by Farthing – "Sustain Me," "Psalm 412," "I Know Love" and "How Many Ways?"

In the end, a standing ovation was given to the choir by a packed crowd, consisting of ULV faculty and students, choir members' friends and families and the public.

"The performance tonight went really well," junior alto singer Angela Busch said. "It got really emotional in the end. Almost everyone in the choir wanted to cry."

Elide Flores, a freshman, was one of the many people who enjoyed the show.

"I have never seen them perform before," Flores said, "But this was a great first experience. I loved the way it all came together. It was a really nice performance."

Freshman Irene Beltran agreed with Flores.

"I was really impressed by their performance. They sounded good together and you can tell they've been working hard," she said.

The five-day tour set up by Julia Wheeler, the church relations liaison to the Church of the Brethren, included performances in churches in Modesto, Calif.; Portland, Ore.; Nampa, Idaho; and Reno, Nev.

"I wanted to create ways for the church and the community to get together," Wheeler said. "I am so happy to have this happen and to mix the University with the church."

According to Farthing, the last choir tour was in 1992 when Bruce Hirsch was the choral director, so the students are thankful to have this opportunity.

"We just wanted to get the music out there," said sophomore tenor singer Steven Andrews.

"The tour was really fun and we want to continue it every year and make it a tradition."

Freshman soprano Yelena Orchavenko also enjoyed going on tour and wants to make the tour a tradition.

"The tour was awesome," Orchavenko said.

"It was more than I expected, but it allowed me to bond with the choir."

Overall, Farthing believes the performance, as well as the tour, went well.

"It was a wonderful trip," Farthing said. "I am very proud of the students."

Movie Review

'Goodbye Lenin' makes history fun

Max Zänker
LV Life Editor

Alex Kerner is an ordinary 21 year old. Just like every man of his age, he sometimes sleeps too long and rebels against his parents. Even his love life is not very exciting, as his date for the night is not a hot girl, but his sister's infant daughter, whom he babysits.

Under normal circumstances, his story would not be worth making a movie out of or even telling.

But Alex does not live in ordinary circumstances or in ordinary times, and thus, Germany's "Goodbye Lenin" tells his story.

Alex lives in the East Berlin of 1990 in the German Democratic Republic, a country changing at incredible speed, shortly before the reunion with West Germany.

But don't be afraid, this movie is not about history, rather history is the sidebar in this comedy, which tells the personal story of Alex and his own experiences within the winds of change, as he rebuilds and keeps the German Democratic Republic alive in the 850 square feet of his family's apartment.

Alex's mother Christiane, a very serious comrade, is on her way to the 40th anniversary of the GDR when she sees her son beaten up by the police during a peaceful demonstration for more public freedom.

Overwhelmed by the double shock of the state violence against her son and the fact that Alex does not share her communistic ideals, she suffers from a heart attack and falls into a coma.

Eight months later, Christiane Kerner wakes up in the same city, but in another country and another culture.

The wall has come down. Western brands like Coca-Cola and Ikea have taken the old East by storm and swept away everything that Kerner's mother ever believed in.

Alex's quest is to keep this a secret from her. The doctor tells him any new shock could kill his mother, so Alex decides to keep the GDR alive for her and hide all western changes and influences.

Newcomer Daniel Brühl, as Kerner, and Katrin Saß, shining as his mother, make the audience forget that there actually is not much going on in this movie.

There are no special effects or explosions involved and the production values are occasionally nostalgic, as from time to time even the edge of the boom-microphone dips into the frame.

Everything that keeps the viewer in his seat is the poignant and personal story about the Kerner family and their struggles to find themselves and stay together in hard political and personal times.

Moviegoers will learn about the history of Germany without even realizing it, as director Wolfgang Becker lets Kerner voice over the pictures of historic incidents like the fall of the Berlin wall, the first reunified German election or the German success at the Soccer World Championship in 1990. This is all done in a humorous way that mirrors the mood throughout the film.

When Alex starts staging the GDR in his family's apartment, the movie shifts from it's dramatic beginning into it's real strength: the comedy.

Sometimes even slapstick-like antics lie in Kerner's desperate struggle to recreate old East German brands and his fight against the western takeover that manifests in the huge Coca-Cola banner unfurled in front of his mother's window.

But reality cannot be locked out, so Alex goes to further heights to change history and retell the fate of the GDR like a communist fairy tale with a fake television news program when things cannot be ignored any longer.

During the staging of his mother's communist dream, Alex faces his own struggle with the freedom and westernization he had fought for.

He realizes that maybe things were not so bad "back in the old days," which lie not even one year behind him.

"Goodbye Lenin" is playing in Laemmle's Playhouse theatre in Pasadena. For more information call (626) 844-6500.

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Dynamic duo scores SCIAC honor

Pair earns deserved recognition



Jenna Campbell

Senior co-captains Jason Cortez and Chad Rodriguez are the No. 1 tennis doubles team at La Verne. The duo have been paired up since spring of last year, with a record of 11-5 overall and 5-1 in conference. "These guys are the best tennis players La Verne has ever seen, when they are gone no one will be able to fill their shoes," head coach Steve Bergovoy said.

Sara Lupu
Staff Writer

One would think that with the combined athleticism and accomplishments of this dynamic duo on the tennis courts, they have received many awards and recognition, but that is not the case.

For the first time in two years of playing together, and four years playing tennis at the University of La Verne, seniors Jason Cortez and Chad Rodriguez were named Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Male Athletes of the Week for the week ending March 3.

"I was excited about the award, but shocked that it didn't happen sooner because we did so well together last year," Rodriguez said.

The recognition, along with a possible offers for professional tennis careers is just one reason to get to know Cortez and Rodriguez.

The two have been doubles partners and co-captains for the past two seasons and continue to put up consistent numbers for the team that is currently 4-11 overall.

"They are making their mark as a doubles team, and in the last two years they have upset some of the best teams in the nation," head men's tennis coach Steve Bergovoy said.

Cortez and Rodriguez are ultimately looking to advance to the West Regionals and qualify for Nationals.

"Regionals will just be another area where we can prove our abilities," Cortez said.

"The West Region is saturated with the top talent in the nation, and we are looking for them to finish big and set a standard for future players," Bergovoy said. "By winning regionals, they will most likely be named All-Americans, and there's nobody who deserves it more."

Cortez, 21, is originally from Monrovia, but his family moved to Chino when he was in high school.

He finished prepping at Don Lugo High School where he also was a member of the tennis team.

If it was not for a football injury his freshman year in high school that led him to try another sport, he may have never become so successful on the tennis court.

ULV was the only college he applied to because of the size of the school and the close proximity to home.

He was not planning on playing tennis because he did not expect to make the team.

"I just thought that college tennis was a whole other level and that I wouldn't be able to play," Cortez said.

Being one of the top players on the team and a co-captain now proves his thoughts wrong.

"His game has improved since day one and now he is a well rounded tennis player," Bergovoy said.

Rodriguez, 21, is from Upland and graduated from Upland High School.

Rodriguez has been playing tennis for a total of 16 years, but has only been playing competitively for 10.

He was supposed to attend Cal Poly on a Division II tennis scholarship, but when he went to orientation he realized that the school was not a place he could call home.

"I had been in contact with, and knew Steve [Bergovoy] and he ended up recruiting me and helping me out with late applications," Rodriguez said.

With different backgrounds and reasons for coming to ULV, the two were lucky in finding each other.

When asked about the partnership and team that they have formed, both were quick to smile and provide an answer with no kind of hesitation, like the way they complement each other on the court.

"We are the best pair," Cortez said. "We complement each other and our flow is automatic. If he moves one way, I know I need to go the other way."

"We definitely keep each other calm and when one's down we can pick them up, and vice versa," Rodriguez said. "When we are focused, anything can happen, and wherever the ball is, one of us will be there. The lack of stress makes our games go smoothly."

For now, the pair is focused on finishing their season strong and graduating in May. Cortez is majoring in communications and Rodriguez in computer science.

While the two are sure that they will someday be looking for careers in their fields of interest, there is another opportunity on their horizon, an opportunity that every college athlete wishes they could receive.

Bergovoy has set up a sponsorship for them to join the professional tennis circuit after graduation if they continue their strong play.

"This is something that I am excited to help them with if they continue to do well and prove that they deserve it," Bergovoy said. "I am not just looking for results, I am looking at their character and professionalism on the court, and their ability to deal with pressure and execute under it."

Both Cortez and Rodriguez are looking seriously into the opportunity and know what they have to get done in the mean time.

Besides being great athletes and on track to graduate in May, Cortez and Rodriguez are both exceptional individuals.

"These guys have played for me all four years, and I feel like they are my children," Bergovoy said. "I take a ton of personal interest in my players and I cherish my relationship with them."

Watching the two play together is synchronization at its best. They both bring a strong knowledge and love for the game and it can be seen just passing by to watch them play for a few minutes.

"Jason is a kid who has unbelievable energy and keeps things light and lively," Bergovoy said. "When we get a little too serious he can break the tension. At the same time, he is a world-class athlete with a very natural game and triple-digit serves. I might say that he is a tennis version of Kobe Bryant."

"And Chad, I would adopt him in a second," Bergovoy said. "The leadership and maturity that he brings to this team are phenomenal. He gives 200 percent every practice and I never have to ask him to pick up his intensity."

With only three regular season matches remaining, Cortez and Rodriguez are looking for wins to end the season on the right foot.

"We have to go in with the belief that we will do well. Without that there's no point in competing," Cortez said.

"We can take all of the teams, we've already proven that to ourselves and we know we have the abilities," Rodriguez said. "Now it is just a matter of execution."

The two will compete for their last time at La Verne at 9:30 a.m. on April 10. After that, they plan to make La Verne tennis history.

"These two have produced unbelievable results, and accomplished more than ULV tennis has ever seen before, and I am so proud of them," Bergovoy said.

> 'We are the best pair. We complement each other and our flow is automatic. If he moves one way, I know I need to go the other way.'
> *—Jason Cortez, senior*

Track athletes best in field at ULV



Sylvia Castellanos

At the University of La Verne's Invitational Meet Saturday, senior Christy DeLapp tied for first place with jumpers from Oxnard and Riverside City Colleges, clearing 5' 1 3/4" in the high jump competition. The meet was a non-scoring meet. Assistant coach Will Darity is hopeful that the women's team will defend its conference championship title in SCIAC.

Kenneth Todd Ruiz
Editor in Chief

Track and field athletes from the University of La Verne threw, jumped and ran their way to high marks at the ULV Invitational last weekend at Ortmayer Stadium.

ULV hosted 18 teams Saturday, including Redlands, Cal Lutheran, Riverside Community College, Biola and Long Beach City College.

"We had some great performances," head coach Pat Widolff said. "They took first place in a number of events."

Although the emphasis of the day was not on inter-team competition, several Leopards took top marks in their respective events.

Junior Gerlaine Kiamco led in the hammer toss, hurling her way to first place with a throw of more than 152 feet.

Kiamco said this is the first year ULV has competed in it's own hammer ring, and conditions are not perfect yet.

"It's not level yet, so we are throwing uphill, which takes a few feet away from us," Kiamco said. "But it's the first year, so it's better than not having it at all."

Katie Ford, a freshman, took to the skies with the highest pole vault while junior Lakia Sims made the longest jump and triple jump of the day.

Representing the men, junior James Chambless blended his sprinting and jumping abilities, leaping into first place in the 110-meter and 400-meter hurdles.

Junior Ellen Soakai and senior Lisa Mila beat out all other contenders with their discus and javelin throws, respectively.

Throwing the farthest in the shot put competition, senior Lori Waters also made first place with 43'10".

For Waters, the day was an opportunity to practice her skills but she looks forward to stiffer competition.

"It was good to get in the competitive mode, it gets you ready for SCIAC." Waters said.

Improving her personal record in the shot put, Erica Pembleton threw 37.2 feet, up from her previous mark of 33.9.

She said she owed the performance to a week spent focused on getting her technique down.

Members of ULV's team will compete this weekend at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in the Cal/Nevada State Championships.

Leo baseball proves cats are better than dogs

Jonathan Corral
Assistant Editor

The University of La Verne jumped up in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference standings last weekend with three wins over the University of Redlands.

In a three game series, the Leopards swept passed Redlands using a deadly offensive attack that scored 38 runs with a total team effort that lifted the Leopards to 4-1, 18-12 and 16-14 victories over the Bulldogs.

With the sweep, the Leopards improved their overall record to 16-7, 7-2 in SCIAC, just a half game behind first-place Cal Lutheran University.

"We did the little things that you have to do in order to win games," senior A.J. Reyes said. "Now we have to take every game one at a time. We have to worry about the game at hand and we should be fine."

Game three of the series in Redlands started off with a bang as both teams combined for eight runs in the first inning.

The Leopards started things off with three runs in the top of the first when Tony Lagos doubled home two runs, taking the early 3-0 lead. Lagos finished the series with eight total hits.

Redlands quickly responded with fives runs of their own off Leopards' starter Alan Sarrail.

Both starters regained their composure and held the opposing hitters at bay until both teams exploded in later innings.

Trailing, 8-4, heading into the seventh, the Leopards responded like true champions, scoring four runs in the seventh, three in the eighth and five in the ninth to take the victory.

Garrett Riojas started the onslaught with a homerun that sparked the rest of the lineup. Ortega followed with a triple, scoring two to inch the Leopards closer to the Bulldogs.

Ryan Holmes tied the game up at eight with his RBI single to right, giving life back to the Leopards.

The Leopards were led by Ortega, who finished 3 for 5 at the plate with six RBIs, as well as Riojas, who hit 3 for 5 with three RBIs.

Game two of the series was a marathon of sorts, lasting four hours and 15 minutes.

It was another hitting display as both teams combined for 30 runs, with the Leopards coming away with a 18-12 victory in ten innings.

The Leopards came through in the clutch, scoring eight runs in the top of the tenth, closing the door on any chance for a Bulldog comeback.

Holmes finished the game hitting 4 for 6 with an RBI, and Soriano went 2 for 5 with three RBIs.

The Leopards received help from the Bulldogs, who committed four errors in the top of the tenth, contributing to the Leopards' eight-run explosion.

The big tenth inning began for the Leopards when Reyes knocked a double to center field scoring the first two runs of the innings.

Momentum stayed on the Leopards side as they continued putting runs on the board, taking advantage of the lackluster Bulldog defense.

The opening game of the series at Ben Hines Field was a far cry from the hitting display put on by both teams in the doubleheader in Redlands.

Excellent pitching was the name of the game as both pitchers kept the opposing hitters in check. Leopards' starter Mark Simmons pitched seven strong innings, propelling them to a 4-1 victory.

"Friday's game was just a great game," head coach Scott Winterburn said. "I was real pleased with our offense, our versatility and the way we manufactured runs against a good pitcher."

The Leopards jumped on the Bulldogs early, scoring two runs in the first inning. Their defense and pitching did the rest.

The Leopards added a run in the second and sixth, paving the way for the victory.

B.J. DuBarry had two RBIs and Lagos went 2 for 3 with one RBI.

The Leopards face Occidental this weekend, playing game one in Los Angeles Friday and a doubleheader at 11 a.m. Saturday in La Verne.

"In order to catch the first place team, we have to win games," Winterburn said. "As a team we have to play our game, do the things we have learned and play together as a team, when we do that we play very well and it starts this weekend against Occidental."

Softball sweeps Pomona-Pitzer



Desiree Quintero

Elaine Martinez' hit in the fourth inning helped the Leopards come back from a rocky start against the Pomona-Pitzer Sagehens Saturday. Martinez pitched five scoreless innings for ULV in game one. The Leopards came back with some strong hits, and ended the game with a 10-0 victory in five innings. ULV took the second game of the doubleheader, 8-0.