Campus Times

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210 Fwy sparks legal action

Kenneth Todd Ruiz
Assistant Editor

Several La Verne residents have filed complaints with the city as a precursor to a class-action lawsuit over the impact of the 210 Freeway extension, which they say has made their homes uninhabitable.

The group, represented by attorney Edmund Hoy, is seeking compensation for the value of their homes from the City, the California Department of Transportation and Yeager Skanska Incorporated, which constructed the extension.

In the complaints, filed with the city in March, the five homeowners at the end of Beaver Way alleged actual damages caused by the "increasingly high level of noise, increasingly severe vibration, serious air pollution, and severe structural damages."

Another seven residents are considering joining the suit before a May 24 filing deadline, six months after the freeway's completion.

"We are asking them to condemn the houses," said Sharon Dina, one of the homeowners.

According to La Verne Assistant City Manager Bob Russi, the claims were rejected by the city council in April, following the recommendation of a third-party administrative adjustor. Russi said filing such claims is required under law to pave the way for litigation.

Dina claimed that more than 40 cracks have developed in the exterior and interior of her 25-year-old home, of which she is the original owner. Dina said repair estimates the damage have exceeded $50,000. As a retired widow on a fixed income, she said she cannot afford the repairs.

The complaint focuses on the portion of the freeway running just behind their homes. While most of the freeway running through La Verne is depressed below ground level to minimize the impact on residents, this segment, roughly one quarter-mile, is the only section in the city that is not. Residents said the impact has been greater than they were led to believe.

"They told us squat," Dina said.

"The freeway was not built correctly, all-in-all," said Jonathan Risco, another homeowners who is also suing. "The plans said it would be sunken all the way through the city."

Russi said the freeway has been zoned since the 1950s and that the above ground portion at the heart of the matter predated the recent construction as the former end of the freeway.

"In our preference we would like it below ground for the entire city," Russi said. "However, Caltrans was not going to remove a pre-existing portion of the freeway."

Caltrans, he said, had no legal obligation to make any changes to the original plan: it agreed to depress the freeway after requests from the cities affected.

"I voted for the freeway," Dina said. "I think it is a good thing. They told us, though, it would be depressed 20-feet below ground level."

Visible cracks spider throughout the concrete surrounding Dina's backyard pool, and along the interior walls of her home. The work, she said, disturbed the pipes under her home, affecting her swimming pool and indoor heating. A

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Sylvia Castellanos

Sharon Dina is one of five La Verne residents suing the city of La Verne, Cal Trans and Yeager Skanska for structural damages brought on by the construction of the new 210 Freeway. Since March 9, Dina has reported seeing more than 40 cracks in her home's foundation and structural lumber throughout the house, as well as broken pipes to her spa.

Disputed pay plan approved

Gloria Diaz
Managing Editor

The University of La Verne Board of Trustees has approved the final draft of the Principles of Compensation, which grants faculty and staff modest overall salary increases, but also institutes a controversial differential payment plan.

The plan calls for a 3 percent raise for the general faculty, with additional raises for some departments and programs – such as business and education – where competing colleges pay substantially more than ULV.

"The task force worked long and hard with knowledge that it contained controversial issues," said ULV President Stephen Morgan. "It did receive input and made modifications to the plan."

Dissenters to the plan say it is divisive and will have the effect of devaluing many programs where faculty are also underpaid.

The Faculty Assembly nonetheless vetoed Monday, 60-54, to support the plan.

Until now, ULV faculty members were paid on similar scales across programs.

Faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences unanimously voted against the plan, from which they will not see large increases, said Claudio Muñoz, professor of business and president of the La Verne chapter of the American Association of University Professors.

"Unfortunately, this issue has divided the faculty," said Richard Gelm, chairman of the history and political science department.

"The University of La Verne has had a very unique and special culture," Gelm said. "It is one of the few universities where a true collegial relationship between the faculty has existed; this policy threatens to undermine that culture and leaves many faculty saddened."

The differential pay plan was designed to bring faculty salaries closer to market rate pay in those departments where it has been difficult to

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Everyday foods can offer great looking skin and a healthier body.

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Two La Verne colleges become one

•Merger to streamline academia

Jaclyn Roco
Editor in Chief

Last month the University of La Verne Board of Trustees approved the merger of the schools of Public Affairs and Health Administration and the School of Business and Global Studies.

They will form the College of Business and Public Management effective July 1.

The merger is part of a plan to streamline academic operations in the University, said Gordon Badovick, dean of the School of Business and Global Studies, who will take over as dean of the combined colleges.

"What the University is planning is to form four major academic units," Badovick added.

The College of Business and Public Management will provide academic units on campus alongside the already established College of Arts and Sciences and College of Law, he said.

The fourth component is the School of Education and Organizational Leadership, which is planning a name change to the College of Education and Organizational Leadership within the next month or so, said Leonard Pellicer, dean of that school.

"We need a system that is consistent," Pellicer said.

> 'It is more efficient, and there are more advantages to combine (both of their) resources.'
> *—Gordon Badovick, dean of the School of Business and Global Studies*

Recognizing that there are these three distinct academic areas – arts and sciences and the two professional programs of business and education – forming distinct colleges was the best way to restructure, Badovick said.

The merger process involved an administrative decision.

After Badovick worked with the faculty to come up with the recommendation, Dick McDowell, provost and vice president for academic affairs, took the proposal to the Board of Trustees on April 25.

"There was no logical reason to keep (the schools) separate," Badovick said. "It is more efficient, and there are more advantages to combine resources.

"It was a logical time to elevate them – to make them colleges – to be consistent," he added.

Part of the University's strategic planning was to "not be so fragmented and to create an opportunity for people to work together," McDowell said, adding, "this is a chance to market together – another way to focus."

Among the programs that will be attached to the College of Business and Public Management will be public administration, health administration, organizational management and the master's program in leadership and management, which has moved from the School of Education and Organizational Leadership.

There will be eight undergraduate majors, six graduate programs and a doctorate in public administration included in this new school, Badovick said.

Since all of these programs share the management theme, it was only appropriate to combine all of them into a single entity, Badovick said.

"In the past, we'd have public administration doing their own marketing, education doing their own and business.

"We will be able to market all management-related courses under one school," he said.

Badovick said that most administrators supported the merger plans.

He added that despite some minor concerns the faculty would feel "dwarfed" because of the business school's large size.

"There were also some concerns that the programs would simply be blended into business, and we would lose identity," Badovick said. "I don't see how we can come up with (the name) College of Business and Public Management and imply that (it is) geared to business."

He added that the merged school should save ULV money by streamlining administration.

"I think this is very, very good," said Rita Thakur, professor of business and economics.

"We can offer more choices, fewer sections and fewer classes. It would be more effective and efficient," Thakur said.

"Now all different areas – marketing, finance, accounting,

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LEC will begin online tutoring for students

Bailey Porter
Staff Writer

The University of La Verne's Learning Enhancement Center has implemented an online tutoring service that will allow students to communicate with LEC tutors online.

A pilot of this program was tested last fall through an English 110 class and three distance learning courses and has taken off this semester as an option for ULV students seeking help with papers and other course work.

Approximately 400 students used the LEC in person in the tutoring service last year, said Bailey Smith, director of Learning Enhancement Services.

Although online tutoring is just beginning, and the reception has been positive, the LEC is still looking for the best arena for the online service to bring attention to the students, she said.

During the trial semester, students seemed to appreciate the opportunity that the online tutoring provided, Smith said.

> 'Online tutoring is a huge benefit and convenience for some students.'
> *—Bailey Smith, director of Learning Enhancement Services*

Students familiar with the LEC will find the online tutoring service to be similar in execution as the more traditional tutoring service.

First, a student must call the LEC and set up a two-hour block of time to meet with the tutor much like making an appointment for an in-person session.

The student then e-mails the essay to the LEC e-mail account by 8 a.m. on the day of the session.

For the first hour, the tutor spends time reading over the paper and inserting comments and changes into the paper, said Haley Stokes, sophomore English major and a LEC tutor.

The second hour can then be organized in two ways, Stokes said.

Students can take part in online chats with their tutors where discussion continues about the paper, and students can ask further questions.

Alternatively, students can decline the opportunity for chat time and ask that their papers just be sent back to them with the comments made by the tutors.

In this case, the comments attached to the essays must be more thorough because there is not the added interaction that the chat provides, Stokes said.

"It really works well for commuter students and CAPA students," Stokes said.

There have been difficulties surrounding the online chat sessions because they are new.

Currently, there is no consistent platform, because of conflicting accounts between the tutors and students and some students' unfamiliarity with the chat process, Smith said.

However there are plans to have a blackboard tutorial to solve this issue of consistency, she said.

Tutors like Stokes who have been trained for their positions receive some additional training regarding e-mail etiquette to be online tutors as well, Smith said.

"The real tutoring happens when two people sit at a table and talk, but online tutoring is a huge benefit and convenience for some students," Smith said.

Campus Times earns SPJ awards

Jaclyn Roco
Editor in Chief

The *Campus Times* was honored Saturday as the second best college newspaper and best college news Web site, based on the *Times*' overall content and production quality, by the Society of Professional Journalists' Inland Pro chapter, at its annual awards banquet in Ontario.

SPJ tallied the points accumulated by five competing college newspapers, among them: UC Riverside's *Highlander* and California Baptist University's *Banner.*

The Best College Newspaper award went to the *Highlander*, which won the most first place awards in categories honoring excellent writing, photography and production.

"I think it's great that we won second overall," said Elizabeth Zwerling, *Campus Times* adviser and assistant professor of journalism. "The staff has worked really hard, and they're being rewarded. Next year I hope and expect to take first place for best newspaper."

Additionally, the *Campus Times* staff won numerous individual awards, including first place plaques for Best News Column (Amanda Stutevoss, "U.S. needs to keep Megan's Law"), Best Sports Column (Christian Lopez, "Football hard to understand by outsiders") and Best Off-Campus Coverage (Tim Tevault and Stutevoss, "Fire rages through Angeles Forest").

In other categories:

For Best News Story, Stutevoss and Matt Paulson took second place ("Dykstra remains in critical condition"), and Tim Tevault won third place ("ULV officials hope to reduce SCE fine").

For Best Feature Story , Melissa Lau was awarded second place ("La Verne Hardware shuts its doors.")

For Best Sports Story, Paulson won an honorable mention for ("ULV breaks the Beavers' dam open.")

The *Campus Times* also was honored for its photography:

Jennifer Contreras won second place in the Best Feature Photo category ("La Verne Hardware shuts its doors") and honorable mentions in the Best News Photo category ("Taco Bell Protest") and the Best Sports Photo category ("Men's soccer vs. Occidental").

Tom Galaraga received an honorable mention in the Best News Photo category ("Local house fire") and in the Best Feature Photo category for ("AASA fashion show").

"It's always nice to be recognized for the work you do, especially when you work so hard and spend so much time," Stutevoss said. "(Winning is) a reassuring feeling."



Crash causes minor damage

•Auto hits Arrow Hwy. gas station

Jaclyn Roco
Editor in Chief
&
Gloria Diaz
Managing Editor

A head-on collision Monday afternoon between an SUV and a pickup sent one child to the hospital after the crash sent the SUV into the Mobil gas station on the corner of D Street and Arrow Highway.

Three small children and their mother were traveling in the Ford Expedition SUV with their mother.

One of the children was taken by ambulance for precautionary measures, said Tom Pellerin, senior officer for the La Verne Police Department traffic division.

An adult male was driving the pickup, a Toyota, which had Sanders Lock and Key written on the door, which was moving westbound on Arrow Highway, while the Expedition was attempting to head eastbound on Arrow Highway, said Pellerin, who did not give the names of any involved in the accident.

Both vehicles sustained major damages, including smashed front bumpers and broken windshields.

The California Highway Patrol, paramedics and several La Verne Police Department and Fire Department officials arrived on the scene shortly after the accident, which occurred at approximately 3:12 p.m.

Emile Abraham was working at the Mobil gas station when he heard the accident. He called the La Verne police, though California Highway Patrol officers were already there by the time he made the call.

"I just heard a loud boom, and then I called it in," Abraham said.

The gas station sustained minor damages to the outer wall facing Arrow Highway. Surrounding shrubbery was also damaged when the Expedition veered into a bush on the premises.

The impact slightly pushed away the store's inside counter, Pellerin said.

'I just heard a loud boom, and then I called it in.'
—Emile Abraham, Mobil employee

Brian Brooks, a Pomona resident, who witnessed the entire accident from the southeast corner of Arrow Highway and D Street, described it as "sudden" and "without warning."

Brooks said it looked like the Expedition's throttle was stuck, and smoke was coming out of the tires, which were spinning in place.

"I came over to see if anyone was hurt," Brooks said.

The cause of the accident is still under investigation.

"So now the question is, 'Who ran the red light?'" Pellerin said.



Adam Omernik

An accident on D Street and Arrow Highway Monday ended with a Ford Expedition plowing into the freshly renovated Mobil gas station. The owner of the vehicle comforts one of her sons as she surveys the wreck. Another one of her children was taken to the hospital on a stretcher as a precautionary measure, according to the La Verne Police Department.

Gas prices fall, students still feel financial pinch

Amby Sarabia
Staff Writer

As the price of gas continues to drop with the conclusion of the war in Iraq, some commuters are barely able to notice the lower prices, although the price drop is appreciated.

According to a survey taken by gas analyst Trilby Lundberg, editor of the Lundberg Survey, the national average of regular gasoline fell 6.37 cents to approximately $1.55 a gallon May 2.

The information was received after surveying 8,000 gas stations.

"We have seen a drop of more than 18 cents per gallon over the last six weeks," Lundberg said.

The drop in prices can be attributed to the end of the cold season in the East Coast, increased production in Iraq because of the end of the war and the United States' choice of importing more oil from other countries.

Lundberg also said that the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome epidemic could help keep gas prices low as the virus dampens travel plans.

The price in crude oil sold by the barrel also helps to lower prices at the pump. Prior to the war, a barrel of crude oil was $40, and the price is now near $25, Lundberg said.

The average price for gas is $1.70, Lundberg said.

Closer to home, the lowest gas prices can be found at the Mobil gas station located at Arrow Highway and D Street here in La Verne, as well as on the Shell station on Foothill Boulevard.

"The new prices don't make much of a difference for what I spend on gas," said Luis Garcia, senior and owner of a Chevy Tahoe. "At the most, I spend $5.00 less."

Looking toward the summer, Lundberg said the prices may continue to fall based on the system of supply and demand.

"Crude oil is down, and gasoline supplies are up," Lundberg said. "That combination brings lower prices at the pump."

"I hope they continue to fall," said Michelle Fletes, a commuter from West Covina, Calif. "The prices still affect me in the same way; it's only a couple of dollars less."

"The downward gas price could continue," Lundberg said. "There is reduced uncertainty now."

Gas prices could rise or fall throughout the summer depending on the situation in Iraq and in Venezuela, since the Venezuelan strike is not yet over.

Scholarships, grants not unlimited

Rebecca Cooper
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The University of La Verne has a number of financial aid opportunities available to students, including ULV scholarships and grants, state and federal grants, work-study and loan programs.

Students can also bring in outside scholarships, but that may in some cases take away from the amount of institutional aid they can receive.

That is because there is cap on the amount of aid students can receive based on a combination of financial need and academic achievement.

"When you look at the academic scholarships, it's institutional money, so they are investing in the students," said Leatha Webster, ULV financial aid director.

"Most academic, university and state and federal funded scholarships and grants are specifically targeted, and they cannot exceed the total tuition and fee amounts, so in those cases we make students choose," she said.

Occasionally students must turn down some of the scholarship money they are offered because of such a cap.

Xochitl Garcia, a sophomore in political science, was offered two scholarships through ULV, including a $7,000 academic scholarship and a $10,000 debate scholarship, which would have covered almost all her tuition and fees.

The two scholarships would not have exceeded her total tuition and fees expenses, but she was required to choose between the two scholarships.

"The University financial aid department told me they couldn't give that much money to one person and there needed to be money for everyone," Garcia said. "I've run into quite a few people with similar stories."

Garcia chose the debate scholarship, because it gave more money and she took out a loan for the remaining amount.

"When you offer a student a scholarship, you should have the money to provide that scholarship to them," Garcia said. "Instead of being a positive, sometimes the financial aid turns into a negative and just makes things harder for students."

On-campus parking will cost $20

Janah Valenzuela
Staff Writer

Beginning this fall, the Campus Safety and Transportation Department will be issuing parking permits with a new fee of $10 per semester, $20 per year.

John Lentz, director of Campus Safety and Transportation, said the main reason for this fee is to meet the requirements of the Air Quality Management District, to cut down on vehicles and encourage rideshare.

Charging a fee for parking permits would be an incentive for people to carpool, Lentz said.

"I don't think $20 is a lot of money," said junior Andi Nuñez.

"If it is because they are trying to encourage rideshare, it's not going to do it," she said.

"It's (ridiculous) that we have to pay money to drive around for 20 minutes looking for parking," said junior Jason Cortez. "It's frustrating enough without the fee."

However, Cortez and other students said they might be OK with this if it meant easier parking overall.

"If they expect us to pay, we should have an ensured spot," said freshman Josh Martin.

"I think we pay enough to go here, especially being a commuter and having to pay for gas," said junior Rachel Aquino.

Lentz said the money from the parking permit fee would fund a position that will monitor rideshare issues and programs.

The programs will attempt to keep the University of La Verne up to date with Air Quality Management District's requirements.

In response to the idea of rideshares, many students did not think it would work well.

"Students can't carpool because no one has the same schedule," said junior Josh Horwitz. "And they would have to live very close to you."

Sophomore Natalie Caruso added to Horowitz' comment, "Twenty dollars is not going to stop people from driving their own cars."

To bring good news to the subject, John Lentz said Campus Safety is also working to solve the immediate parking problem on campus.

"Right now we're trying to work with the city (of La Verne) for off-campus parking at the Fairplex," Lentz said.

"We would like to start a shuttle service from there, if students are willing to accept a shuttle," he said.

210 Fwy...

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structural engineer has since determined the foundation of her home to be damaged, she said.

The homeowners also claim the 14-foot high sound wall dividing their homes from traffic speeding by several feet away is inadequate.

"There is not a room we can escape into to get away from the sound," said homeowner Sharilyn Morell, who has to place towels under closet doors to keep them from rattling loudly.

"It's totally devastating," Morell said. "We are literally moving."

Caltrans declined to comment, and legal representatives from Yeager Skanska could not be reached.

Although Hoy, the homeowners' attorney, declined to comment on the lawsuit, residents said they are seeking to have the construction and its impact declared as "inverse condemnation" of their homes.

The basis for this claim lies in the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution, which states that "private property (shall not) be taken for public use, without just compensation."

Seeking "inverse condemnation" is a legal claim that by rendering their property uninhabitable, the government might as well have condemned it.

The homeowners believe their property has been "taken" in the Constitutional sense, and that they should receive fair market value under the law.

The pollution from traffic is another concern. Dina worries about the impact on the health of her family.

She said the only option remaining is to leave the home she bought 25 years ago with her husband, who died in 1990.

"We have no choice," she said .

Commencement 2003

The University of La Verne has lined up an impressive list of speakers for its 2003 graduation ceremonies on May 24-25:

- **David Radcliff**, director of Brethren Witness, a peace and justice program, will speak at the Baccalaureate Ceremony, held at 3 p.m., May 24, at the La Verne Church of the Brethren.
- **Gaddi Vasquez**, director of the Peace Corps, will speak at the Undergraduate Ceremony, which begins at 6 p.m., May 24 at Ortmayer Stadium. Vasquez, who has served on the Orange County Board of Supervisors, was appointed in 2001 by President Bush to his current post.
- **Mary Catherine Swanson**, director of Advancement Via Individual Determination, will speak at the Graduate Ceremony, 9:30 a.m., May 25 at Ortmayer Stadium.
- And U.S. Rep. **David Drier**, R-La Verne, will speak at the ULV College of Law Hooding and Commencement Ceremony, at 2 p.m., May 25 at the Church of the Brethren.

—Desiree Quintero

Career center searches for new assistant chief

Brian Ortega
Staff Writer

The University of La Verne Career Development and Placement Center is searching for a new assistant director to replace Jill Bergman, who went on maternity leave in March.

The position, which staffers say calls for a generalist, will play a key role in the department, said Center Director Laura Kiralla.

"The person will be focusing on strengthening our employee relations as well as developing an alumni mentoring program," Kiralla said. "The main thing is, is that they provide opportunities for our students."

Paula Verdugo has been the interim assistant director who stepped in after Bergman left.

Last year Verdugo held the position of graduate career counseling intern.

She was given the interim position because of her familiarity with the Career Center.

The Career Center, which has grown tremendously in the past few years, will continue to expand and establish itself as one of the best resources for students here, Kiralla said.

The assistant director position has been posted online.

Colleges...

Continued from page 2

economics - and disciplines can combine and work together. It's so nice to have a larger college with more faculty to discuss different topics and work with each other," Thakur said.

Thakur also said, "It's much better for the students."

Keith Schildt, associate professor of public administration, agreed, "I believe we can achieve some economies of scale that will benefit our students as well as the University community."

Badovick added, "By putting (the schools) together, we are building an identity in the region."

One-time note will lessen paperwork

Rina Thompson
Assistant Editor

The University of La Verne student accounts department recently updated its payment process. Upon registering next year students will sign a master promissory note. The note says students will pay whatever financial debt they have to the school, and this will ideally carry throughout their time at the University.

"Currently students sign a promissory note on the back of every registration," said Lori Gordien, controller. "The master promissory note is a mechanism so that if students are registering online and making payments, potentially they won't have to come into Woody Hall."

The goal of this service is to provide a faster and more convenient way for students to register without having to stand in long lines, Gordien said.

The original driver of the master promissory note is the web registration that will begin later this year, Gordien said.

"There has been a lot of research done, and a tremendous amount of work has gone into this for months and months," she said. "Students have been involved with the testing to make sure that the system can handle (a large) volume of students at one time."

Like the master promissory note, web registration is also a way for the University to relieve some of the stress and inconvenience of serving long lines of students. Students can register, pay bills or setup payment installment plans in the comfort of their homes or at any computer lab on campus.

Students will not be the only ones benefiting from these changes. Instead of policing long lines and the frustration usually attached, office staffers will now be able to focus their attention on processing documents more accurately and timely.

As staffers prepare for the changes, all concerns are being addressed.

Steven Catano, director of student accounts and a driving force behind the web registration, said that in case the system crashes, the Office of Information Technology will have everything on backup.

The hope is that the move on the master promissory note and web registration will be a positive step to a more efficient way of doing things.

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Session 1	**June 18-July 22**	**Final Exams July 23-24**
Session 2	**July 28-August 28**	**Final Exams September 2-3**
Session 3	**June 18-August 26**	**Final Exams August 27-28**

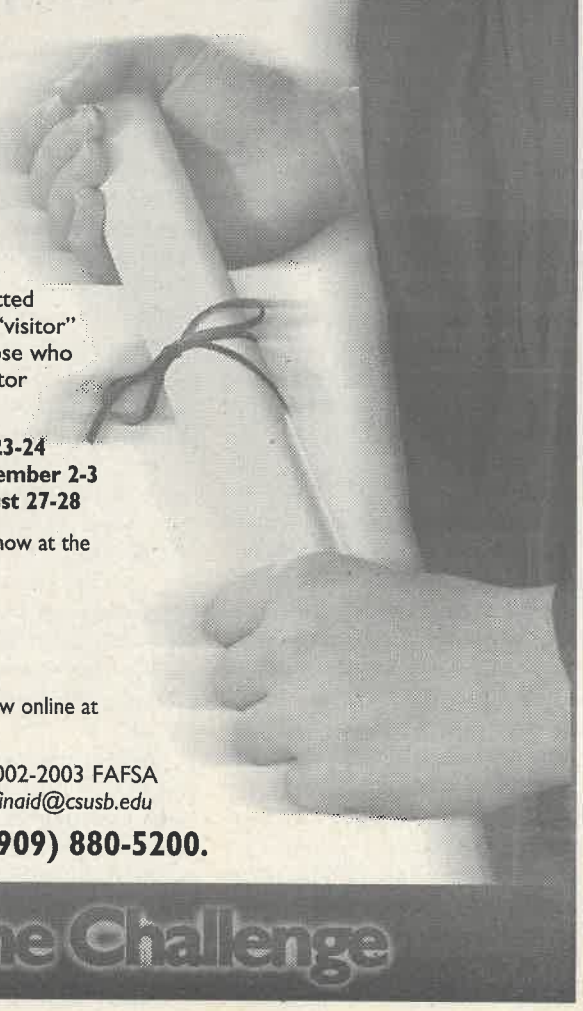
The *Summer 2003 Class Schedule* is available for purchase now at the following locations:

Coyote Bookstore, CSUSB main campus
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The Summer 2003 Class Schedule is also available to review online at http://acs.csusb.edu/sched/summer.htm

Financial aid will be available to those who qualify. 2002-2003 FAFSA requirements and summer application are online at *finaid@csusb.edu*

For more information, please call (909) 880-5200.



Meeting the Challenge

Cadillac internship gives marketing experiences

Brian Ortega
Staff Writer

This was no average case study, nor was it a mere supply and demand problem that 17 University of La Verne business major students were given.

This semester, these business students got a real hands-on lesson in what it takes to make it in the business world.

Thanks to the generous partnership and donation of General Motors and Crestview Cadillac, students were given the opportunity to partake in a four-unit General Motors Marketing internship class with the goal of creating and producing a promotion for the Crestview Cadillac car dealership.

Every aspect of the promotion was meticulously planned and coordinated by the students in the class.

Crestview Cadillac gave the students a $2,500 budget to work with.

They were also assigned to work in one of the following areas: research, public relations, advertising, promotions or budget.

Each "department" had its own chairperson, who oversaw a particular aspect of the promotion.

Senior Alex La was named chairman of research and was the first to present his findings of the research that was done to make the project an efficient and productive promotion.

"It was the most stressful project I've worked on, yet it was by far the most rewarding," La said.

Each department had all semester to work on the promotion and present the results to President of Crestview Cadillac Scott Allen. The Crestview Cadillac dealership has been sponsoring ULV students for the past seven years.

"It's a real learning experience for the students and my staff as well, as they explain what they do and both learn from each other in the process," Allen said.

As the students finished the presentation, Allen told the group how he had received nothing but the best feedback about the students, and what a fabulous job they had done.

"I'm very happy about the way it all worked out and appreciate the hard work that was put into it. It has yet to fail working with this school," Allen said to the students.

Many of the students were very enthusiastic about the opportunity to work on the project.

Salaries...

Continued from page 1

hire qualified instructors, who would otherwise earn more working in the private sector.

According to the 2001 data from the Colleges and Universities Personnel Association for Human Resources , current salaries for disciplines in arts and sciences programs lag behind the salaries of business and global studies schools.

"A&S has not had the same difficulties that business has had with hiring," said Rita Thakur, professor of business and economics and member of the ULV compensation task force.

"They don't understand that we cant hire anyone or get anyone to apply," Thakur said.

"Business is happy," she added. "It has been waiting for this to happen."

In comparison data, ULV's assistant, associate and full professor salaries lag behind similar universities in arts and sciences, business and education disciplines.

But in some disciplines, including most in the business school, the discepancies are significantly greater.

Some assistant professors in business at ULV earn as much as two-thirds less than those at comparison universities, according to CUPA.

However, some ULV arts and sciences faculy say such discrepancies exist in some arts and sciences disciplines as well.

Under ULV's new plan, which will be enacted July 1, assistant professor salaries across the various colleges and programs should reach parity with comparison universities after six years of employment at ULV.

Associate professors will reach parity pay targets after 10 years here, and full professors will reach parity after 16 years of employment.

To provide for pay increases, a minimum of 75 percent of the salary pool will be designated for increases with no more than 25 percent of the salary pool will be used to bring employee groups within their pay target.

"I am hopeful that as the principles are applied to compensation, that all employees will benefit over time and will see that the plan has worked well for the institution" Morgan said. "Additionally, this is not cast in concrete and we plan to evaluate it annually and will entertain any recommended changes."

Nevertheless, some arts and sciences faculty believe that the differential pay plan sets a new tone of inequality.

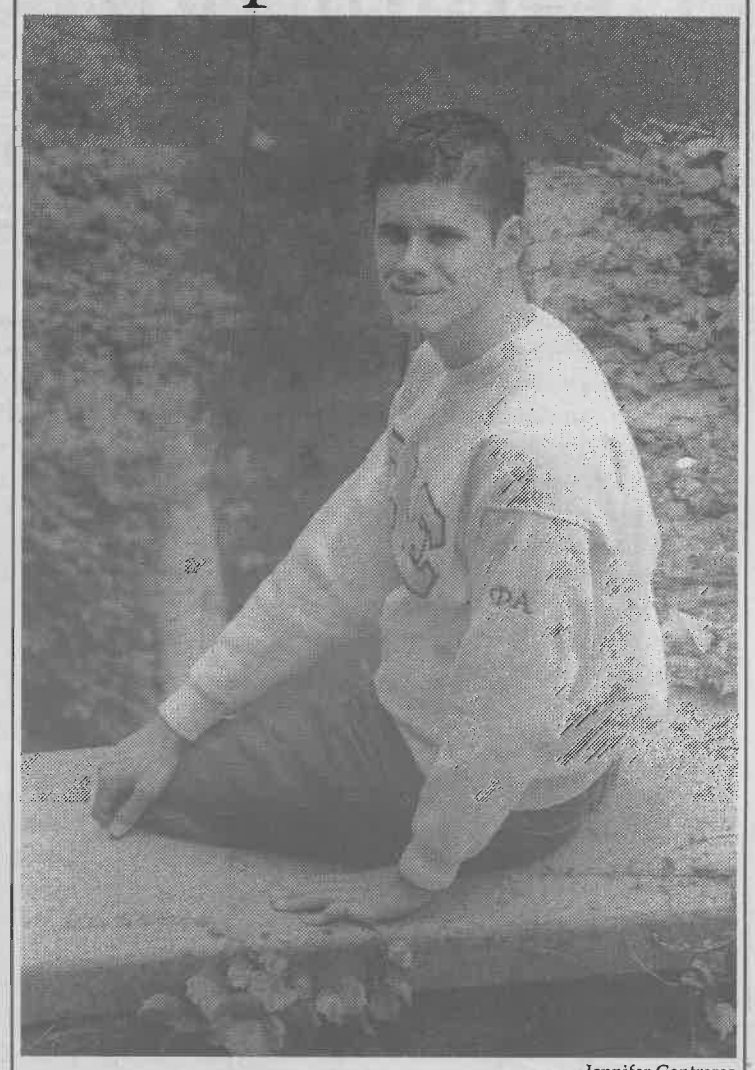
"The University is changing," said Gary Colby, professor of photography.

"We have new leadership in our school and their vision and the nature of higher education today makes it possible for a climate of competition between institutions and the colleges within the institution," Colby said. "From my perspective, the salary improvements that any faculty member gets should inspire the rest of the institution to make improvements; improvements should be made across the board."

"I am grateful the faculty was able to express their viewpoints," Muñoz said. "The compensation task force worked extremely hard for the benefit of the students and the employees. This was an attempt to make employees happy by taking into consideration our employees."

'From my perspective, the salary improvements that any faculty member gets should inspire the rest of the institution to make improvements; improvements should be made across the board.'
—Gary Colby, professor of photography

Berry elected ASF president



Jennifer Contreras

In the recent elections for Associated Student Federation Forum officers, sophomore Travis Berry ran uncontested for the office of president. Berry currently serves as vice president, and says that as president he will combat the apathy shown by the student body in regard to student politics.

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Opinions

Grant our simple requests, ASF

The mission statement of the Associated Student Federation Forum states that it is "dedicated to creating an environment that will enhance the University experience. (They) believe in fostering growth through leadership, academic excellence, life long learning and campus involvement."

The purpose of ASF, according to the ASF Web site, is that "it is the governing body who represents the interests and welfare of all traditional undergraduate students who attend the main campus of the University of La Verne."

The Forum is also supposed to exemplify "leadership, advocating for the student body, promoting campus involvement."

These principles sound like they would make the Forum an effective system, but students at ULV have seen countless times that ASF does not serve in the best interest of the student body nor does it promote campus involvement. Although there have been a few successful events that have united the student community, there have been many that have failed to spark positive student feedback.

Here is a wish list with some suggestions for the upcoming year:

1. Allocation of funds. Money that is supposed to go to clubs and organizations should be distributed evenly.

If a student-run organization wants to sponsor an event that would bring out the ULV community, the organization should be given some financial assistance to help cover the cost of the event.

2. Publicize events and plan them better. ASF constantly depends on word of mouth to publicize their events.

Students hear about "Bowling Night" at 3 p.m., when the event starts at 10:30 p.m. Many times there are students that never knew of the event, but would have enjoyed going.

If events were planned better, rather than at the last minute, there would be a better turnout at the events.

Student activity fees that come out of our tuition pay for these events. Seeing a low turnout and faulty planning makes it seem like our money is not being put to good use.

3. Publicize elections and candidates. Candidates vying for office are unknown to students.

There are no flyers or posters advertising a student's candidacy for office. It would be nice to get students more involved in the elections rather than trusting them to make the right choice based on their name and the reputation they have built for themselves on this campus.

Often times, students are unaware that elections are going on.

The only notice is the one on a table with a poster reading "ASF Elections."

At other schools, students are given the chance to join political forums where they can interact with the governing body. At ULV, student participation is lacking, mainly because students do not see anything happening with the input they give.

It is not until recently that ASF has tried to get students involved, and we applaud ASF for that. Our suggestion would be for ASF to continue on that path.

4. Organize events that students actually attend. Neighboring schools have famous bands that perform for free on campus.

What do ULV students get? They get stuck with having their money pay for expensive speakers and violinists that only five to 10 students go to watch. Aren't the events sponsored by ASF supposed to interest the whole student body?

Yet, speakers that no one goes to watch are still being paid to come. Last October, ASF spent roughly $2,000 on a Halloween speaker that only five students attended is absurd.

Some students never see that much money during their time in college, yet, ASF is spending that amount on one speaker? How is this even justifiable. Did ASF really think students would go watch this speaker?

With that much money, there could have been a Halloween festival that resembles the Commuter Fair (the students thank you for that event).

In short, the *Campus Times* hopes ASF will not look past these requests, but rather see them as a means to improve the quality of the Forum.

Thank you for taking the time to read our concerns. We wish you luck.

Ethics called into question

Ethics in the media was the topic of choice this week following the announcement Saturday that *New York Times* reporter Jayson Blair resigned following a career marked by "frequent acts of journalistic fraud."

Unfortunately this is not an isolated circumstance and reporters are often caught up in lies one way or another, whether it be fabricating interviews with sources or pulling information from pre-existing articles, as Blair has done. Or reporting based on the agenda of the Bush administration or under the influence of corporate media owners. A dearth of ethics in the media seems to be all too frequent an occurrence.

Still this rather huge upset in the journalism community-let alone that it comes from the newspaper with arguably the highest ethical standards – comes as a reminder for journalists to strive to maintain integrity in their work and encourage the public to force journalists to stay ethical.

Journalists at the University of La Verne learn in Journalism 100 that, along with covering the who, what, when, where, why and how, there is a strict code of ethics that needs to be followed from the time reporters interview through the publication of the stories. Such ethical standards, which vary somewhat among publications, must be adhered to for journalism to remain a viable source of information for the public. Perhaps some writers and editors should keep a code of ethics checklist in their pockets if tempted to follow a destructive path like Blair's. In fact, at **journalism.org**, the Project for Excellence in Journalism has created such a checklist. Its questions include "What is my journalistic purpose?" "What are my ethical concerns?" "What are the possible consequences of my actions?"

Sounds simple enough to follow, but time and again we see that some reporters find the list difficult, or impossible to follow.

> 'Such ethical standards, which vary somewhat among publications, must be adhered to for journalism to remain a viable source of information for the public.'

If the media is in fact like a fourth branch of the U.S. government, as journalists have been dubbed through history, then the fourth branch of government needs to maintain it's duties first and foremost to the public.

Journalists have a truth-telling responsibility. It is the journalist's job to report the facts and, in doing so, they will keep or in some cases rebuild the trust of the people that they are supposed to be writing for. If it is the journalist's job to uphold the First Amendment that this country holds so dear, then the people must be able to trust that what they are reading is fact and that they, in turn, can formulate their own judgements based on these facts.

It should not be the public's responsibility to have to consider that the material presented to them has been fabricated or embellished to forward a journalist's or worse, a corporation's agenda.

When Blair wrote an apology letter to the *Times* and the Associated Press after his resignation, he stated that his actions showed a "lapse of journalistic integrity."

There cannot be such a lapse in integrity. Journalists must realize the power that the media holds in influencing public opinion and they must use that power responsibly.

As today's technology makes it increasingly easier for journalists to work more independently in the field, they must be careful not to misuse their tools. Just last month a *Los Angeles Times* photographer was fired for submitting a photograph that was a composite of two other photographs.

One of the reasons *New York Times* editors have suggested that Blair was able to get away with writing articles that required him to travel to various locations while he remained local to New York, was because of access to cell phones and laptops. He could also access databases containing news stories and photographs that helped him take information and images from people and places he had never visited.

Even though the *Times* overlooked details in Blair's career that would have pointed to his obvious misconduct, it should be pointed out that the individual journalists must be responsible and ethical.

Campus Times
Spring 2003

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From the Editor...

Self-realization comes from experience



Jaclyn Roco

It's 9 p.m., and the Arts and Communications Building will close in an hour.

And here I am, alone yet again, slaving away at the million and one things I have to do before the lights shut off, and the doors are locked.

I find myself saddened at the thought that this may be the last night I will sit here, worrying over all the trivial newspaper things that have burdened me for the past two years.

Although the nights have been rather lonely, I have enjoyed the solitude, knowing that I was getting things out of the way only to prepare for the onslaught of assignments ready to hit me the next week.

None of you will ever know how hard it was for me to live up to the tradition that this newspaper has provided for our student body since 1919.

I handled the role of editor-in-chief rather seriously and tried to live up to the professional standards that I knew everyone expected from me.

I tried to be what everyone else wanted me to be, but in the end, I was actually able to find myself, and I am thankful for the fact that I have finally been able to do so.

Strangely enough, I was able to get to know myself – who I am and what I want – through these weekly pep talks I've been having with you.

I never knew how stimulating it could be to actually spill my guts out, until I actually tried to do so through my columns.

Many of you got to know me – I was no longer just an editor of a newspaper you read, I was somebody that you were able to associate with, or so I gather from those who have approached me.

Whether it was through my political, sad or honest stories, I don't know, but many of you actually complimented me on saying things that were sometimes thought best left unsaid.

Some of you have even gone through the lengths of seeking me out in person and saying, "I totally understood you." or "I really liked your column."

And even though I sometimes forgot what you were referring to, I nodded happily because you had actually cared enough to read something I had put a 110 percent effort into.

I was even happier when some of you had confessed to crying to the things I had written especially for you. (I think I'd rather have people cry over the sad things then laugh over something I had written that wasn't meant to be funny.)

Balancing the busy role of editor-in-chief, along with handling 17 units, wasn't easy, but I find that the experience, although a challenge, was well worth it, and will always be so.

I see how much I have grown from an uncertain, shy individual to someone who has blossomed into an assured woman (or at least I try to seem like one) who will continue to give it all she has until she will be laid in the dark.

I sincerely tried my best, and I hope you are satisfied with the accomplishments I have provided for you.

Whether it was delivering papers along with a fellow staff member at 6:30 a.m. on Fridays, correcting at least 20 pages of copy per week, calling three to four sources every couple or so days and bantering jokingly over my political reasoning with some of the faculty – I hope that I have given most of you a glimpse into what it is to be editor of a proud newspaper – the longest institution of ULV. (Although I know many disagreed with some of the things I wrote, you have to give me credit for finishing something every week for you to argue about.)

But most of all, I would like to give due credit to all of the people who have helped me reach the end of my trek of finding myself – to my fellow editors who made me want to live for them, to my professors who made me want to give some more for them, to my writers who made me want to try more for them and to my readers who made me want to give my all to them.

As the minute hand on the clock ticks 30 seconds to 10 p.m., I fondly end my last talk with you with a last good night, for it will never be a last goodbye from me to you.

Jaclyn Roco, a senior journalism major, is editor in chief of the Campus Times. *She can be reached by e-mail at* **rocojax@yahoo.com**.

What's going on, Shorty?



Alejandra Molina

You know, it seems like nobody is content with the way they look. Whether it's their weight, hips, hair and legs the list goes on.

In my case, it's my height. Not that I stress over it or anything.

I'm five feet tall and it wouldn't hurt if I were a couple of inches taller.

I've noticed that people think it is so amusing to crack short jokes. They never get tired of them; short jokes never seem to die down.

"Hey Alex, are you tall enough to go on that ride."

"Hey I thought I lost you there for a second."

"Can I put you in my pocket?"

"Hey I bet you can fit in most oversized compartments!"

No matter how old these jokes are, people think they are so hilarious. I actually got used to them and even high five them for such a great joke... well sometimes.

Ever since elementary school I have dealt with these incessant comments.

I remember always being the first in line or on the front row of the class picture.

For Halloween, my second grade class had the theme of the "Wizard of Oz," and we all had to dress up as characters from the movie. I of course wanted to be Dorothy, but I got stuck with the munchkin group from munchkin land.

My third grade year we dressed up as characters from Peter Pan, and guess who I had to be – Tinkerbell of course.

In sixth grade, when all the girls were going through their growth spurt and were taller than the boys, I was still the same ol' little Alex.

Now, I still go through similar problems.

My feet still dangle when I'm sitting down, and people still seem to enjoy resting their arms on my head.

When I drive I have to pull the seat up closer to the steering wheel to reach the pedals better. What is so funny is that when I'm driving with my friends, no one calls shotgun for the front seat, they call shotgun for the seat behind me because it gives them more space to rest their feet.

Pathetic, but true.

In certain places I even have the opportunity to park in disabled parking spots because of my height. How embarrassing is that.

Being short is not a form of disability people!

These things don't really anger me, but there are some occasions when comments like I have mentioned do get on my nerves.

For example, I remember my roommate and I were having computer difficulties, and we were doing our best to fix it. So I called my friend and told him of our problem, and he told me:

"Oh Alex, you probably looked cute trying to fix the computer."

It's just a comment, but I think it goes beyond that. Terms like: cute, kiddo, etc. bother me.

Well enough about my bickering.

I am actually pretty satisfied with the way I look. I may not be as tall as I want, and I don't mind that certain parts of my body are not the size that is most desired. I really don't care.

I am not vulnerable or weak. I do not need special care or attention. Size really doesn't matter or define who you are.

So for those of you who are are unhappy with your height or weight, don't stress about it. I seriously believe that everyone looks different for a good reason. How boring it would be if we all looked the same.

Alejandra Molina, a sophomore journalism major, is LV Life editor of the Campus Times. *She can be reached by e-mail at* **ale_molina01@yahoo.com**.

Time flies when you are having fun



Amanda Stutevoss

I spent a lot of time pondering what I would write about for my last *Campus Times* column.

I knew it had to be something that I would remember, something that would put a triumphant end to my five semesters on the staff of the *Campus Times*.

But instead of researching the facts about SARS or the latest news about the war on terrorism, I have decided to speak from the heart to the people whom I have spent the last four years of my life with.

Seniors, we are finally here. It is the end of everything that we have ever known, and the beginning of what we have always wanted. It is finally the time for us to branch out and become independent thriving individuals. It is time to separate from our friends and family and truly discover what it means to be a college graduate.

Despite the frustrations that I have had during my four years here, I have to admit that there is nowhere else that I would have rather spent my time.

Sure, the hours spent at Woody Hall will probably not top off my list of top 10 places in La Verne, but hey it's not the worst place I have ever been.

I have gained immense knowledge. I have had so many laughs; I have developed great relationships with my professors, and most importantly I have made life-long friends.

It is those friends that I will have such a hard time saying goodbye to in a week. (I just hope they remember that it is not goodbye, rather see you later... BF Cubed, I love you!)

Graduating from college is an intense feeling. I know what some of you are saying, "What the heck is she talking about; I can hardly wait to get out of here."

But before you go and wish it away, leave this to thought, who would you be without having these experiences? For instance, just think, how much have the people you have met impacted your lives?

I know I think about that a lot. Has college changed me? The answer: completely.

I have become a more driven and conscientious student. I have become secure in my talents as a writer and less afraid to voice my opinion.

These are all traits that I have gained through my four years here.

I remember coming into La Verne not knowing a soul.

Like it was yesterday, I can still remember lining up at the rock for freshman orientation with my parents in tote (for personal security reasons).

I can still recall the overwhelming feeling of packing up my room and leaving home to venture over a thousand miles away.

And now after four years, I am packing up my dorm room, with the uncertainties of what the future holds.

And I am O.K. with that.

I enjoy exploring the possibilities of what life could have in store for me; it's a rush.

I have spent the last month stressing over final projects and paper, and in the midst of all that chaos, I have spent very little time realizing how much I am going to miss this place.

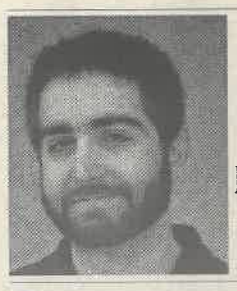
I never thought I would say this, but I love ULV, and all of its imperfections.

So as we dress in our academic regalia Saturday, with family, friends and faculty watching on, stop to think about all that college has offered to you; how it has changed you; how it has prepared you for the real world and how much you are going to miss the food at Davenport. (I know I took that one step too far!)

Amanda Stutevoss, a senior broadcasting and journalism major, is editorial director of the Campus Times. *She can be reached by e-mail at* **astute4@aol.com**.

Feedback

909 stereotype is ludicrous



Taylor Kingsbury

If you were to give someone a list of the elements in your life that define you as a person, "phone number" probably wouldn't be on it. However, in superficial Southern California, area codes are now an important facet of your identity, thanks to the development and publicizing of the 909 stigma.

In case you haven't heard, 909 is the laughing stock of our region. Apparently, we are dirty, smelly buffoons who make crystal meth in our garage, beat our girlfriends and drink Coors. We chain smoke menthol cigarettes and wear hideously out of fashion clothing. KROQ morning show hosts Kevin and Bean call the Inland Empire the "Valley of the Dirt People."

This is us, friends; in a nutshell, the first thing people think of when we give them our phone numbers.

ULV senior Dave Engle subscribes to the social stigma, and describes 909-ers as "wannabes." Engle lives in Fountain Valley, nestled in the sheltering confine of 714. He lent his insight into how 714-ers react when 909-erss venture into this habitat.

"If you're from the 714 and hang out by the beach, 90 percent of the time you can spot them," reports Engle. "They dress weird, they drive certain cars, they wear visors. They try too hard to be cool."

Engle describes typical 909 gear, which he wore as a Halloween costume one year, as "big, baggy clothes," "white shoes," "chain wallet," and an "upside-down visor." He compares the complete package to Jamie Kennedy's character in the recent film "Malibu's Most Wanted." Ironically, the city of Malibu does not share the 909 area code.

Engle also claims that the 909 never fully leaves our citizens. He claims when a 909 moves to a new city and adopts a new area code identity, "they convert over, but they carry some of their roots." However, he adds that when an outsider moves into the 909, they are not at risk of adopting these characteristics.

"I don't think it would change me," Engle speculates. Apparently, the 909 is powerful enough to mold us into Neanderthal crackheads, but not strong enough to shatter the impeccable character shaped by all other area codes.

As a 909-er, I was compelled to examine myself to see if the 714 summation of me was accurate.

"Big, baggy clothes?" You got me there. "White shoes?" Nope, I have black ones and red ones. "Chain wallet?" Why would I advertise that fact that I'm carrying money? "Upside-down visor?" Please.

Further inspection revealed that I'm only dirty and smelly in the morning, I smoke Camel Lights, I don't know what fashion is, I drink Heineken, and, while I do manufacture crystal meth in my garage, I do not beat my girlfriend.

"Of course, there are exceptions," admits the senior. He concedes that La Verne is a "melting pot," thus spared much of the riff-raff that normally dwells in our area. He puts the stereotype aside as a student and maintains friendships with many 909-ers. Let us hope that the masses from other area codes can be as open-minded as Engle.

Maybe there's not as much to this as people are making. People who hold this stereotype seem to overlook that fact that the 909 area code extends into 43 cities, compared to, say, 714, which is only shared by 17.

The reach of the 909 includes areas as disparate as Pomona, Devore and Diamond Bar, and each of these cities is occupied by very different ethnic demographics.

Interestingly enough, La Verne and much of the surrounding area rested in the 714 area code until 1992, when the 909 was adopted. Apparently, the 714 grew so tired of our antics that they banished us from their kingdom. Unfortunately, most of us were too young to fully appreciate just how cool we were in that shining era, before we were delegated to the depths of 909. This seems to contradict Engle's theory of outsiders maintaining their identities when they convert to 909.

I admit, there probably are 909-ers who fit the stereotype to the letter. However, the sort of people we are alleged to be dwell throughout the United States. I don't hear any anti-909s saying a word about Texas. Why? Because they tell us not to mess with them?

Sure, Chino smells like rancid feces, Fontana is a barren wasteland where no life dwells, and Devore is an amphitheater surrounded by dirt and trailer homes. But, does the entire 909 area fit these descriptions? If we are to continue perpetrating this stereotype, can't we simply change it to the "Riverside stigma"?

Or better yet, let's not judge anyone by where they live. While our environment helps shape us as human beings, there is no city on earth that can change who a person is.

We 909-ers are a noble and peaceful species. If we weren't, we would be making up stigmas about everywhere else. For instance, we could describe 714-ers as bleached-blonde, self-obsessed sun-worshippers who have to go to the beach every day to ensure that their skin stays a color it's not supposed to be. But we don't.

Engle maintains that when he and his friends "point and laugh" at 909-ers, it is all in good fun, as is this column. There doesn't seem to be any maliciousness on his part, and he did return my call even though he had to dial 909 to do so.

So, I urge all 909-ers to show Engle that we are a lot cooler than we get credit for. He should be easy to spot; he's the guy wearing 714 clothes.

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

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

The Faculty Salary Committee is deeply concerned by the latest developments regarding faculty salaries. The entire process has circumvented the shared governance structure, which is a hallmark and a strength of the University of La Verne. We feel that there has been a long-term and systematic attempt to undermine faculty solidarity at the University, and the work of the Faculty Salary Committee.

This has apparently succeeded, given the contentious interaction and deep divisions among faculty that were in evidence at the final meeting of Faculty Assembly.

The Faculty Salary Committee again states its opposition to differential pay and urges that the administration and faculty leaders work together over the summer to reaffirm the shared governance model and to address the issues and inequities that have occurred as the result of recent action.

By ignoring the proposals of the Faculty Salary Committee and the vote of the arts and sciences faculty, both the administration and the Board of Trustees has done a great disservice to the culture of the University of La Verne. The 112-year tradition of this University has been based on the Brethren values of equality, cooperation and consensus building. We appear to have jettisoned these ideals in the name of a market-based philosophy.

The Faculty Salary Committee

Dear Editor,

I was in La Fetra when the meeting was held on Monday, May 12, with faculty and administrators. I had heard rumors that the big issue was the differential pay for faculty. This was obviously on many people's minds because the turnout was big. Strangely enough, the item of salary was last on the agenda.

Of course, many had to leave before the issue came on the table because they had to teach classes. I heard that the vote about the salaries was not even needed because the Board of Trustees had already decided on this issue.

I am amazed how this meeting was run and how the Board of Trustees can approve a 16 percent raise for the business school faculty and a three percent raise for the Arts and Sciences. That seems very unethical. I am wondering if I even want a degree from this University that treats its work force like this. I thought when someone is successful in business, it means one can take another's money, so is this school built by thieves who take pride in the thieves they create? They obviously forget that in order to do business one uses all the tools invented by scientists, designed by artists. It all feels unjust and ethically wrong and I will most certainly reconsider if I want to use my money on tuition to this school. I am a business major but feel ashamed to get it from this University knowing about this.

Elsie Quintana

Dear Editor,

In response to the article last week regarding the campus' apathy toward the ASF elections ["Apathy evident in ASF elections," May 9], first, I would like to voice my appreciation in bringing this topic to the attention of the entire federation.

The low voter turn out is attributable, in part, to a combination of factors. The student government has lacked in its ability to inform the federation of the importance of their voice, through voting, and the capabilities of bringing about change.

The federation also continuously demonstrates a lack of interest in what their government is trying to do. This is evident not only in voting, but also in other events on campus throughout the year.

Now, the question at hand, how do all of us, ASF and the student constituents, work together to increase voter turn out during elections and participation in more campus events, ASF sponsored or not.

The thing I appreciated most about this article was that it challenges me as the new ASF President to strive to hit this issue head on. Over the summer, I will be working with the other members of the ASF Executive Board, in hopes of creating a new election system that both informs the student body, and encourages students to run for forum positions. What I would like to see happen is that we start elections earlier in the year. It is very challenging at such a difficult time in the semester: finals. In the coming years, I would really like to see elections conducted online.

I would like to remind the federation that ASF meetings are open to everyone. The purpose of the meetings is not only to delegate money, but also serves as an opportunity to bring up issues that are important to each individual.

Leo Pride!

Travis Berry
ASF President

Dear Editor,

Re: "What you see is not what you get," May 9.

Since I was around the age 16 or 17, I adopted the life of a victim. Because I was always so sensitive and weak, I gave up when I got one blow after another. At one point, I weighed a good 96 pounds and then, suddenly, I dropped to 80 pounds. Now I am at least 90 pounds, which is a lot better than my previous weight.

In being a woman, I like other chicas, tend to over think about everything, and everyone close to me.

My life has changed so much over these past years, and being responsible for someone besides your self is not easy when one is so young and unsettled. I'm so tired now that I am left confused and frustrated. I've been so busy taking care of someone else that I got lost in the process, and now, I don't even know who I am or want anymore. I look at students who live in the dorms and I get so jealous and angry. I figure, if one is living in a dorm, then that probably means that you are free and unattached. What I always wanted to do with my life, I am not even close to accomplishing and seeing other students so together just drives me crazy.

Ever since I could remember, I have danced. When everything went wrong in my life, dancing was the one thing that was always there.

Nothing makes me happier that to move and so it is my way of relieving stress. Not only has dancing relieved some of my stress, it has also better educated me about other cultures and traditions.

This year, I decided to take charge of my life. And as I was seeking for something unknown to myself, I found yoga.

Simply put, it is wonderful! Yoga has not only increased my flexibility but it has also been the best stress relieving activity I have ever encountered. I have some sessions when I just start to ball, but that gush of emotion feels sensational.For me, yoga is a way to pray to God. It feels like it is the only time God and me are consciously together. In some way, it is as if we are conversing. Last Monday night, I was in a yoga session, and near the end, I started weeping.

That session was very crucial and worthwhile in my life, as it allowed me to forgive someone who I was cross with for some time. That anger I had towards him just vanished and that feeling was just so warm and beautiful. Since that night, I feel 100 pounds lighter.

For all you seekers, find a way to keep connected to yourself, and with God. For me, its dancing and yoga but there are other ways to not get lost and stay relaxed and in touch with oneself, such as the following: listening to music, taking a long walk or drive, cleaning your house, etc. Just remember that who you are is what is most important.

Saira Qureshi
Senior

Home remedies soothe ailing bodies

Jaclyn Roco
Editor in Chief

With all of the major stressers out there, it is no wonder some students, faculty and staff here feel they must pay a bundle to cure such things like head and body aches, colds, burns and of course, one of the more unsightly bothers of today's superficial world – yellow teeth.

Oddly enough, many often forget to look at the contents of their own refrigerators or pantries to cure their ailments.

Senior Amy Wolf said she usually spends more than $20 on just cold medicines alone.

Her must-have list includes cough drops, tissue, medicine and vitamins.

"If I had the wealth of knowledge about home remedies, then I would be able to use household ingredients to cure small ailments instead of driving to the supermarket and buying Affrin, Dayquil and all that other stuff," Wolf said.

Dr. Vijay Prakash, a pediatrician currently practicing in India, lists many easy steps to make home remedies on his Web site, **http://drvijayprakash.hypermart.net.**

Among Dr. Prakash's suggestions is a make-your-own nose spray with the mixture of teaspoon table salt with 4 ml lukewarm water.

He also recommends garlic juice and a teaspoonful of onion juice diluted in a cup of water to help cold sufferers.

With the aim of "promoting the age-old household remedies which have been in use for a long time," Dr. Prakash's Web site offers recipes he has discovered through his personal experience.

"Please note that every individual reacts in a different way, and therefore, a remedy which may be helpful to one individual may not find favor with others," Dr. Prakash said in his Web site.

To cure coughing fits, mix lime juice, brandy or ginger juice to honey, he said. For headaches caused by tension, infection or allergy, try avoiding cheese, chocolate, citrus fruit and red wine, he suggested.

Nurse Jennifer Labajo, who works for Mission Hospital in Los Angeles, said she knows that certain home remedies work.

"When you have allergies, they say you can just take a teaspoonful of sugar, and it will go away," Labajo said. "At first I didn't believe it, but then I saw some of my patients try it, and their hives or whatever just went away."

Tipking.com is another Web site where one can find or offer home remedies.

According to "Jennifer and Christina," who contributed to the site and whose last name could not be found, using baking soda once a week when brushing your teeth really works to remove stains.

On yet another Web site, **http://kitchen.robbiehaf.com**, visitors are able to relate their experiences in using Robbie Haf's listed remedies.

Haf's blemished skin mask, which includes lemon juice, oatmeal and tomatoes, received mixed reviews, though some users claimed that the mask left skin feeling softer than usual.

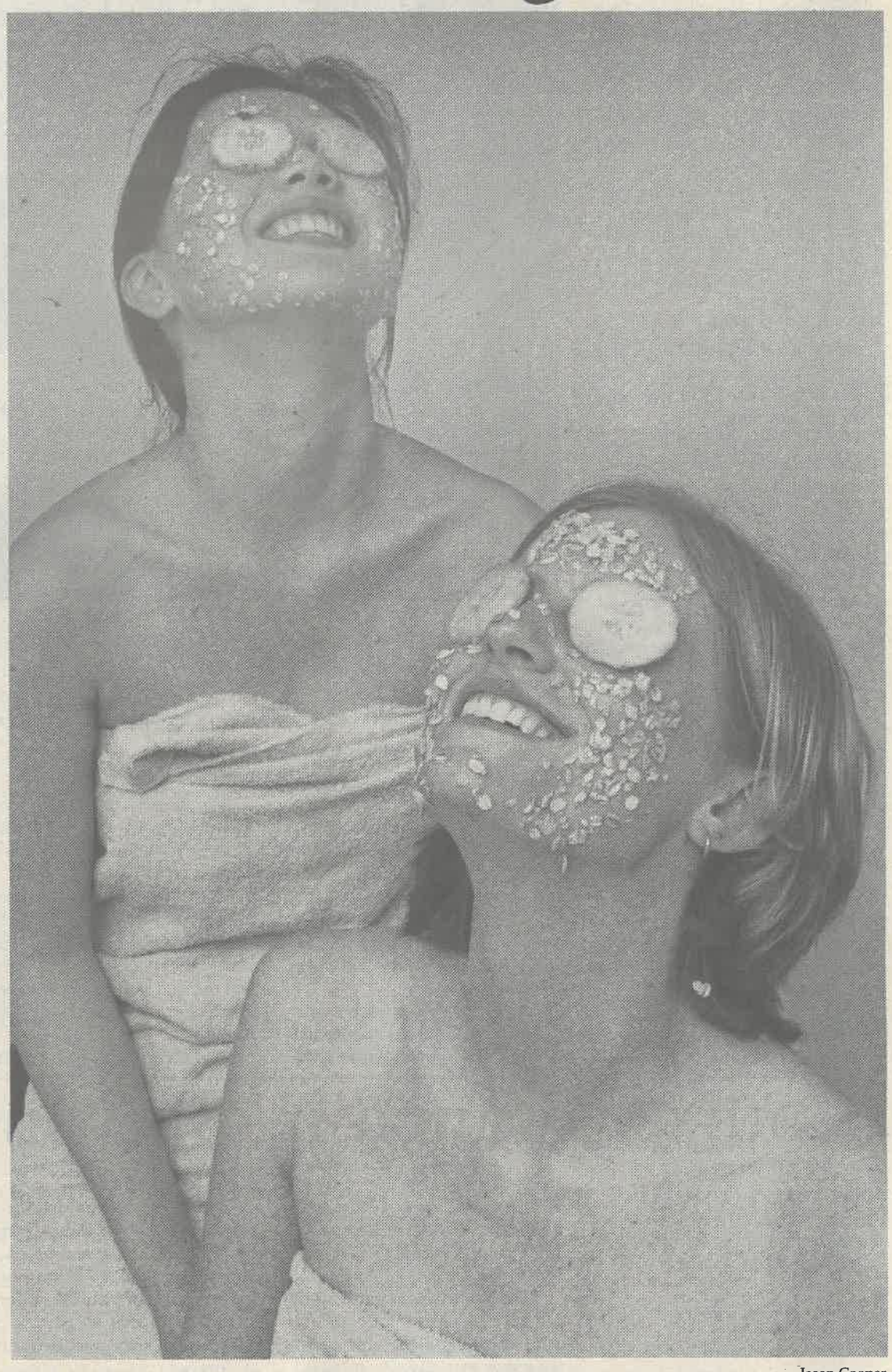
Dr. Alan Greene, president of Health Internet Ethics and recognized by "Advance for Health Information Executives," is founder of his Web site, **www.drgreene.com**.

Although Dr. Greene specializes in pediatrics, he did recommend that chicken soup is a proven cure for common respiratory illnesses.

Used since the 12th century, chicken soup's salt and the provided hydration cause it to be very effective in anti-inflammatory medicine, he said.

The above are just some easier approaches for minor day-to-day health problems, Dr. Prakash said.

"It is interesting what things (you have) at home could cure," Labajo said.



Jason Cooper

Making a simple exfoliating mask to scrub off dead cells and to make skin feel smoother can be as easy as opening your cupboards. Honey, sugar oats and a little bit of water are some common household ingredients that can be used to make such a mask.

ULV students engage in online relationships

Rima Thompson
Assistant Editor

The Internet allows people to do just about anything online, from buying groceries, managing finances, making bill payments and even finding love. Through instant messengers, e-mails, message boards and chat rooms, there are endless opportunities for finding Mr. or Ms. Right.

So why is online dating so popular? An article on **abcnews.go.com**, quotes Kate Wachs, a clinical psychologist who specializes in relationship issues and consults on America Online's relationship section, as saying online dating services offer an easier way to meet people at an inexpensive price.

"Using these services can take the feeling of desperation away from someone who is recently single or has been getting discouraged by dating," Wachs said. "You don't have to feel that you must meet someone in a bar, laundry room or grocery store or at a local dance."

University of La Verne freshmen, Katie Apfel, met her fiancé online three years ago in a Yahoo chat room. They continued talking through Yahoo's instant messenger.

"I never really intended to try it. I just met a really great guy; we were friends for about a year, and then we decided to try the whole dating thing," she said.

A positive thing about online dating is that you get to know a person without the pressure of a physical relationship, she said.

However, Apfel said "you can't be completely sure who you are talking to until you meet the person face to face, and it ends up being a long distance relationship from the get go."

Long distance relationships are something that Wachs advises against. She said they tend to be intense and can be a letdown when two people finally meet and neither lives up to the other's expectations.

Karen Remedios, a senior at Cal State San Bernardino, said that she has talked to guys online many times and even met a few of them, but she has only dated two.

"The way I went about meeting guys online was through different chat rooms. Sometimes I went into a 20s only chat room, sometimes I went into a Los Angeles chat room and sometimes I picked chat rooms called "Alone at Home" or "Friends First," she said.

The first guy Remedios dated for over a year, but the relationship was not a success, she said.

"He was coming off a five year relationship and ended up just using me. It was a terrible relationship," she said. "But I do have to say some of that was my own fault because I used him too. Up until that point, I had never had a boyfriend so he was my answer to that."

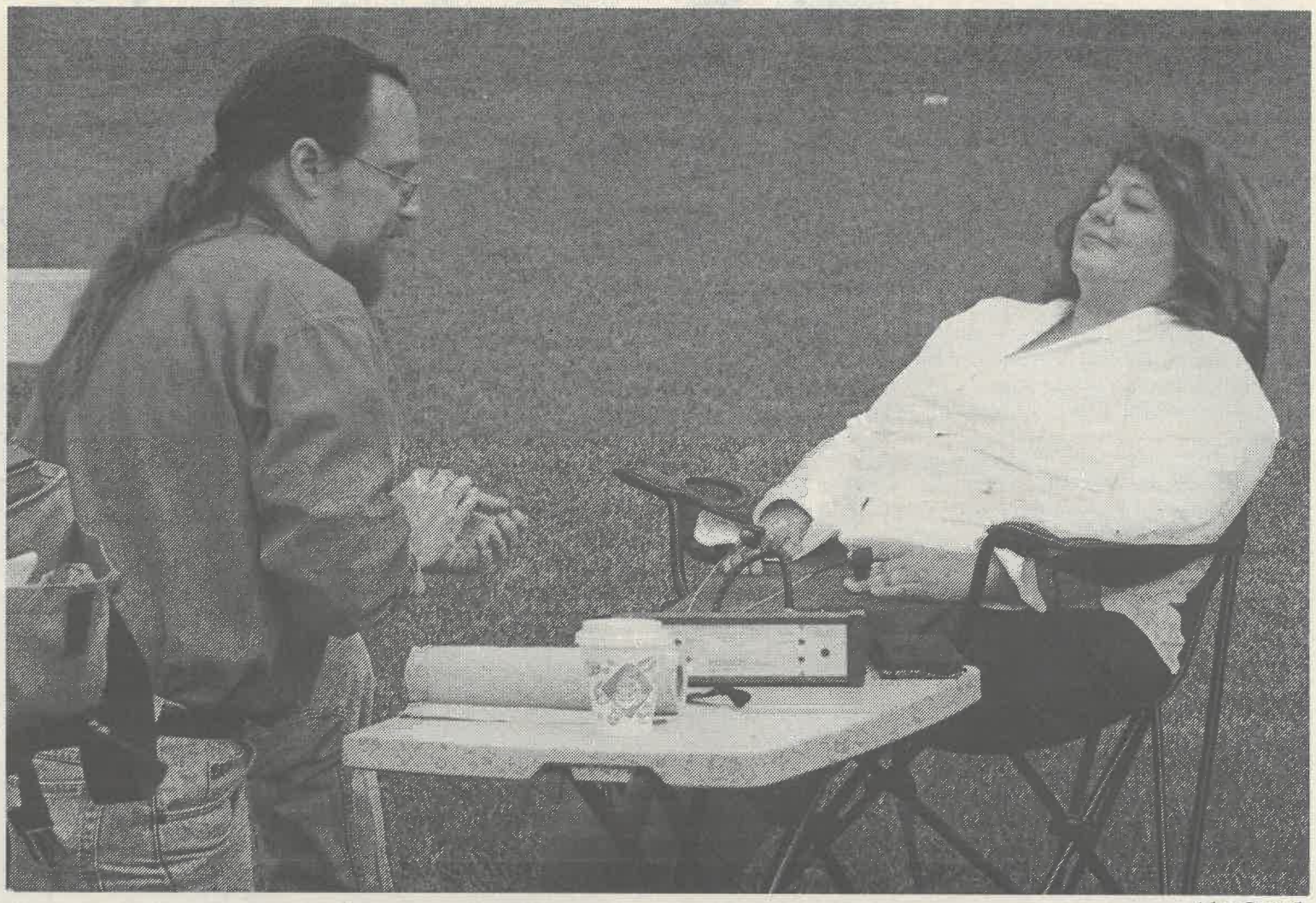
Remedios said the second guy she met online appeared to be nice at first, but as the relationship progressed she knew that his feelings were not the same as hers.

The only positive thing about online dating for shy people like Remedios is that it allows her to show her personality,

Continued on page 11

Students zone to stress-free surrounding

Valerie Rojas
Staff Writer



Adam Omernik

Wayne Henklemme assesses the muscle tension of Denise Charles, a student of Campus Accelerated Program for Adults, at the Health and Psychology Fair last Wednesday. The purpose of the exercise is to help an individual learn how to regulate his or her own muscle tension in order to relieve stress. The "Stress Free Zone" was put on by the psychology club, Psi Chi, and featured several booths that offered massages, food and tools used for relaxation.

With the ever-growing stress of finals piled high on the shoulders of every University of La Verne student, the ULV Psi Chi Club was on the right track Wednesday afternoon, when they hosted the "Stress Free Zone," a fair devoted to helping ULV students not only ease their stress, but find out more about it.

Psi Chi, the National Honor Society in Psychology, invited all ULV students to come out and get their bio-feedback measured, speak to representatives from 24-Hour Fitness and relax for a few minutes while enjoying a free massage courtesy of Avanti Day Spa.

Many students attended, picked up free goodie bags and got their minds off finals, which was helpful, even if it was only for one afternoon.

"I am feeling a little stressed, and I thought a free massage sounded kind of good," said freshman Stephanie Duarte who attended the fair after seeing various fliers around campus.

This fair could not have been scheduled for a better time. At this point in the year, when the pressure is on to ace those finals, and that little voice is in the back of one's mind reminding one that summer is just around the corner, relaxation is something most college students are definitely in need of.

"Relax your mind, and relax your body; it all goes with psychology," said Rhona Madrid, president of Psi Chi, who got the idea for the Stress Free Zone after reading about similar events taking place on campuses across the nation.

"Hopefully this will be our coming out," Madrid said. "The hope of this event was basically to get Psi Chi's name out there so people know what we are and what we're about, and give information to anyone interested in becoming a member."

Psi Chi has been a part of the ULV campus for about 10 years, said Ngoc Bui, professor of psychology.

But this is the first big activity that Psi Chi has hosted in its history.

"We were very pleased with the turnout," Bui said about the 140 people who attended the fair. "It was well over what we expected."

The fair helped raise over $300 for the Psi Chi Club. This money will be used for scholarships.

"Next year we won't worry about fund-raising. It will be more of activities, socials and information about community service, and not worrying about money because we have it now," Bui said.

Psi Chi plans on hosting events similar to this one in the future, and will take suggestions from attendees into consideration.

Psi Chi also plans to possibly throw two separate fairs: one devoted to health and medicine, the other devoted to rest and relaxation.

The Psi Chi Club membership is open to graduate and undergraduate men and women who are interested in psychology as a major and who meet the membership requirements.

For more information about Psi Chi, visit their website at **http://clubs.ulv.edu/~psichi.**

Course planned in Bhutan

•Trip only second of its kind

Rebecca Cooper
Arts & Entertainment Editor

University of La Verne students who want to study abroad in January for Core 310 or 340 credit have a new option - the isolated Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan.

The trip, which was conceived by Christine Broussard, assistant professor of biology and her husband Jeremy Korr, adjunct instructor, is only the second of its kind in the country.

Dennis Taylor, biologist at Hiram College in Ohio, was the first professor to lead study abroad trips to Bhutan.

In 2002 and 2003, Taylor received permission from the Bhutanese government for his trip.

Very few foreigners have visited Bhutan. Tourists were first admitted to the tiny country in 1974, where television first aired in 1999. The Bhutanese government charges a visitor tariff of $200 a day to each visitor, and $150 a day to student visitors. In 2000, there were only 7,500 visitors to Bhutan.

"The challenge is that Bhutan is a very expensive place to visit with non-negotiable costs, and it's a very hard place to get into," Korr said. "The $150 includes everything, besides souvenirs. So, it doesn't matter what hotel or lodge you stay in, what tour bus you go on, what restaurant you eat in or even if you're trekking in the mountains – it's all covered by that fee. But it means that long trips are very expensive."

Expenses for the trip, which includes airline, lodging and food, are expected to be $4,900. This is slightly more than the $4,500 study abroad trip Jeffrey Burkhart and students took to Kenya.

"We've enjoyed teaching Core 340 this semester. Our discussions about food prompted us to think about sustainability in a more holistic sense, not just limited to food," Korr said. "We thought about studying sustainability in Bhutan because of its unique situation. Bhutan's natural, spiritual and cultural character are all challenged by the desire to modernize."

The country, which lies between Tibet and India, is trying to modernize at a rapid pace but still remains as it has been for hundreds of years. A national law states that 60 percent of the country must remain forested forever.

The natural and cultural sustainability of the country will be the main focus of the trip. Students will take daily hikes, speak with local farmers and villagers, visit factories and explore various museums and villages, including Paro and Thimpu, the country's largest cities.

The major guidebook for visitors is "Bhutan" by Stan Armington. In the book, he writes about the places tourists can stay.

The lodging ranges from simple huts catering to yak herders to the Olathang Hotel, which was built for royal guests.

"All rooms in (government) approved hotels in Thimpu and Paro have electricity, telephone, private bathroom and at certain times of day, hot water," according to Armington.

The country first received the internet and television in 1999,

Continued on page 11

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Online relationships...

Continued from page 9

and that it is easier for her to talk to people online than in person.

"I think the negatives of online dating outweigh the positive," Remedios said. "You really don't know the kind of person you are talking to, especially when they don't have a picture for you to see. There are just too many negative aspects to online dating that just make it not worth the risk."

California State University, Los Angeles junior Lawrence Lloyd, said his online dating experiences have been positive.

"I've tried online dating more times than I can count. But I've been doing it for about three years now, with the first and last persons being two of the best," he said. "It's convenient. Not everyone is into the club or bar scene, and it's easier to try things from the comfort of your own home."

Lloyd's main resource for finding men online is the AOL chat rooms.

"There are several of these available on a variety of interests, but I stick to the LosAngelesM4M (male for male) chat rooms," Lloyd said.

"In addition, there are online dating sites. The only one I've used is PlanetOut (**www.planetout.com**). You can search and respond to personal ads."

Just as people should be cautious when dating in person, they should be just as cautious when dating online.

The Suzy Lamplugh Trust on The National Charity for Personal Safety Web site lists several safety precautions for online dating such as: not to give out personal information like your full name and address; to meet in a public place that is busy; bring a friend along; tell someone where you are going and how they can reach you if you do not take a friend; not to go home with your date; and most importantly, if you feel uneasy or that the person is lying to you, chances are you are right and should not arrange a second date.

"My advice to people who would like to try dating people online is not to do it. I think you are better off meeting people the old fashioned way at clubs, bars and parties," Remedios said.

Ilana Lerman, who is a freshman at Stern College, said that several of her friends have tried online dating, and she does not see anything wrong with that.

"It's okay as long as you're cautious and take it slow. Perverts aren't very patient, " she said.

"I've never tried meeting a guy online, but that's only because I'm happy being alone. If I was desperate for a boyfriend, I'd probably try it," she added.

Another popular way of finding romance online is through online dating services.

For a small cost, people can chat with other people via e-mail services provided by the dating service until they are ready to give out their personal addresses.

Subscribers to these services typically fill out a questionnaire that asks them about their interests, geographic location and the type of person they are looking for.

"The con of this is that people lie about their age, height, weight, drug habits or any other factor that might make them more or less appealing," Lloyd said.

To get the most of these services and to increase your chances of having a positive experience, Wachs said to be honest about your appearance and interests, and hopefully the other person will be just as honest in return.

> 'You can't be completely sure who you are talking to until you meet the person face to face, and it ends up being a long distance relationship from the get go.'
> —*Katie Apfel, ULV freshman*

Bhutan...

Continued from page 10

and it's national airline, Druk (dragon) Air, has a total of two airplanes. The airline and one road from India are the only ways into and out of Bhutan.

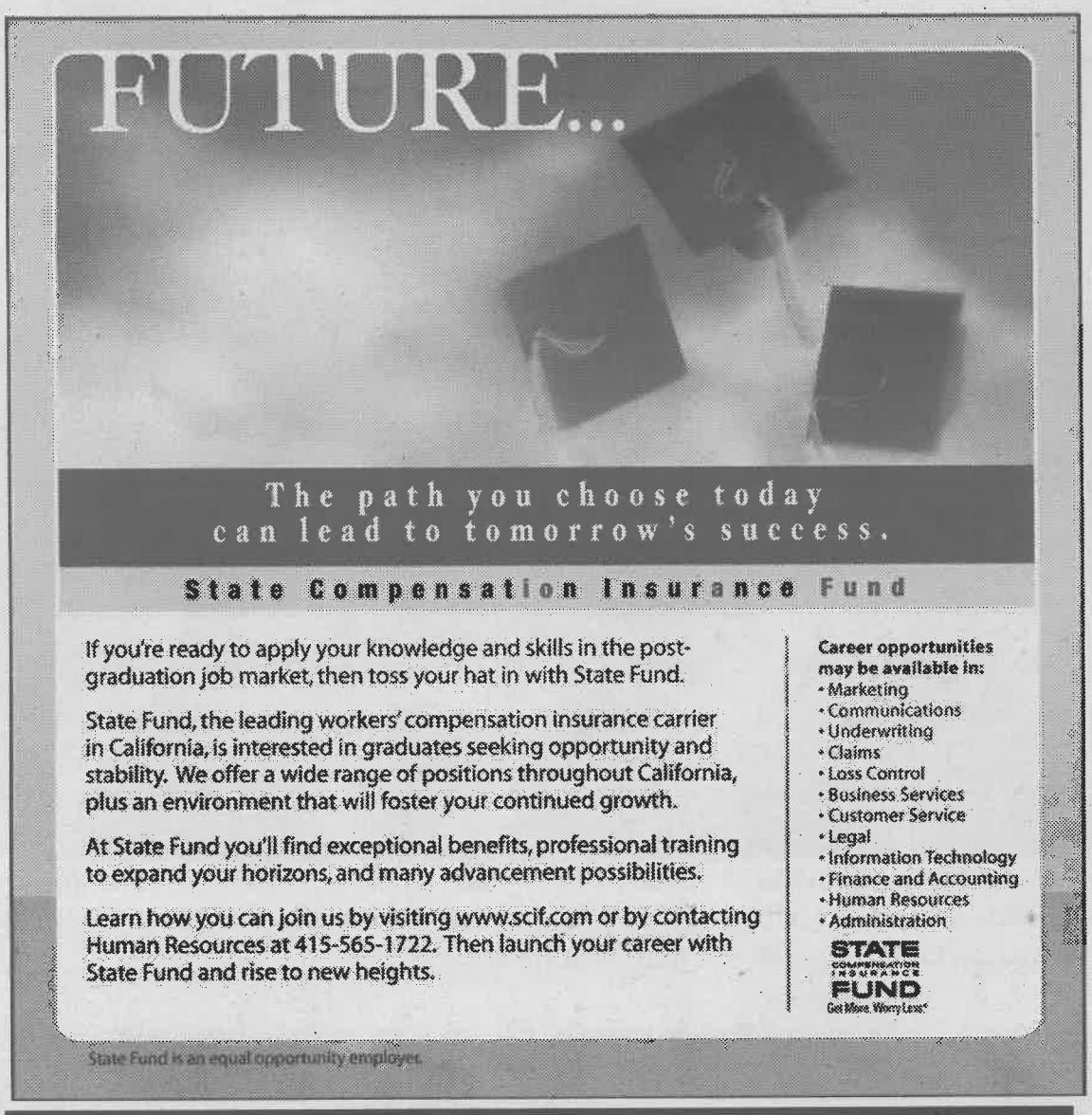
The trip to Bhutan will leave Jan. 4, 2004, from LAX to Bangkok, Thailand. The class will stay in Bangkok for two days and then head to Bhutan Jan. 7 to Jan. 20. They will then head back to Bangkok and return to the United States Jan. 21.

The trip, which graduating seniors can return for in January, will receive final review today by the General Education Committee.

The committee will look over the syllabus and travel plans to make their final decision.

"The GE Committee is usually very supportive of these kinds of trips," said Zandra Wagoner, general education program director. "It's a once in a lifetime trip and a great opportunity for students, and I'm sure the committee will agree."

For more information, call Dr. Broussard at extension 4597, or e-mail Dr. Korr at **jlkorr@aol.com**.

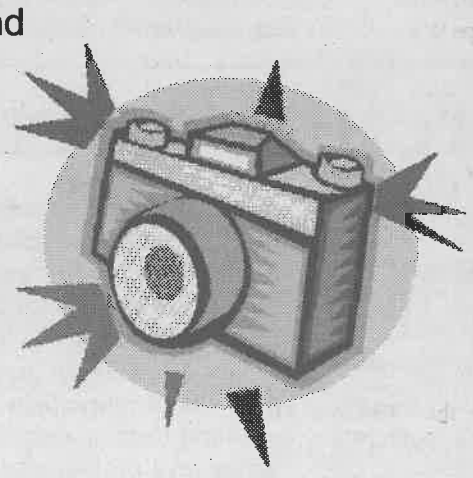


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Entertainment Briefs

Student Concert

University Chorale and Chamber Singers will perform "Music from the Movies" at 8 p.m., tonight and tomorrow in Dailey Theatre. Student Admission is free and general admission is $5.

Senior Videos

The University of La Verne Communications Department presents the senior class video screening. The videos will be shown from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday in the Arts and Communications building. A reception will be held from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Admission is free.

Movies

"Down with Love," starring Renee Zellweger and Ewan McGregor hits theaters nationwide today. The 1960's-esque romantic comedy is about a womanizer who falls in love with a feminist advice columnist.

In theaters next week is "Bruce Almighty" starring Jim Carrey and Jennifer Aniston and "The In-Laws" starring Candice Bergen, Michael Douglas and Ryan Reynolds.

—Rebecca Cooper

Traditional rhythms beat by African drummers

by Gloria Flores

photography by Amy Babin



Eje Ash, Siddeeqah Shabazz and Jenna Campbell performed in the West African Drum Ensemble Monday night in Founders Auditorium. These students of the West African Drumming class played the Djembé drums during the last song "Soli" for their final recital.

The University of La Verne's West African Drumming class marched into Founders Auditorium Monday to the beat of their own drums.

Students, led by director Steven Biondo, graced the stage with a variety of colorful drums as well as traditional West African wardrobe styles that created an energetic and authentic atmosphere.

"The drums and the costumes really added to the experience," said audience member Erica Pembleton.

The performance was a celebration of traditional rhythms originating mostly from the Malinke people, once from the Mali Empire.

Origins of this music date back to the 12th century but as the ULV students demonstrated, its beat and rhythm continue to live on.

The group entered the stage performing "Bao," a rhythm played as a festive initiation for young women in their village.

"Bao" was followed by "Mamaya," which is an elegant rhythm intended to accentuate the beauty of the male and female dancers.

Following "Mamaya," Biondo took a moment to introduce each of his 10 spring semester students by name and instrument.

"Don't they look great?" Biondo asked, as he completed his introductions.

The group continued to perform three more rhythms called "Kassa," "Djagbe" and concluded with "Soli," a rhythm associated with circumcision and initiation.

The group then cleared the stage during a brief intermission for special guests Raynor Carroll's Ensemble KuKu.

The professional ensemble volunteered their time to be a part of the West African drumming performance.

Carroll is a member of the Steering Committee for the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Fellowship for Excellence in Diversity.

He is also a participant in concerts on the Los Angeles Philharmonic's New Music Group series.

Students put on this show as part a requirement for the West African drumming class.

The course teaches students basic

Continued on page 13

Theater students refine talents in England

Desiree Quintero
Staff Writer

The University of La Verne Theatre Arts Department is known for its talented students and the great plays they perform throughout the school year.

Within the Theatre Arts Department, students are given several opportunities to expand their talents.

Sophomores can apply for the year-long study abroad program at the Conservatoire for Acting and Musical Theatre at Guildford, England.

Students with an interest in theatre, apply for the chance to refine their talents at Guildford.

"If you want to be a successful professional actor, musical theatre performer, stage manager or technician, then the Conservatoire for Acting & Musical Theatre has a course that will give you the best possible training" said Peter Barlow, director of the Conservatoire for Acting and Musical Theatre.

"We take the job of training professional performance artists very seriously. Most of our graduates are following successful careers in the world of theatre, television, film and media," Barlow said.

Guildford is an opportunity for students to refine their theatrical talents and focus mainly on theatre and acting on a professional level.

Students applying for the program must prepare a speech of no more than two minutes from a play written before 1900 and also prepare a speech of no more than two minutes from a contemporary play.

Applicants are asked to perform their pieces and are interviewed briefly.

The judging panel consists of senior staff and a member of the acting profession, a director or choreographer.

If successful at the first audition, applicants are invited to a second audition.

Three ULV students are currently studying at Guildford, which is a half hour train ride from London. ULV will send another group of talented

Continued on page 13

Cook writes 'Psalms for the 21st Century'

Chrissy Zehrbach
Assistant Editor

University of La Verne Professor of English William Cook recently published a book titled "Psalms for the 21st Century," a book of modern religious poetry.

In February 2001, Cook took a sabbatical and was giving lectures on American studies at the University of Gloucestershire in Cheltenham, England.

Cook used some of that time to reread portions of the Bible, focusing especially on the psalms.

"The inappropriateness of (the psalms) to the 21st century struck me, and I decided I'd recreate the psalms to fit this century," Cook said.

The book consists of 33 new psalms. According to Cook, the first 25 psalms parallel many of the 150 originals in the Bible, not in a structural or contextual sense, but in imagery and length.

"I was trying to keep a relative pattern to the new psalms of this century and the original psalms," he said.

The remaining eight psalms, however, do not parallel the originals.

These psalms negate the original meanings and put more of a focus on the sacredness of humanity, Cook said.

"After all we're the only ones who really make what's out there, there," he said.

"So that is our life, our heaven, our paradise, and if we go through without living it, we've wasted our existence," Cook said.

Unlike the originals, there is no glorious God in Cook's psalms.

The themes of the psalms include love, compassion and friendship.

Faith, equality of people and our existence are also major themes in the book.

"The concern here is to bring you to a point where your perception is able to grapple with what you can see, what you know, what you can touch, everything that is relative to you," Cook said.

"Because if you don't, if you take someone else's perception, or live by someone else's beliefs then you're not there," he said.

Cook believes the original psalms present validity in using religion toward a destructive end, and he has removed those negative aspects from his psalms.

"In the 21st century it seems to me that we have to look for values that are not the values that have been destructive in the past," Cook said.

"(But), rather those that can sustain us and sustain the world so that our children and our children's children can come into it with something here," Cook said.

With his psalms, Cook brings a new philosophy that challenges the myths we have been living with in the original psalms.

"Psalms for the 21st Century" provides great reading material.

The elegant, music-like poetry includes thoughts and ideas many people can relate to, and are truly appropriate for this century.

"It's an expression of my beliefs at this point in time... an understanding of where I see a necessity of human kind progressing, although I am cynical enough not to expect it to happen," Cook said.

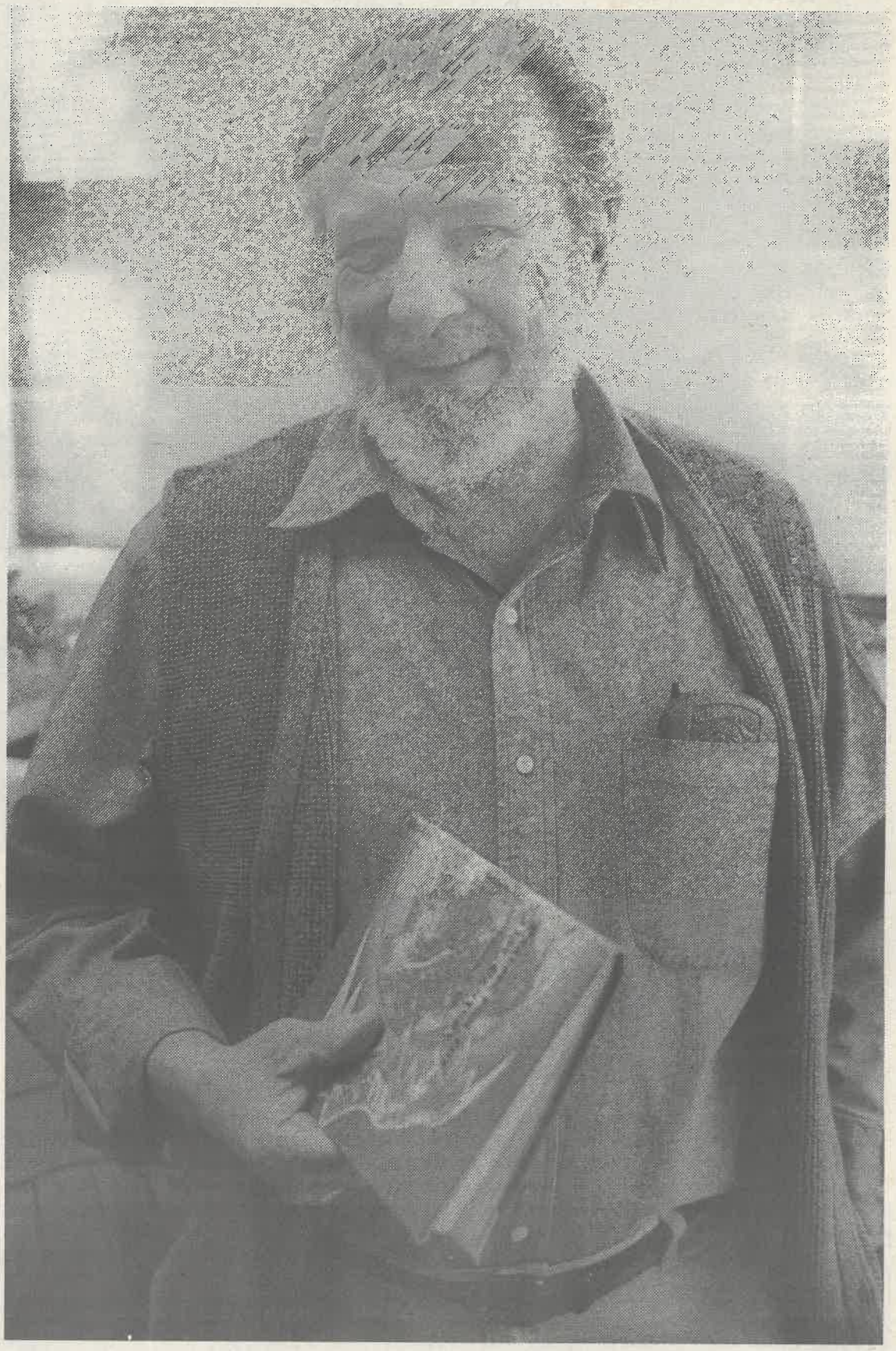
Two other ULV professors also contributed to the book.

Associate Professor of English David Werner wrote the introduction, and Professor of Religion Jonathan Reed wrote the preface.

"Psalms for the 21st Century" is Cook's first book of poetry, but is his fourth published book. He also wrote the book "A Time to Know" in 2000.

Cook earned his bachelors degree from King's College in Wilkes-Barre, Penn. He received his master's degree and doctorate from Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Penn.

> 'So that is our life, our heaven, our paradise, and if we go through without living it, we've wasted our existence.'
>
> —*William Cook*



Sylvia Castellanos

William Cook, University of La Verne professor of English, released his new book "Psalms for the 21st Century" in March. The book received press in "The American Poetry Review." Cook is also the author of the article "U.S. vs. Iraq: the Tale of the Tape."

Drumming...

Continued from page 12

techniques for playing the diverse instruments of the West African Drum Ensemble.

Students are also educated in the cultural background and tradition associated with the instruments used and selected rhythms.

The music is taught in the aural tradition and emphasizes cultural diversity.

Biondo, founder and director of the West African Drum Ensemble at ULV, is currently the assistant technician for the ULV Music Department.

As a drummer, percussionist and recording artist, he began to be influenced at the young age of 10 by jazz, Latin, Cuban and African percussion.

Biondo has performed and recorded with various artists, including Ricky Lawson and The Reed Gratz Band.

Biondo thanked his students for their patience in his process of charting the course for the future of the ULV West African Drum Ensemble.



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Theater...

Continued from page 12

students next year.

"We have sent three groups of students to Guildford already, and it looks like it is going to be a yearly thing," said Beth Pietrzak, theater manager.

The Conservatoire for Acting and Musical Theatre at Guildford usually accepts one student for about every 15 that apply, Pietrzak said.

"(I'm looking for) the student's capability to immediately process information and act upon it with imagination and physical and vocal flexibility," Barlow said.

"(I have to see that they) have the potential to develop performance work truthfully, believably, and within the given circumstances of the pieces they were working on," Barlow said. "I want to see that they are open to alternative ideas and are non-defensive in their approach."

ULV sophomores Samantha Chung, Eli Hernandez, Nasir Najieb and Siddeeqah Shabazz were among the theater elite to be accepted into Guildford.

"I was telling everyone that I was going to Guildford before I even auditioned," Shabazz said.

"My grandma said she was going to visit me, so I knew I had to make it cause I couldn't let grandma down," she said.

Chung, Hernandez and Shabazz are accepting their invitations to study at Guildford, Pietrzak said.

The three are involved in the music department as well as theater.

"When I heard I was accepted I felt like I had achieved something, and I felt like I was doing what I should be doing, theatre," Shabazz said.

La Verne athletes meet to celebrate

Lacy Cascadden
Staff Writer

It has been a tradition for as long as anyone can remember. It is the gathering of student athletes to celebrate their seasons. However, it has only recently been a combined event at the University of La Verne.

In the past at ULV, it was a series of three or four banquets a year. Each season had an event to honor the athletes, but over the years it has become a single award ceremony for all the athletes.

"The value of this (event) is that it pulls all teams together," said Jim Paschal, athletic director. "It is a community of all 20 teams."

The night was meaningful in bringing all the teams together under one roof. It gave other players a chance to see how other teams performed in their seasons.

"It is a good idea to honor scholar athletes," said Jennifer Stout, volleyball player. "It is a good opportunity for all the athletes to be in the same place."

Will Darity, sports information director and assistant track coach, was the master of ceremonies for the evening in the Supertents Tuesday.

After Darity's opening remarks, Jim May, head athletic trainer, stepped up and offered these words for the athletes in the audience, "Take advantage of your opportunities."

Each coach then took the stage to recognize athletes from their respective sports, starting with fall, moving to winter and ending with spring. First and second team all-conference athletes were recognized as well as region winners.

Don Morel, head football coach, started his speech with a mention of injured quarterback Rollie Dykstra and the football team's great commitment.

It was a night of honoring great individual athletes and outstanding teams.



Sylvia Castellanos

Liz Lucsko was "truly surprised" when she received the Jesse Iles Scafani Award, presented to her by Julie Kline Tuesday night at the Sports Recognition and Awards Banquet. Lucsko was also the recipient of the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Athlete of the Year Award, SCIAC Athlete of the Week Award for April 29, and SCIAC Champion for the 100-meter hurdles, long jump, 4 x 100 meter relay, and was named All-American in the long jump.

It also marked some new beginnings. It was the last banquet for Jack Coberly, men's volleyball coach, who will be replaced by his son, Morgan Coberly.

He concluded his speech by saying, "Live your dreams. Work to excel."

It also was the last time Julie Kline will represent the softball team.

She invited the new coach up as her last order of head coach. Kline said she was truly honored to have been associated with the women on the softball team.

"As we know, character is who we are," Kline said.

Mention was given to Beth Thompson, athletic trainer, as this was her last year at ULV as well.

This was also the last banquet for Paschal.

He was given a standing ovation, as students and coaches recognized him for his years of service as a coach and athletic director.

Many students were given recognition for outstanding performances as was Matt Durant, strength and conditioning coach at ULV.

This year's athletic performances were some of the best in ULV history with six Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Athlete of the Year awards, given to Robert Casillas for water polo, Sydni Myrick for women's basketball, Liz Lucsko and Brandon Tedrow for track and field, Gina Meza for softball and Amy Kratochvil for women's volleyball.

"Our athletic community is very important to campus life, and this recognizes this community," said Don Flora, women's volleyball coach.

The golf team was not able to attend the banquet because it was at nationals in Delaware, Ohio.

The ceremony ended with a video of all the sports, athletes and coaches from the year.

The video concluded with a tribute to Paschal from his years as a coach to his time as athletic director.

LV vies for last-second national bids

Chrissy Zehrbach
Assistant Editor

With the goal of nationals on their minds, individuals from the University of La Verne track and field team competed in the Occidental Invitational Saturday, in a last attempt to gain national berths.

The Leopards faced tough competition from Division I schools as well as unattached participants in the non-scoring meet but fared well overall.

"We had some really good marks," said head coach Pat Widolff.

For the women's team, the 4x100-meter relay team of Dejuana Satchell, LaKia Sims, Deonne McLean and Liz Lucsko ran their race in 47.90 for a third place finish.

Lori Waters and Ellen Soakai threw the shot put 44'10.75" and 42'08",respectively. Gerlaine Kiamco tossed the hammer 146'10", and Lisa Mila achieved a distance of 115'05" in the javelin.

Lucsko reached a distance of 17'09" in the long jump competition, while Sims leaped 37'04.5" in the triple jump for a fourth place finish.

For the men's team, Brandon Tedrow tossed the discus 141'06" and the javelin 198'01". John Horton took fifth place in the triple jump with a distance of 47'02.5" and also reached 20'01" in the long jump.

> 'It's what I've wanted since I was a freshman ... and to do it now is beautiful.'
> —*Eric Thomas, junior*

On the track, Will Lawson took seventh in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 53.16.

Eric Thomas reached a National Collegiate Athletic Association provisional qualifying time in the 400-meter dash, completing the race in 48.38.

The men's 4x400-meter relay team of Brandon Jones, Lawson, Thomas and Blaine Bacher set a new school record with its finish of 3:14.97 — also an NCAA provisional qualifying time.

After Saturday's meet, 16 ULV athletes had achieved provisional marks and are in contention for national bids.

"Everyone has been working hard," Soakai said. "Track is an individual sport; it's about how hard you work."

Only two ULV athletes hold automatic bids to the national competition.

Tedrow has qualified in the javelin and the decathlon. Nationally, he ranks No. 7 in javelin and No. 2 in decathlon. In last year's national tournament, he took third place in the decathlon.

Waters holds the other automatic bid with her No. 6 ranking in the shot put.

In most events, the top 16 ranked athletes move on to the national meet.

After this last week of competition, athletes who are still in good standing will earn berths to the meet.

The women's 4x100-meter relay team currently ranks No. 12 in the nation, while the men's 4x400-meter relay team ranks No. 11.

Individually, Sims holds a No. 14 ranking in the triple jump. Lucsko is No. 11 in the long jump and also reached provisional marks in the triple jump.

Soakai retains a No. 13 rank-

Continued on page 16

Leos battle weather in Ohio

Matt Paulson
Sports Editor

The University of La Verne golf team finished 21st of 23 teams this week in the Division III National Tournament in Delaware, Ohio.

In the final round, the Leopards as a team fired a 319, their worst score of the tournament by four strokes and the worst score of the day by one.

Junior Joey Murray and freshman James Pearce were the only Leopards to break 80, both shooting a team-best 79 in Thursday's final round.

The third round, played in this tournament Wednesday, is generally known as "moving day" on the PGA Tour; however, the Leopards failed to take advantage of prime scoring conditions – the best of the tournament up to that point – and move up the leaderboard.

"The weather (Wednesday) was perfect, very playable," head coach Rex Huigens said.

After struggling the first two rounds in Delaware, La Verne managed to settle down slightly in the third round, following a 30-minute frost delay, to post a team total of 303. This total was eight shots better than the Leopards' best total up to Wednesday in the tournament.

Junior Joe Skovron, who was voted the best golfer in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference by his peers this year, led the Leopards Wednesday with a 1-over-par 72.

Sophomore Andrew Garcia followed closely with a 4-over-par 75, equalling the lowest number of any Leopard in the first two rounds Monday and Tuesday.

As the result of five tough finishing holes and "worrying about their score too much," Skovron said, Murray and freshman Doug Green finished 5-over-par in their last five holes to both shoot 7-over-par 78s.

Green led ULV for the first two rounds, firing 75-79 in the inclement weather conditions.

Green's fallout Wednesday, Huigens said, was partly due to distance control problems.

"He hits the ball probably too far," Huigens said.

Rounding out the scoring in round three was Pearce, who has struggled this tournament, firing a third-round, 12-over-par 83.

As a team, this earned La Verne a disappointing aggregate score of 303, which left ULV with a variety of "should haves," considering the scoreable conditions Wednesday provided.

"We should have been under 300," Huigens said.

Wednesday's score, Skovron said, was "mediocre."

"We should have gotten lower than we did," he said.

The total of 303 Wednesday was a 12-shot improvement upon La Verne's second round score of 315 Tuesday.

"We played very poorly (Tuesday)," Huigens said. "It really cost us."

The Leopards paid a price of seven spots on the leaderboard, moving from No. 14 after day one to No. 21 after day two.

On day one, the weather conditions were not exactly what one would generally find in the spring in Southern California.

Delaware, Ohio boasted a balmy 54 degrees with 10-mph winds.

Green led the Leopards with a 4-over-par 75 in the harsh conditions. Garcia followed with a 77, while Skovron was a few steps behind with an 8-over-par 79, after finishing 4-over in his last five holes.

Skovron's scores of 79-79 the first two days summed up the Leopard performance in the opening rounds of nationals. Skovron's average of 73.48 during the entire conference season this year earned him the lowest scoring average in SCIAC. His average over the first two rounds in nationals is more than five shots worse than his season average.

The weather conditions did play a large part in Skovron and the Leopards' disappointing performance the first two days.

Although it is a common ideal in golf that no matter how bad the conditions get, everyone has to play the same course, alleviating any advantage held by one side over another.

However, La Verne was playing schools from throughout the nation. 50-degree temperatures, rain, and winds reaching double digits is much more common on the East Coast and Midwest than in Southern California, giving these schools from other parts of the country an obvious advantage in harsh conditions.

ULV is adjusted to playing, at worst, in overcast skies.

"The worse it gets, the bigger of an advantage (other teams) have," Skovron said.

But the University of Redlands, the other Southern California team and SCIAC representative, has done well in the conditions, finishing the third round in sixth place, just 11 shots behind Wesley College, the leaders.

The SCIAC Lee Fulmer Player of the Year, Redlands senior Jordan Bailey, shot 74-72-71 in the first three rounds of nationals and stood in sixth place as an individual entering the fourth round.

Due to an afternoon rain delay, Bailey's and Redlands' fourth-round results were not yet available at press time, but Bailey was tied for sixth place through nine holes at 5-over and Redlands, as a team, was tied for fourth place with less than half its holes remaining.

The national tournament, hosted by Ohio Wesleyan University and the par-71, private Dornoch Country Club, pits 23 of the nation's top Division III schools against each other.

Each team brings five players, and the lowest four scores are recorded as a part of the team total each day.

Search nears finish

The University of La Verne moved one step closer yesterday to selecting a new athletic director after the committee responsible for evaluating candidates made their recommendation to President Stephen Morgan.

According to committee member Hector Delgado, Morgan will decide to either extend an offer based on the recommendation, or ask the committee to continue the search.

If the president agrees with the recommendation, negotiations will begin with the candidate of choice over salary and benefits.

The University hopes to fill the athletic director position by July.

—Kenneth Todd Ruiz

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Renaissance man takes ULV

•Decathlete to return to nationals

Lacy Cascadden
Staff Writer

His blue eyes wander as they take in the scene before him. He talks easily regardless of the fact that he is talking to a stranger. With incredible poise, he answers each question, laughing easily as if he were among friends.

His hands are clasped in front of him as he speaks about his passions: the very things that define him.

It is not easy being an athlete. There is constant strain on mind and body. Especially when you are the best.

And he is the best. Every movement is precise, and every second counts. It is now or never.

Tall and strong, senior Brandon Tedrow is a thrower and one of the nation's best college decathletes.

"People recognize me as an athlete," Tedrow said. "Sports are a way of life. It makes me what I am."

As a member of the University of La Verne track and field team, Tedrow will travel to Canton, N.Y. May 22-24 to compete in nationals.

After taking third in last year's tournament and a default due to injury his sophomore year, Tedrow is ready and determined to compete this year and prove that he is No. 1.

"He has a really good chance," said head track and field coach Pat Widolff.

The coaches in the conference named Tedrow Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Athlete of the Year.

Tedrow is officially second in the nation for the decathlon. But being second does not mean that Tedrow can not be the best.

"Ranking doesn't mean much," Widolff said. "It is what you do in those two days (at nationals)."

For someone who only started track and field in high school, Tedrow has come a long way.

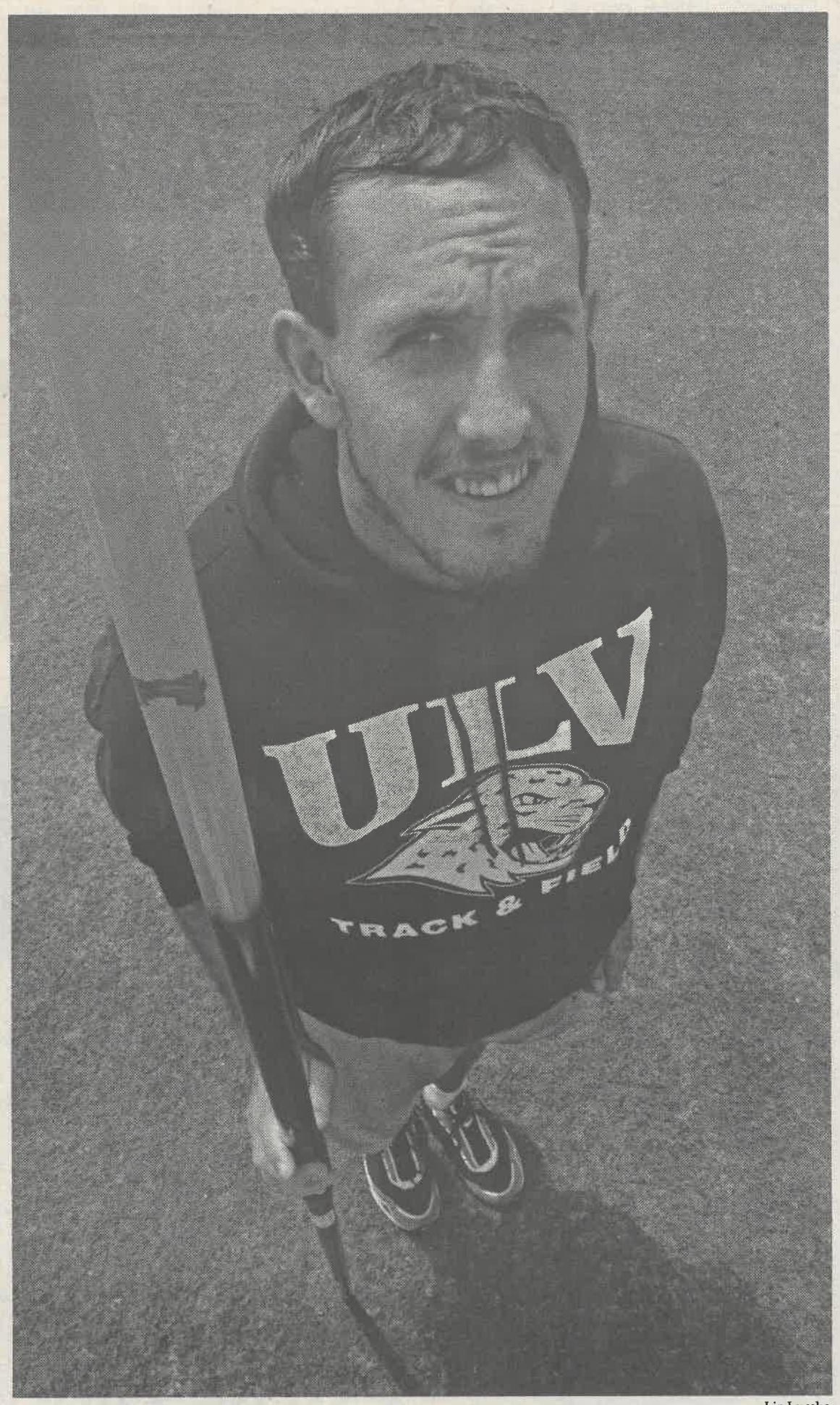
Formerly a basketball player, he gives credit to the track coach at his junior high, who got him interested in track. He was also the coach at Tedrow's high school, and Tedrow credits his coach for getting him started in the sport.

He chose to do the decathlon because he does not like only competing in one event.

To the list of sports he has played, soccer and baseball can be added. His passion for sports will carry on into his future, he said.

Tedrow will graduate with a degree in history, and he will later try for his teaching credential. He hopes to teach history and also coach a sport.

Tedrow is already like a coach at ULV where he helps the throwers and his other teammates. Tedrow will return to help coach ULV track and field, and he will continue to train and compete as well.



Liz Lucsko

Senior All-American track and field athlete Brandon Tedrow is ranked No. 2 nationally in the decathlon with 6,684 points. Tedrow's mark qualifies him automatically to compete at the NCAA Track and Field Championships in Canton, N.Y., held May 22-24. Tedrow has been named SCIAC Male Athlete of the Week, SCIAC Athlete of the Year, SCIAC Scholar Athlete, received All-State honors and the Anthony P. Scafani award.

"He is very encouraging and always willing to help," said LaKia Sims of the women's track and field team. "He respects everyone's craft."

But there is more to this strong athlete. Tedrow works at Burlington Coat Factory and is a dedicated student.

He is in the Honors program at ULV, and this year, he received a scholar award and the Anthony P. Scafani Sportsman of the Year Award.

In addition, Tedrow is a dedicated member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

But he likes to have fun as well. He is somewhat of a movie buff, boasting that he owns more than 100 movies.

But sports are what Tedrow is known for.

It is not about winning for him; it is about doing the best he can do and feeling satisfied with his performance, knowing that he pushed himself as hard as he could, he said.

Looking at Tedrow, you can see the determination in his eyes.

"I think I have a shot at winning (nationals) and getting All-American for javelin," Tedrow said.

Tedrow, however, has more than just a shot.

Several members of the ULV track and field team will leave next week and compete in nationals.

Tedrow will be accompanied by his father and his aunt in New York. He will try for the third time to prove that he is No. 1 in the nation.

"He still competes even when he is hurt," said Will Lawson of the men's track and field team. "That's what makes a champion."

Regardless of whether Tedrow wins next week, he will go down as the best decathlete in ULV history, holding the school record.

"I wouldn't question it," Lawson said. "Undoubtedly, I would say he is coming back a national champion."

It seems a perfect end to the year for Tedrow.

Soon he will embark on a new part of his life, but sports will always be part of who he is.

"He has excellence on and off the field," said Jim Paschal, athletic director.

Track...

Continued from page 14

ing in the shotput and is No. 17 in discus, while Mila is No. 7 in the nation for javelin.

Horton maintains the No. 10 spot in the long jump and is No. 17 in the triple jump.

Lawson ranks No. 11 in the 400-meter hurdles.

"It's what I've wanted since I was a freshman," Thomas said about the opportunity to compete in nationals. "We just barely missed it the last two years, and to do it now is beautiful; it's what I've wanted."

Provisional marks were also achieved throughout the season by Adriana Ramirez in the triple jump, Kiamco in the hammer and Amy Smith in the high jump.

Satchell also achieved provisional times in the 100 and 200-meter dashes.

"We don't have a meet this week, which gives us plenty of time to work on things," Widolff said.

"I think we're ready," Thomas said. "I don't care how well we run when we get there; I just want to see us get there."

A goal for many Leopards is to earn All-American recognition.

"My competition is very harsh," Soakai said. "I have to throw real well to be All-American."

"Being All-American would be a beautiful way to end the season," Thomas said.

Tedrow, Lucsko and Waters achieved this honor for their accomplishments last season.

For the first time in ULV history, both the men's and women's teams have walked away from the season with the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Male and Female Athlete of the Year Awards.

Lucsko and Tedrow were selected by SCIAC coaches as this year's recipients, beating out strong competition from other conference teams.

"It's exciting for both of them; they're both seniors, and they've both worked really hard," Widolff said.

This season, Lucsko was SCIAC champion of the long jump and 100-meter hurdles and shared the glory of a championship 4x100-meter relay team.

She was also named SCIAC Athlete of the Week April 29. Lucsko is the third ULV female track athlete to receive this award.

Tedrow is the second ULV male track athlete to be named Athlete of the Year.

This season, he earned All-State honors in the javelin and was named Athlete of the Week March 25.

The NCAA Division III Outdoor Championships will be held May 22-24 at St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY.

"This is the most important meet of the year," Widolff said. "A lot of our athletes have worked hard for nine months for this meet."

Finalists should be declared by the end of the weekend, and athletes will be notified in the upcoming week if they will be participating.

Attack and React

May 16, 2003 | University of La Verne, La Verne Calif. 91750 | Vol. 1 No. 2

Festival promotes peace with art

Jennifer Contreras
Staff Writer

From an idea between friends to an event that brought many together, the Peace and Justice Festival on April 12 in Claremont used many mediums of expression to shed light on world issues.

"Generally we wanted the event to raise awareness about how the events in Iraq are tied in with a lot of other issues of the world. We wanted to make people think about the state of war," said Mark Hornaday, organizer and producer for the festival.

The Sontag Greek Amphitheater on the Pomona College campus served as the venue for the event which was sponsored not only by students from the Claremont Colleges, but also students from the University of La Verne as well as community members.

Planning the Peace and Justice Festival started in January.

Speakers, poets, musicians, rappers, artists, craftsmen/women and vendors were put into the structure and schedule of the festival.

"To me, it was a forum for art to be a medium to express certain ideas. It was giving art to the people and seeing if they use it, seeing how they react to it and seeing if they try to initiate art themselves. It was asking people to confront their roles in society. What are we responsible for in regards to justice issues?" said Hilary Hahn, ULV junior theatre major.

Hahn, with other ULV students, served the festival by coordinating artists to contribute to the event.

The gallery for the art was a forest of trees on which the art hung from.

> **"It was giving art to the people and seeing if they use it, seeing how they react to it."**
> **-Hilary Hahn**

People were allowed to walk through two patches of trees to see the art and, in some cases, people were encouraged to interact with the art.

Retired Professor Joe Maizlish from South Los Angeles spoke on the topic of conflict resolution, and conscientious objection.

He said he refused to join the military during the Vietnam War and thus spent a few years in prison.

Maizlish also spoke on the realities of the uses of tax dollars and options that citizens have about their tax dollars.

Other speakers included Marjorie Musser-Mikels, former candidate for U.S. Congress.

Musical acts included Quinto Sol, La Paz, Erik Thor, Sugar Mountain and others.

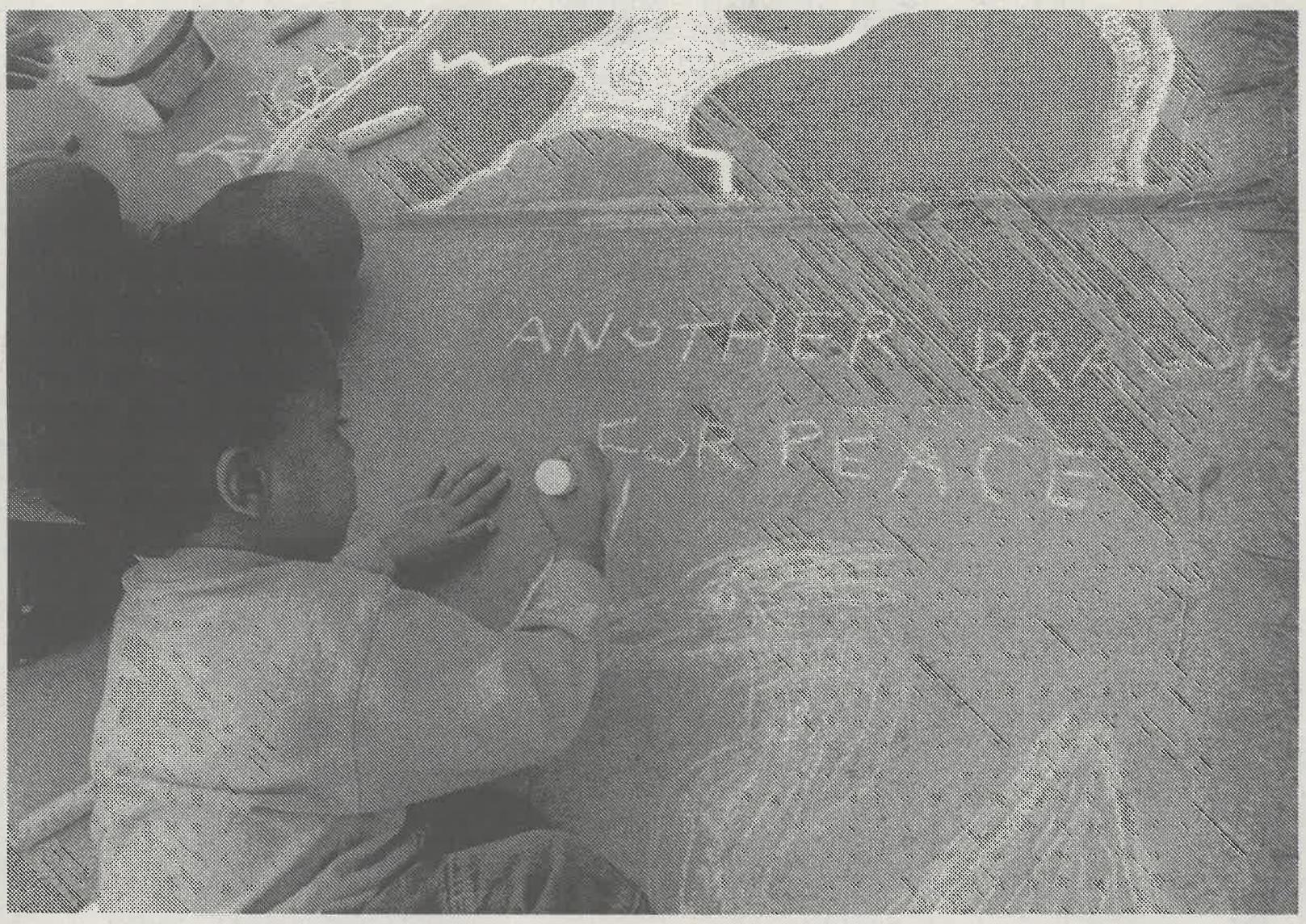
An African dance and drum group made up of local students also performed.

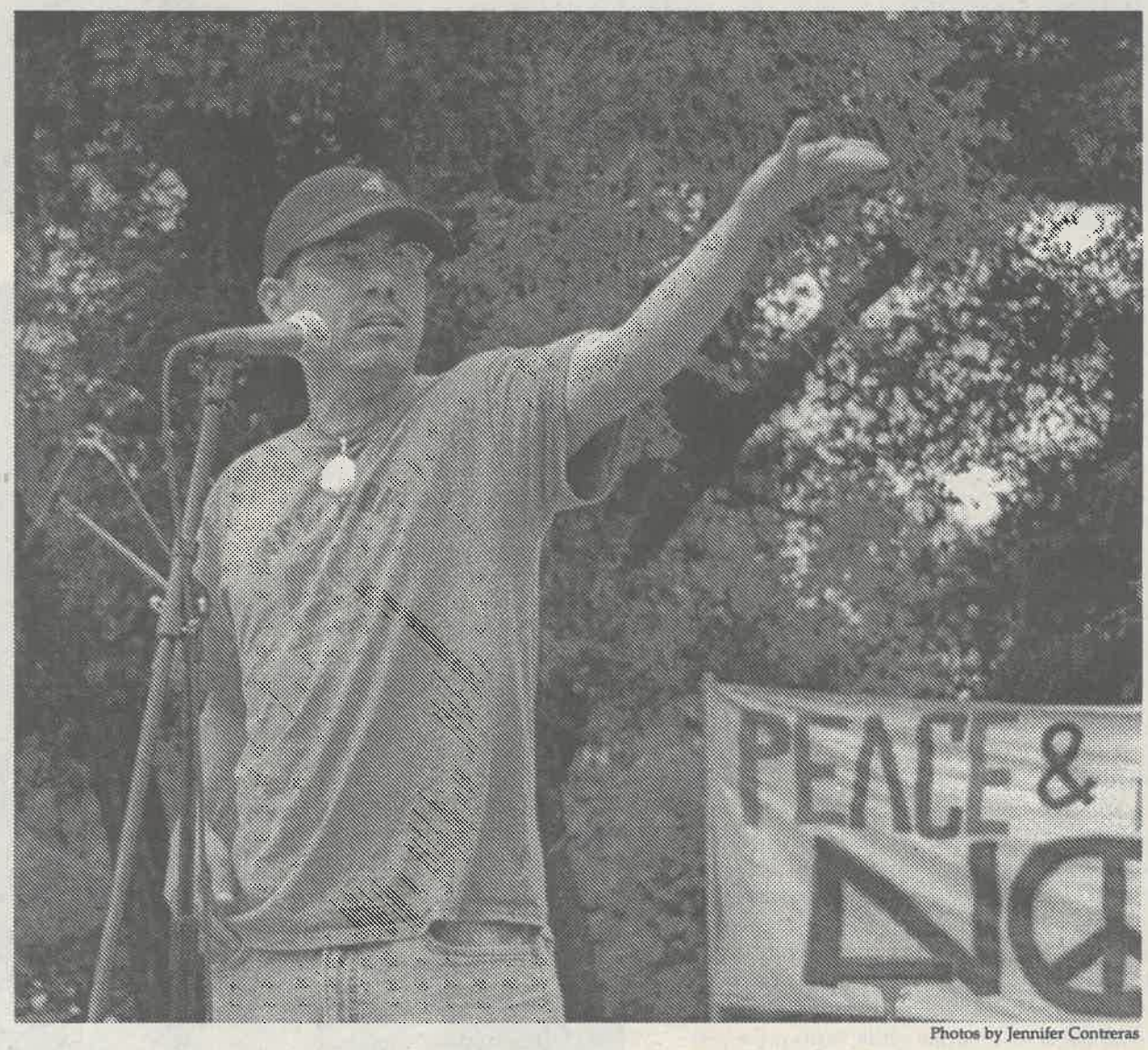
"I was satisfied with the turn out. I had the opportunity to, in some way, change an audience. To come into contact with them and present them with artwork and possibly make a slight change," said Hahn, who was also a contributing artist "For some this was an opportunity to have something happen that should be happening all the time. For others, this was in response to Iraq."

Hornaday also feels that the event was successful in its goals and philosophy.

"We wanted to create an opportunity for like minded people to connect with one another as well as raise awareness about current world issues. I think it was effective in both of these purposes," he said.

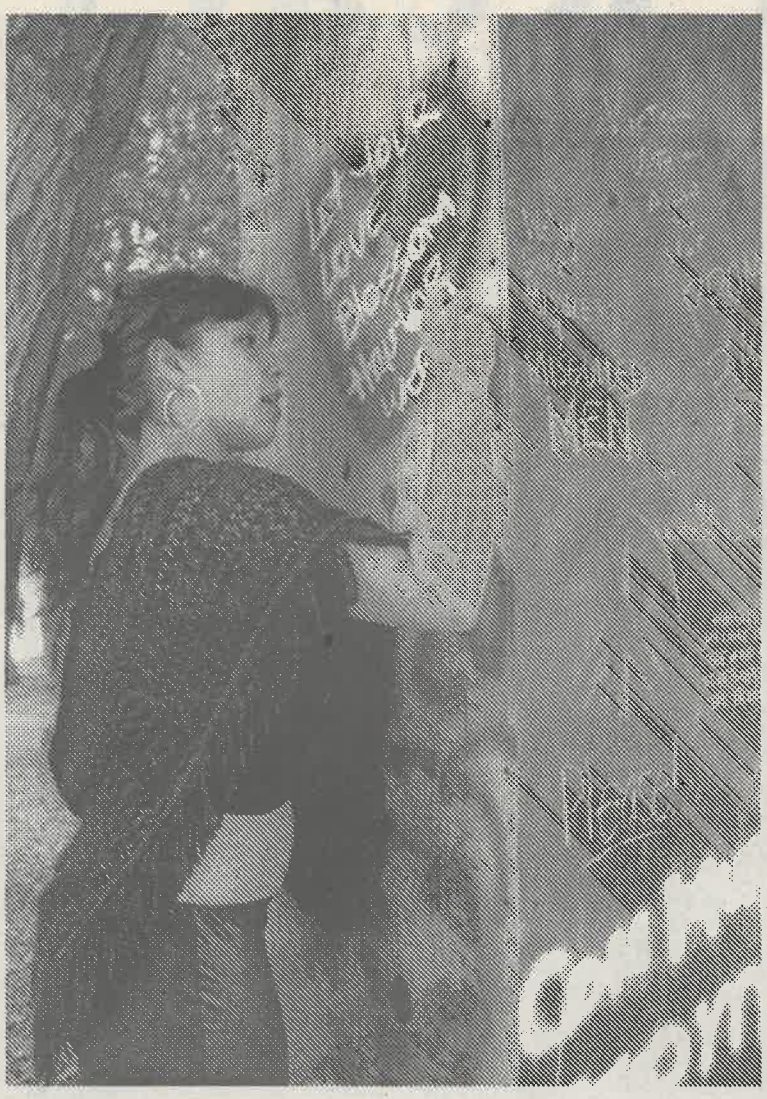
Organizations involved in the Peace and Justice Festival were the Student Peace Coalition of the Claremont Colleges and the Seminarians from the Claremont School of Theology.





Photos by Jennifer Contreras

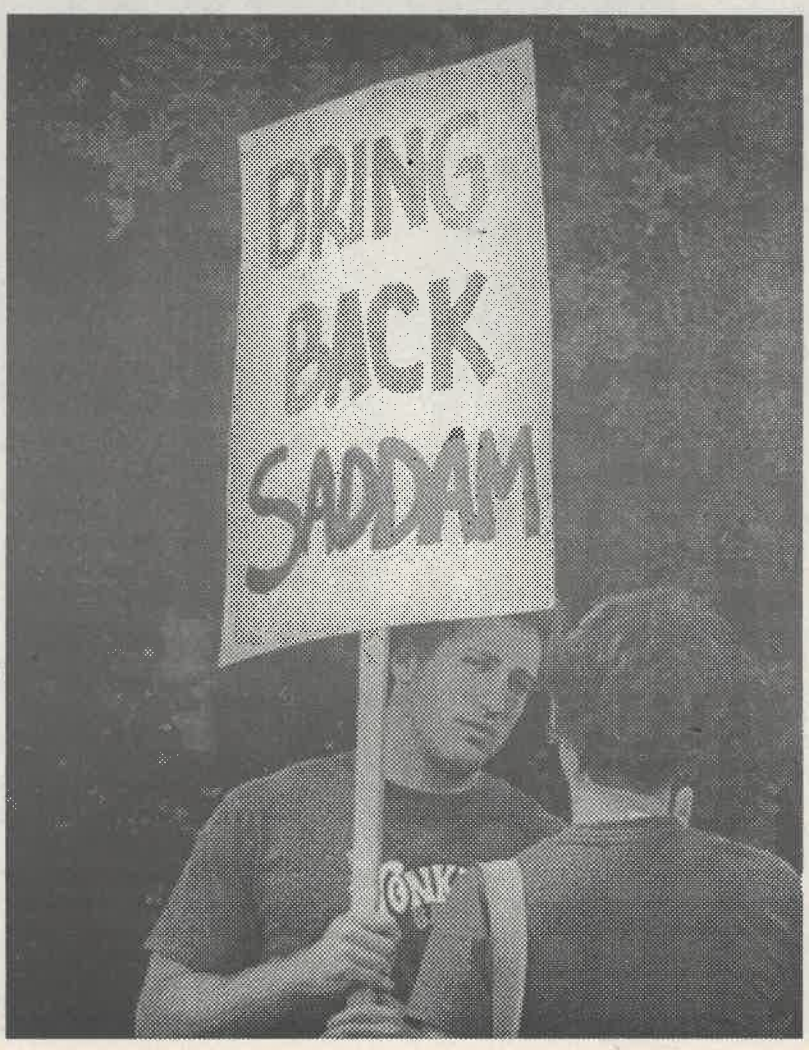
Top: Two-year old Levi Latty, who attended the Peace and Justice Festival in Claremont with his father Jahvi, joined other patrons in sidewalk art. Jahvi said that being an activist against the war, his presence was needed at the local event. "It's a good place to network," he said. *Ahove:* Poet Mark Gonzales shared his work at the Peace and Justice Festival several times throughout the day. "Mic and Dim Lights" is an open mic night that Gonzales performs at regularly in the Pomona Arts Colony.

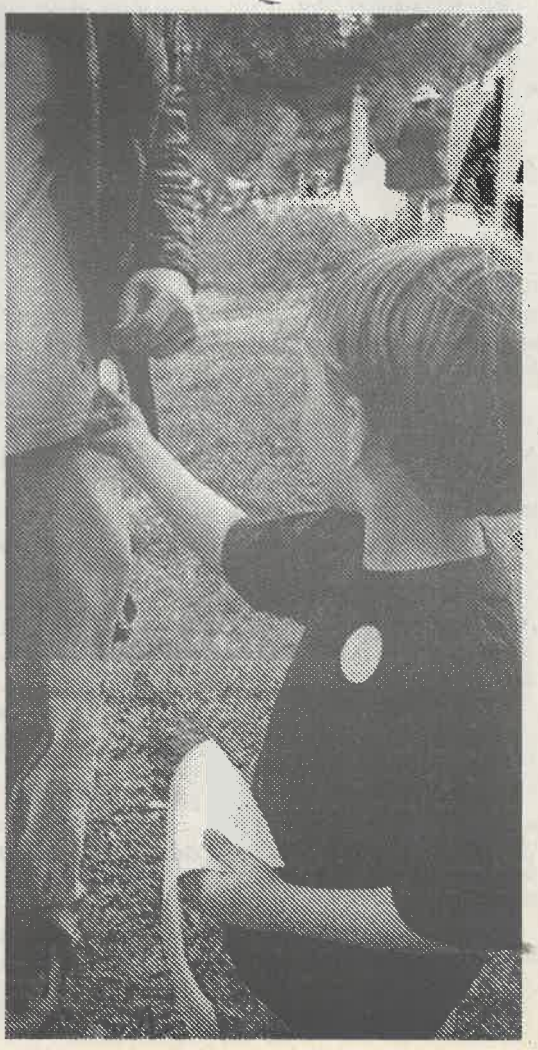






Top left: ULV alumna Carolina Quinteros uses the installation art piece at the Peace and Justice Festival, held in the Greek Amphitheater at Pomona College, to send her message. Spray paint and chalk were provided at the sight of the piece which is a wooden booth built by ULV senior Mabel Martinez. ***Above:*** Vendors lined the perimeter of the Peace and Justice Festival, including the table of Rhiannon Gatti's. Eleven-year old Gatti did face painting for patrons, many who had peace signs on their cheeks. Gatti has been face painting for two years. ***Above right***: An entire walkway was decorated with colorful chalk at the Peace and Justice Festival. Gillian Tracy, 6, of Claremont sat in chalk to draw a rainbow on the floor. Also on the sidewalk were quotes, illustrations and peace signs. ***Far right:*** Four-year old Brodhi Tracy took a couple of sheets of stickers he found on a table and passed them out. Don Groce, Upland, receives the last of the stickers that read "Drop Bush Not Bombs" with the backdrop of a peace sign. ***Right:*** A center for controversy, a patron at the Peace and Justice Festival, who asked to remain anonymous, stood atop a small hill with his sign while various people confronted him about his intentions with the sign.





War supported with 'U.S. values'

Jennifer Contreras
Staff Writer



photo by Jennifer Contreras

Linda Bearman, administrative assistant in the Registrar's Office, has been a part of the ULV community for 12 years. Bearman keeps an active voice at ULV through writing letters to the editor of the Campus Times and also by communicating with students and her fellow staff members. Bearman says that it is her diverse family and her travels that help her gain perspective on other lifestyles and cultures. "Americans tend to be loud and boisterous. They are all about themselves. They need to get out of America, see other countries and get an international perspective. We can't think we have everything and that everything is perfect," she said.

Her father lost his ability to hear in World War II. Her uncle died in the same war.

This closeness to the effects of war and conflict served to feed an attitude about patriotism that thrives strongly still.

"My father never complained that he couldn't hear. He never spoke about his war experiences like many people do. He came back and took care of his family. We had a good life," says Linda Bearman, administrative assistant in the Registrar's Office.

Growing up in what she calls a traditional family, Bearman says that she was brought up to be fully aware of the history of America, to be proud of being American and to not take her freedoms for granted.

She remembers her father coming home from the war and feeling absolute adoration for him.

These values were instilled into her heart and are values she feels have diminished in today's world.

"This generation of college students did not have parents that were in World War II, so how can we expect them to draw in those experiences?

"With Vietnam, it was a very negative war, so that is how they feel about war. It is unfair. They never saw this nation go to war to protect their freedoms," said Bearman.

Bearman's beliefs on the values of America and what it means to be patriotic came to a central point in her life when the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York disrupted what it meant be American.

"When that happened there was a peace demonstration on campus and I was so outraged. It was a pivotal moment. I kept waiting for somebody to speak, but not one person did," she said.

"I just wanted to other side of the story to be heard so that students could know that there was another side to the story. My father would have been so disappointed if I had not said anything."

What Bearman did in response to the demonstration was send a memo to faculty and staff about her frustration and she also offered her take on the situation and reasons why she supports the actions taken by the United States in response to Sept. 11, 2001.

This sparked debate and controversy about a series of events on campus that were considered by Bearman and others to be disrespectful of American values.

"This country should be remembered. In France, England, Germany, they are all where they are today because of us," she said.

In order to be what she calls a voice for the other side, Bearman frequently writes letters to the editor of the Campus Times.

On March 14 of this year she wrote, "...Perhaps our younger generation should be told of our many finer moments and battles fought and won for the freedom and dignity of mankind, and of the many peoples of the world we feed, clothe, and bring medical treatment to.

Perhaps we should celebrate our humanity to the world, rather than seize upon our mistakes."

This letter was in response to another letter that critically analyzed a history of claimed unjust actions by the United States.

"Who the hell doesn't want peace? But my uncle and father fought for those rights to peace," she said.

With the most recent conflict in Iraq, Bearman feels that President Bush sent the United States to the Middle East because of 9/11.

She also feels that while war is not the ideal process, it needs to be done sometimes in order for anything to change.

"I don't know if it was right or not. I don't want people to be killed. But there are some things worth fighting and dying for and that's our freedom.

"Evil flourishes when good men do nothing. I believe that is true. In a year the Iraqis will be fed, educated and clothed. And then we will leave. Iraq will not become a Little America," she said.

"Occupation for a long time won't work, you can bet on it. We are not there for oil, though we may monitor it for a while."

It is Bearman's observation that the reason for initial dissention to the war by the majority of Americans was because of a fear of failure.

"Who wants to go to war? But when we started to win the war, Bush's popularity rates were at 85 percent. We had to succeed, the U.S wouldn't have stood for it," she said.

> **"In a year the Iraqis will be fed, educated and clothed. Iraq will not become a Little America."**
> **-Linda Bearman**

The shift in support for the war, Bearman feels, came from a sense of unity felt by the American people.

"When American soldiers are out there the public regroups and supports them. Those are our sons out there," she said.

Bearman feels that it is the American tendency to be generous and open because of the fortunate lifestyles Americans are accustomed to.

It is this tendency, Bearman says, that gives Americans the need to participate in humanitarian efforts such as the one to rebuild Iraq for the progress of its people.

"Maybe I tend to view it in this optimistic light, but I will always feel that way," she said.

Bearman considers herself to be an "international person" in that she has traveled much and has many friends from different countries.

She, however, thrives and flourishes in the fact that she is American.

"I visited Washington D.C. one year and until then I had no idea what it meant to be American. Everyone should go there.

"We have made mistakes and there is a lot of corruption, but we don't fear for our lives. I am proud to be American and I am not afraid to say it," she says firmly.

Gulf War felt through family

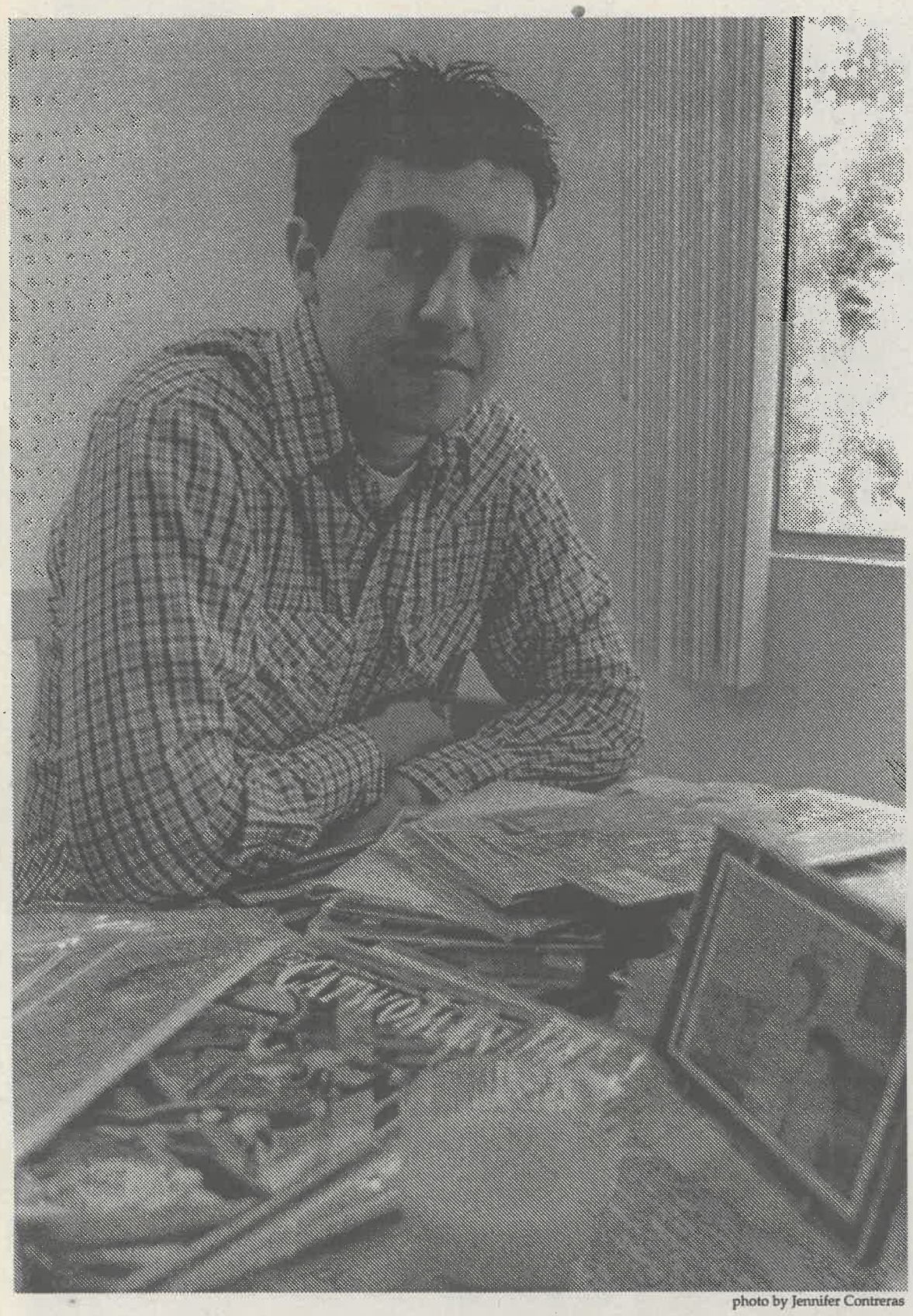


photo by Jennifer Contreras

After recently being reunited with a collection of comic books, Juan Garcia thinks about his childhood and all the scheming and saving he and his brother did to get the books. "I remember that one of us had to distract my mother so that one of us could go buy the book," he said. Garcia, ULV senior international business major, has not seen his brother more than a year. Sgt. Victor Garcia, his brother, is currently in Iraq serving for the Military Police. Garcia keeps close a picture of he and his brother as children and he looks forward to Victor's return.

Jennifer Contreras
Staff Writer

The last time he spoke with his brother, he said that it was weird and uncomfortable. It was two days before his brother was scheduled to fly to Iraq to serve as a Military Policeman.

"I brought up our comic books to break the uncomfortable vibes. I said to him, 'Are you taking my Wolverine comic book to Iraq?' He said, 'No it's in storage in German,'" said ULV senior Juan Garcia.

"Comic books were the only thing we ever did together. We never hung out with each other or played together. All we had was comic books."

Garcia's brother, Sgt. Victor Garcia, has been a member of the United States Army for seven years. It has been about one year since Juan last saw Victor.

"He is a cook regularly and he is stationed in Germany. But he is a soldier first and they needed more MP's, so he was called to duty in Iraq."

> **"Suddenly the politics and protests were gone and it was personal. I became addicted to CNN."**
> **-Juan Garcia**

Since the start of the war, Garcia has been through a series of emotions and opinions about this war and war in general. Much of his inner conflict stems from the fact that his only brother is living in a danger zone.

"At first we were not too worried because MP's are not on the front line. But after we saw the way Iraq responded to the war, we saw that it was the MP's and those who were based in civilian territories who were in more danger," he said.

Garcia is referring to the Iraqi militias that were dressed in civilian clothing who were fighting, the suicide bombers and the rioters that were attacking.

"It really kicked my ass, honestly. When we finally took Baghdad I became a hermit. I stopped going to debate practice and class.

" It was the double-edged sword that is the media. On the one hand I wouldn't want to watch my brother get hurt on television, but at the same time I needed to know all the latest developments. And now we have the technology to be right on top of it, so how could I not watch?" he said.

Garcia adds that he felt a responsibility to his parents to know as much as possible about the war because they did not understand the politics behind the war.

Despite the obvious concern his family felt, Garcia said he and his parents played games to pretend everything was OK.

"We did it for each other's sake. I felt that if my parents weren't worried, then why should I be? But the truth was, we all were," he said.

Religion has been the staple that keeps his parents from losing all hope.

Garcia's mother in particular has rested her faith in her religious beliefs to be at peace with whatever the future brings.

"My mom believes in a higher being that is looking out for us so that she doesn't have to. To her, whatever happens to my brother is his destiny because there is a greater purpose. I am sure a lot of people cope with it in this way," he said.

Generally, Garcia considers himself to be against acts of war and violence.

However, his closeness to this war in particular has altered his opinions in order to understand his brother.

"At first I was obviously against it. Soon after, I was all for it. I thought that it was justified in the sense that it was supposed to be a greater deed for a greater amount of people. But right before the war started, I went back to being pissed off and against the war," he said.

The world climate at that time was one of disagreement and conflict.

Garcia said he was angry at the way the world had manipulated the war into something it wasn't.

"It was no longer about people dying and suffering. It was about patriotism and non-patriotism, ignorance and non-ignorance, you versus us," he said.

This was the point that Victor was called to duty. Instead of coming home, like he was scheduled to do, he received an automatic six-month extension to his deployment.

"Then suddenly the politics and protests were gone and it was personal. I became addicted to CNN," he said.

Garcia admits that had he not had a brother in Iraq, he wouldn't have been so "obsessed" with the war and watching it on television. Through his connection to the war, however, he has come to some conclusions.

"I think the U.S. is hypocritical. But I am hopeful. I think there is a lot more evil in the world that is far worse than the stupid stuff we fight about in the U.S., like abortion. I think Saddam was one of those evils.

"I am hopeful that the promises made by the U.S. to Iraq are realized and even if the U.S. profits, at least we will increase the living standards of its people," he said.

However, Garcia wonders if he feels this way only in order to honor and respect the actions his brother took in Iraq.

"I'd hate for it to be a lie. I'm hoping that we didn't go through this only for the U.S. to go and do it again to another country," he said.

Garcia recently retrieved his collection of comic books from his parents, who had other plans for them. This is the same comic book collection that he built with his older brother Victor.

Flipping through these relics, Garcia is reminded of his childhood, and, most of all, his brother.

"It continues to be the bond we have; my fascination with comic books stems from him. I can't wait until we look through them together."

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