Campus Times

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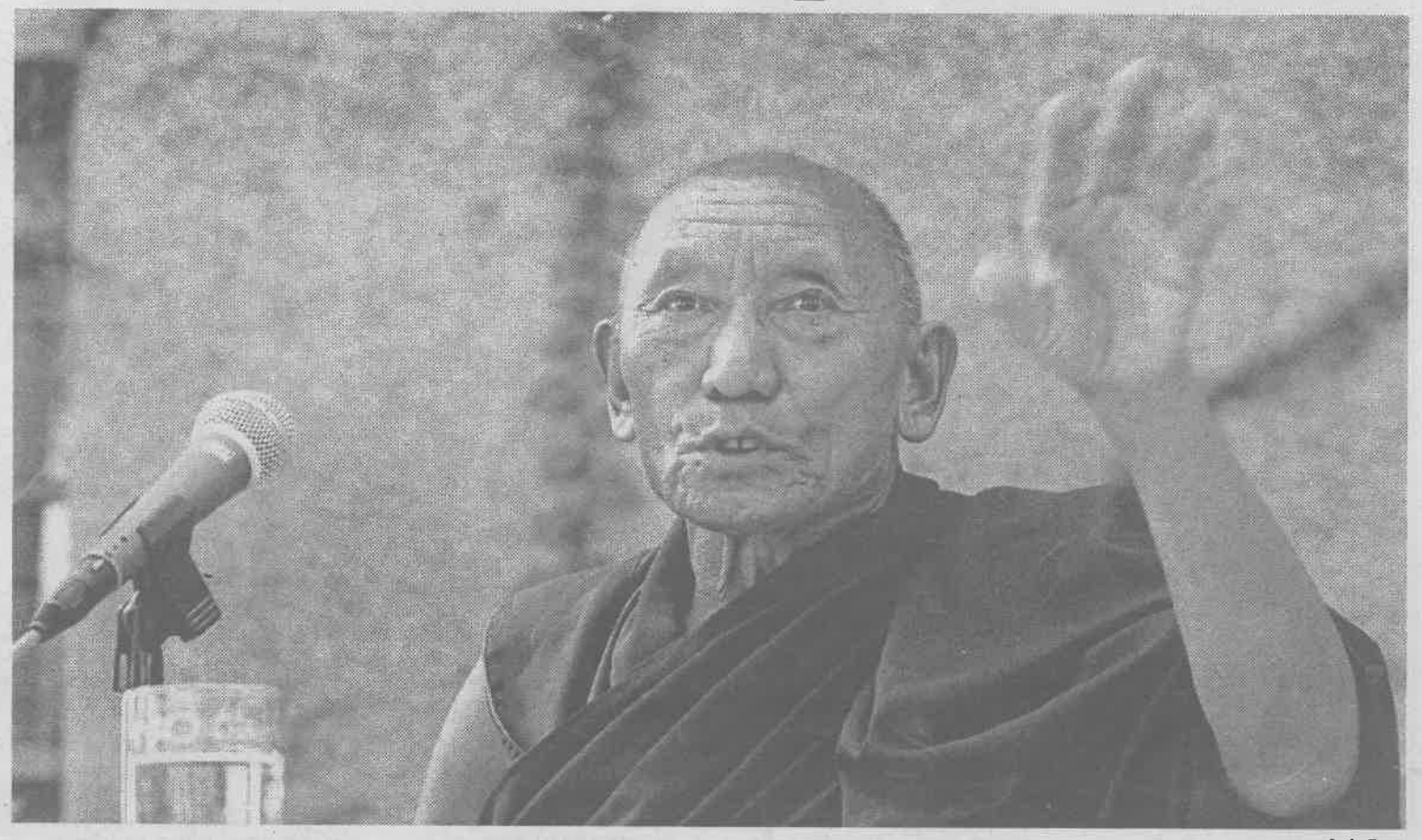
Monk speaks about imprisonment

Agke Grow
Staff Writer



Isela Peña

ASF and the Lordsburg Union Debate Society sponsored a presentation Thursday, Oct. 14, in the Quad. Palden Gyatso, an ordained Tibetan monk, spoke of his 33-year imprisonment by the Chinese government. Throughout the imprisonment he endured severe torture such as electric shocks and having boiling water poured over his head. Since his escape in 1992, he has dedicated his time to expose the oppressive actions taken by the Chinese government against the Tibetan people.

Palden Gyatso, a Tibetan Buddhist monk who has spent 33 years in Chinese captivity, came to the University of La Verne last Thursday to heighten awareness about Tibet's plight and the atrocities he insists the Chinese are committing against the Tibetan people.

A large crowd settled in the Quad to hear the monk speak about his hardships under Chinese imprisonment.

Gyatso's visit, sponsored by the Associated Student Federation (ASF) Forum, is one of nearly 100 U.S. universities at which he has spoken since his 1992 escape.

Few Americans are aware of China's extensive measures to transform Tibet into part of "One China." Gyatso brought evidence with him of Chinese atrocities against Tibetans.

On the other side of the Earth, Tibet struggles for survival. China has laid claim to Tibet and is enforcing its will on the Pacifist nation. Fierce prison terms await those who refuse to comply with Chinese wishes.

Gyatso is in his late 60s. Short and thin, his saffron robe all but conceals his frail body, and his physical appearance makes it difficult to imagine that he has survived 30 years of torture.

But as he raised his arms in greeting, scars served as evidence of the beatings he endured. Gyatso smiled often, revealing dentures supplied to him by Amnesty International after Chinese imprisonment left him with no teeth. Incredibly, he harbors no ill will toward his captors.

Through an interpreter, Gyatso said, "With hate inside you, there is no chance to be at peace."

However, he does want China to withdraw from Tibet, and give its culture a chance to survive. He believes that if awareness of the plight of the Tibetan people is not raised, there is a possibility that their culture will be wiped out.

"They [the Chinese government] hope one day there is not the word 'Tibet' in China," said Gyatso.

Toward this end, Gyatso claims that Chinese authorities in Tibet are encouraging Tibetans to marry Chinese citizens so their children maybe considered Chinese. Tibetan babies are aborted. Children are not permitted to learn the Tibetan language. He claims this has been going on since the Chinese military invasion of Tibet came to a head in 1959, the year he was imprisoned for participating in a peaceful protest of China's actions.

During his years in prison, he says he interrogated three times a month. While interrogated, he was forced to kneel on rocks

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Elections determine '99 Homecoming Court

Alisha Rosas
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The 1999 Homecoming Court was announced Wednesday following this week's student body elections

The princes include seniors: Lehi Dowell, Seth Halverson, Andrew Woolsey, Matt Wright and Damien Alarcon

The princesses include seniors: Dana Hazen, Araceli Esparza, Kristi Burks, Elizabeth Rodarte and Angelica Martinez.

Lehi Dowell

Dowell, who was nominated by Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Circle K International, is from Sutherlin, Ore. His biography showed his active involvement throughout the University of La Verne community.

"My most memorable moment was when I received a bid from my fraternity," he wrote. "Sigma Alpha Epsilon has been my main source of strength during trying times I encountered here at the University."

Dowell also encouraged students to have a mindset less materialistic and to focus on helping those less fortunate.

Andrew Woolsey

Woosley, a native of La Verne, was nominated for court by Phi Sigma Sigma. His biography showed active participation in various academic and athletic departments.

Woosley's biography stressed the importance of interacting and developing personal relationships with both friends and faculty at ULV.

He wrote, "Homecoming, 10 years from now, will still be ULV's most cherished event composed of the most electrifying students in Southern California and old friends such as myself."

Seth Halverson

Halverson was nominated by Phi Delta Theta, and is from Costa Mesa. He described himself as a "young, quiet, unknown freshman" who now sees himself as "more outgoing and well known to the Phi Delta Theta students on campus."

If given the chance to improve the campus, Halverson wrote that he would tear down Brandt Hall and replace it with a "hotel-style dorm." He would also supply Stu-Han with air-conditioning.

Matt Wright

Wright was nominated by Iota Delta and is from Fountain Valley. He considers his most memorable moment at ULV, "Winning a National Championship for the men's volleyball team."

He visualizes 10 years from now, our Homecoming in a stadium, and stated that he would improve the campus by having "night games and putting an end to meal plans and dry campuses."

Damien Alarcon

Alarcon was nominated by Sigma Kappa and by the *Campus Times* for court. He currently resides in Azusa.

He considers his most memorable moment at the University, "Witnessing the men's volleyball team win the Division III National Championship last year. Reporting for the event for the *Campus Times*, I had to refrain myself from celebrating with them."

He hopes that in the future that Homecoming activities will have more alumni involvement.

Dana Hazen

Hazen was nominated for court by Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and is also a native of La Verne.

Her biography said that after transferring from a "big" school in which she was seen as a "number"—she now feels like she is "part of a community" at ULV.

Hazen also wrote that her personal contribution to the University would consist of improving the parking situation by building a parking structure.

Araceli Esparza

Esparza was nominated by the *Campus Times* for court and is from Baldwin Park. With a list that showed participation in various activities at ULV, Esparza recollected her most memorable moment as, "KULV's Fun in the Sun" day last year. I slid down the "Slip n' Slide" in front of the entire

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Inside Today's Campus Times



Features

Robert Beebe brings bright attitude to maintenance department.

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Arts & Entertainment

Reed Gratz band delights audience by taking them "Below Sealevel."

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Sports

Football drops Chapman in tuneup for SCIAC showdown at Redlands.

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Phi Sig rocks around clock for Kidney Foundation



Matt Wright

Phi Sigma Sigma continued the annual tradition of its Rock-a-Thon to raise money for the National Kidney Foundation. Each of the sorority members received donations then took turns rocking in rocking chairs from 3 p.m. Tuesday until 3 p.m. Wednesday. The Tuesday night shift included freshman Theresa Almada-Hernandez, sophomore Armida Garcia, junior Britain Semain, the sorority's philanthropy chair, junior Shellie Etheridge and senior Maria Sandoval. Last year the sorority raised $1,800, a total which was exceeded this year before the night was over.

Court...

Continued from page 1

school ... fully clothed (in pants and a dress shirt)."

Esparza considered herself "naive" when she entered ULV, but wrote, "I have come out of my shell and ULV has been a big part of that."

Kristi Burks

Burks was nominated by KULV and is from Upland.

Her biography read, "I saw myself as just another face on campus. Now, I see myself as the face with a name that all the 'cool' kids know."

In 10 years, Burks wrote that she does not see the University as having a Homecoming Queen and King, but rather "Homecoming People."

Angelica Martinez

Martinez is from Mexico City, Mexico and was nominated by Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC). Her biography wrote that she has had several memorable moments at ULV, but remembered, "Michaelangelo's Pizza Night during Homecoming '97."

When she first entered ULV, Martinez said, "I was very intimidated by everything. Today, after traveling abroad and working so closely with my advisers I am much more confident and outgoing."

Elizabeth Rodarte

Rodarte was nominated by Sigma Kappa and is from Commerce.

She wrote that her most memorable moments at ULV were being an Orientation Week Leader (OWL) and studying abroad in Barcelona, Spain.

She also hopes that in ten years, that she will be able to return to a "traditional Homecoming."

Elections for King and Queen will be held Monday and Tuesday from 10 a.m to 1 p.m. at the Seal.

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ASF Minutes

Advocacy and Activities Board members of the University of La Verne's Associated Student Federation (ASF) Forum met Wednesday, Oct. 20, at 9:10 a.m in the ASF Conference Room.

Resignation

It was announced that Eboni Stanford resigned, leaving the Public Relations position open.

Allocations

Circle K International was allocated $300 from the Forum's contingency budget to send seven members to a leadership workshop.

Elena Cardeña's proposal for $650 to fund next month's Native American Awareness activities was determined to fall under the Advocacy Board's jurisdiction.

—Agke Grow

College of Law moves

Damien Alarcon
Assistant A&E Editor

University of La Verne President Stephen Morgan, Ontario Mayor Gary Ovitt and other officials gathered Tuesday at Ontario City Hall to announce that the College of Law will relocate from the main campus to a new site in downtown Ontario.

The College of Law will move to 320 East D Street, just north of City Hall.

The relocation will serve as a stepping stone in preparation for application for the American Bar Association (ABA) approval. With approval, the College of Law would become the first ABA-approved law school in the Inland Valley.

"If we are successful in gaining approval from the ABA, I believe it lifts the entire University to a new plateau of excellence," said Dr. Morgan. "It does a great deal to enhance our reputation as an educational institution."

Of those present at this week's press conference were Dr. Morgan, Executive Vice-President Philip Hawkey and Ontario Mayor Gary Ovitt.

Construction for the new building, which will be 60,000 square feet, will begin immediately and is anticipated to be completed in January 2001. Future expansion could increase the building size to 120,000 square feet.

Under the proposed contract, the Redevelopment Agency is expected to spend about $1.3 million for repair of the building's roof and heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems. The University is expected to spend an additional $4 million for the remainder of the improvements.

The new College of Law will house classrooms, administrative offices, a library and mock courtrooms.

Currently, there are 200 students who attend the ULV College of Law. Enrollment is expected to more than double at the new school.

According to Dr. Morgan, the Hoover building, the current home of the College of Law, will more than likely be used for additional classroom space and administrative offices to accommodate the growing student body.

As for the city of Ontario, the agreement will boost activity for local businesses.

"Students and faculty are going to be here from early in the morning until late at night and there will be nearby services available for them," Ontario City Manager Greg Devereaux said. "To have the first ABA-accredited law school in the entire Inland Empire, Riverside and San Bernardino County is no small feat, and we would want that to happen in our city."

Dr. Morgan said, "This is a win-win situation for the city and for the University."

Opinions

From the Editor...

Future goes beyond degree



Araceli Esparza

Senior Survival Seminar. The event seemed initially unnecessary, and its context intimidating, but the lessons it brought Wednesday to an estimated 30 University of La Verne seniors can be considered more than priceless.

The expected workshops on resume writing, proper interviewing techniques and graduate school were presented, but the key message of the event came from those still learning about life beyond work at the undergraduate level.

It came from University alumni who recently began their own careers in what is so often considered "the real world."

What these individuals brought with them was a sense of honesty, integrity and overall reassurance. They did not hesitate to be truthful, often admitting that college-to-career transitions can be difficult.

They said part of that transition process means continuing to learn in an institution of higher learning and adapting to a new lifestyle and environment. Moreover, entering the work force, joining a volunteer organization, starting a family or taking some time off are among others' anticipations for this progression into a career.

In any case, the alumni reaffirmed the idea that a student's future may sometimes have nothing to do with the specific area(s) of study he or she has pursued for a bachelor's degree.

Scary as it may seem, this is true. The future is unpredictable, and it may entail something an individual never even fathomed as a career.

For example, a student who studies psychology in college does not necessarily seek to become a psychologist or personal counselor—as most people might perceive. Instead, that student may be able to utilize the people skills and mediation techniques he or she has acquired through that field in order to work in a business-oriented setting where such expertise might be imperative.

If an individual enjoys what he or she does for a living (or at least for the time being), whether or not that career choice relates to his or her field of study is really not important. Employment opportunities are supposed to be learning experiences through which an individual might attain personal rewards and skill-strengthening abilities, after all.

Personally, I am close to fulfilling the necessary requirements for a bachelor's degree in journalism from ULV. During my pursuit of that degree, I have experienced the common moments of self doubt and of uncertainty for the future.

I only knew that I loved the written language and the individuality and creativity it allowed those who use it.

By this point in my college career, however, I have gained a higher level of focus for what I will pursue after graduation this May.

Becoming a journalist for a local newspaper or becoming a teacher of journalism are two prospective options, but whether or not either is my calling is unpredictable.

No one knows what his or her future entails and that is perfectly OK.

In my own heart, I am more than willing to accept whatever life and the future offers. My only hope is that, if journalism is not my calling, whatever career I eventually pursue gives me a feeling of personal joy for the remainder of my life.

This week's seminar reassured most participants that the future is unpredictable and that part of the transition after college includes being happy with whatever it is we choose to pursue as a career and future. After all, the degree is simply a piece of paper; the future and personal joy is whatever one makes of it.

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

Letters to the Editor

Editor's Note: The following letter was sent to the Campus Times chief adviser, Oct. 6. With Dr. Rahmani's permission, the letter was included in the Letters to the Editor column. It was held last week due to space.

Dear Editor,

I have always followed the "hands off" policy for University administrators. I have encouraged my staff as well, concerning story generation, writing, editing and distribution of the *Campus Times*.

After discussions with Steve Morgan and consulting with legal counsel, the letter to the editor from Simon Bouie ["Letters to the Editor," Sept. 24] was "marginally libel." I believe the printing of the letter was not in order of the *Campus Times* Code of Ethics. Under Section III, Responsibility, #2 it states: "Realizing the power of the written word, the *Campus Times* staff members shall strive to use good judgement and sensitivity toward the protection of the well-being of the people of the University of La Verne." *Campus Times* does not have to print every letter written to the editor.

Let me disclose some facts regarding national trends in universities' enrollments and national and ULV Housing and Residential Life Department response over the last two years:

1. Increased university enrollments are a national trend.

2. Increased numbers of students demanding housing is a national trend. (See the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.)

3. National response to meet these demands includes the following steps: (See the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.)

a. Triple room assignments (some Universities have tripled every available room. Triple room rates are discounted)

b. Renting hotel space in local hotels

c. Module (temporary) housing installed

d. Plans to build new housing units

4. The decision to respond to the housing demand was not a unilateral decision made by Julie Thurman Francisco. In order to respond to the increased number of students and the demand for housing spaces the President, the Executive Vice President for Administration, the Director of Admissions, the Dean of Student Affairs, the Director of Financial Aid and the Director of Housing and Residential Life met on a number of occasions to brainstorm solutions.

5. The primary reason for the tripled rooms and leasing the hotel was for the benefit of the students.

a. Studies indicate that students who live on campus their first year have greater success in their college experience than students who do not live on campus (increased involvement on campus, better GPAs, greater satisfaction with faculty, greater opportunity to graduate in four years, etc.)

b. Conversations with students indicate that if they did not receive a housing accommodation, the student may not have attended college during this academic year or last academic year.

6. Recent studies on tripled rooms indicate that the students receive the same benefits as students in double rooms.

7. The University Administration (not the Housing Department independently) must make new housing policies for who can live on campus. Policies such as no seniors or juniors allowed to live in housing or a lottery for a percentage of upper-class men to live in the halls must be made. These will be difficult decisions that will require student input.

Julie Thurman Francisco is an exemplary professional. She has led her Housing and Residential Life staff through very challenging times. She sets high standards for herself and her staff. The Housing and Residential Life mission statement is the model for a mission for the students. The Housing and Residential Life staff should be commended also for their commitment, energy, efforts and "can do" spirit.

I have now read the letter to Steve Morgan from Simon. I ask the *Campus Times* to write a formal apology to Julie that is printed in *Campus Times* which reflects Simon's retraction of his letter to the editor. I would also like to see an article in *Campus Times* that discloses the above facts and that honors Julie Thurman Francisco professional reputation.

Thank you for understanding my position regarding the letter from Simon.

Dr. Loretta H. Rahmani
Dean of Student Affairs

Dear Editor,

About two weeks ago I opted to walk in the First Annual ULV Cancer Walk ["Inaugural Cancer Walk raises funds," Oct. 15]. So I gathered sponsors and raised money, knowing that I was doing this for a good cause. As the days neared toward the event, I began to hear rumors that [Vice President of Activities] Frank Tolentino, the chairman of the event, would not be participating in the walk. This upset me some, but what shocked was the advice he was giving out to people who could not make the event. Frank suggested that they just turn in their money and then go back to bed.

Having known that Frank would not be walking did not seem to bother me because I thought that there would be plenty of ASF members participating in the event. But I was wrong. I saw one member of ASF that actually completed the walk on foot. The handout that we received when we signed up indicated that there would be a multitude of measures taken to ensure our safety. First there was to be a police escort, which never seemed to arrive, even when we had to run across a freeway off-ramp. Then there was the mention of ASF members driving the route to lend a hand if anyone needed help. I can honestly say that I saw two cars during the entire walk, and both were filled with ASF members. Please tell me how you are going to pick up an injured person and drive them to safety when you have no place to put them.

The only thing that I had to look forward to at the end of the walk was the water, considering that the only water that was provided was at the beginning and the end of the walk. As I recall, we live in Southern California where temperatures can reach the 100s on any given day. I thought it was irresponsible for ASF not to have stations where the walkers could get hydrated.

The Cancer Walk was supposed to be an event to raise awareness and funds for a cure, but it turned into another opportunity for ASF to promise a lot and give a little. I hope that next year's Cancer Walk is better organized and better staffed.

Vickie Creekmur
Sophomore

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Beebe joins La Verne community

•Internet leads to job at ULV

Julia Carachure
Staff Writer

Robert Beebe, assistant director of facilities management, has definitely found his place at the University of La Verne's Operations Department.

Beebe has been employed by the University since Sept. 7. Prior to ULV, Beebe worked at the Edison International Field, located in Anaheim.

At ULV, he oversees the Maintenance Department, and assists the Director of Facilities Management Brian Worley. Beebe said that he "acts as a liaison for the Operations Department to other departments on campus."

Beebe said that he found out about the job opening at ULV on the Internet.

"This was the kind of job that I have been looking for, for quite a while. I absolutely love it," Beebe said.

Some of the things that he would like to accomplish at ULV are "bringing my experience of corporate business and blending it with the ULV educational environment."

Beebe received his bachelor's in communications, with an emphasis in public relations from California State University, Fullerton.

Prior to attending CSUF, he also attended Cypress College, where he was a student trustee to the North Orange County Community College District.

Beebe has received several awards which are all related to beautification and saving money from a facilities standpoint.

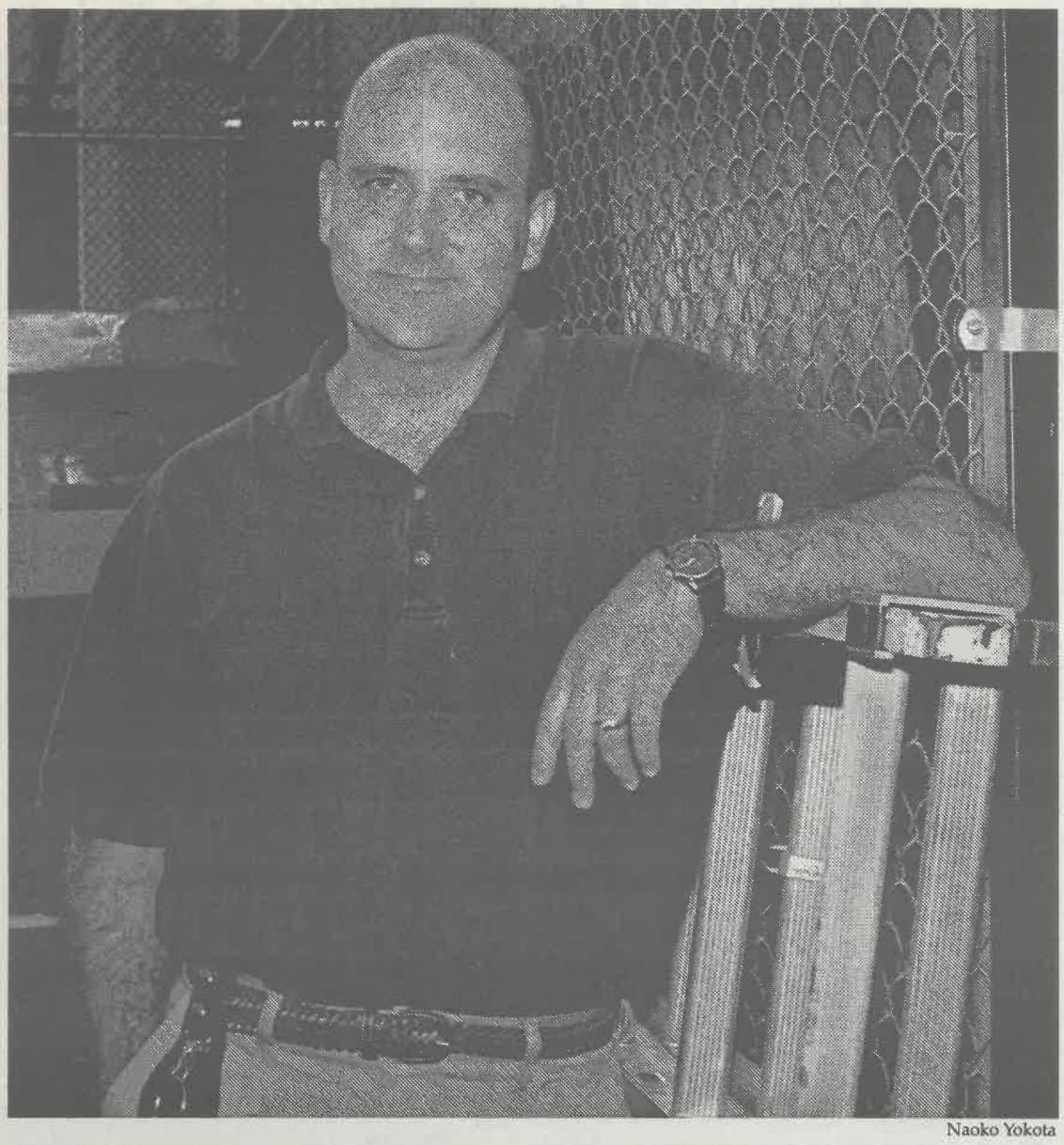
Some of the awards that Beebe has received are: the Property Management Company Award for management of commercial shopping centers; the Orange County Metro Water District Water Conservation Award; the Irvine Ranch Water District Water Conservation Award; and the California Contractors Association Landscape Beautification Award.

Beebe also enjoys going to concerts, particularly to see the group Air Supply. He has also gone to see just about everything from Oingo Boingo to Barry Manilow.

He currently lives in Corona with his wife and two children.

Some of the rules that Beebe lives by are "treat others as you would like to be treated and treat others as they want to be treated. Also, be straightforward with everyone because life gets complicated all by itself, you don't need to muck up the waters."

"I am thrilled to be here. Everyone has been extremely friendly to me, from President Steve Morgan, Phil Hawkey [executive vice president] to all the way down the line. I've been here long enough to realize what a special environment is present here at La Verne and I'm planning to stay here for a long, long time," he said.



Naoko Yokota

Robert Beebe is the new assistant director of facilities management. Before coming to the University of La Verne, Beebe worked at Edison International Field of Anaheim, home of the Anaheim Angels, where his assignment was to prepare the stadium for each game. At ULV, he handles the day-to-day coordination of the maintenance tasks. He said that he enjoys being here, "From the first day I set foot on La Verne's campus for an interview, I realized it was a special place and I wanted to be part of it."

Financial aid department fills vacant positions

Summer L. Douglass
Staff Writer

New employees have been hired to fill the vacant positions in the Financial Aid Office at the University of La Verne. One information specialist and two financial aid advisers have been hired to contribute to the services that are offered.

"Three people have left this office to different jobs. These new jobs are more in line with what their career goals are," said Ed Mervine, director of financial aid.

Two of the three people who left went to other schools, while one person was transferred to a different department at ULV.

The three people hired will help resolve issues faster with students and make sure that funds are dispersed at appropriate times.

The information specialist position is important to the Office of Financial Aid for several reasons. The newest program, Electronic Fund Transfer, will be one of the responsibilities that the information specialist will deal with directly. This program has changed the way students are receiving financial aid.

Prior to electronic fund transfer, lenders had to cut a joint check to the student and ULV which would then have to be signed over by the student and handed over to the school. This process was very time-consuming. Now with the use of electronic fund transfer, lenders are able to transmit loans directly into student accounts.

This process saves money and time, but it does require supervision to ensure it is working.

"We've dispersed probably in the neighborhood of $8 million through Electronic Fund Transfer, instead of checks," said Mervine.

Garret Terrones, information systems specialist, has been hired to work in this department.

Terrones worked at Devry for nine-and-a-half years, where he was in charge of collections and customer service issues in the student accounts department, before coming to ULV. He is also currently running for the Board of Trustees at Mount San Antonio College.

Terrones is one of the people who is working on the electronic loan certification process, and will also be working on the electronic fund transfer rosters.

"My position is working with the financial aid systems, and to ensure that funds get dispersed," said Terrones. "I also try to be proactive, and help establish programs so that they don't become a big problem with a lot of people."

There are requirements that needed to be met by the applicants for these positions.

"I am confident that the people I have hired are the best people suited to these positions," said Mervine.

The type of experience that Mervine looks for when he hires people to be part of the Financial Aid staff include people who are proactive and enthusiastic, and who are not afraid to take initiative and follow through in various aspects of the job.

Some of the reasons Terrones was hired have to do with, "his knowledge of the process and his computer skills," said Mervine.

Frank Gallegos also joined the Financial Aid team. He was hired as a financial aid adviser.

"We're here to help, that's why we were hired," said Gallegos. "I feel that we came in at a bad time, and we're trying to make it better for you guys."

The newest Financial Aid employee started Oct. 11 and will contribute to making the process for students less cumbersome and more productive.

Tenia Summerville is the newest person in Financial Aid, and has been hired as an adviser.

"I really like the staff, and I've enjoyed talking to students," said Summerville.

She came from Otis College of Art and Design, where she worked as a financial aid adviser for four-and-a-half years.

"The quality of information is higher for students with this system being implemented, and problems are getting resolved in a more rapid manner.

"At the counter we have financial aid advisers who interact with students, where in the past, it was a clerical person," said Mervine.

The main reason these employees have been added to the staff, is to make the process of applying for and receiving financial aid easier on the students.

"The whole thrust of what we're trying to do, is to have a more student oriented process," said Mervine. "I guess, in more plain language, to have a staff that is more student friendly."

> 'I really like the staff, and I've enjoyed talking to students.'
> *—Tenia Summerville, financial aid adviser*

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Internet services impact daily life

•Traditional consumers shift habits

Summer L. Douglass
Staff Writer

Advances in modern technology have continued to affect the way people access information and conduct their daily lives. Students no longer have to leave their room in order to shop, bank or find the perfect date.

The University of La Verne is one of many colleges that gives students the opportunity to advance their knowledge of modern technology by integrating the latest computer programs into courses.

Proquest Direct is a resource that is available in Wilson Library for students to research.

"Access to the Internet has made it possible to really open up the world of information to students," said Donna Bentley, reference and access services librarian. "The ability to use the Internet has expanded the resources available to students."

The same technology is available to people all over the world. Students no longer have to travel to different universities to find out what resources the schools carry in their libraries.

"The Internet has opened many doors for students because they can access a lot of research," said Dr. Ahmed Ispahani, professor of business administration and economics. "Proquest has all of the most recent articles out of the newspapers and magazines that are all in one place."

Students at ULV have found that the Internet has become an invaluable tool for different tasks that they perform on a daily basis. Shopping for clothes, buying a car, applying for any kind of insurance, picking up groceries and even ordering pizza are all examples of how the World Wide Web has become an important tool for many businesses.

"Students can check up on their grades and can check their loan status online instead of having to spend hours becoming frustrated while dealing with the Financial Aid Department," said Clint Steele, a senior sports marketing major. "It's an advanced resource for students and people in general, and allows people access to information that is on the other side of the world."

The Internet has also become a friend to people who are applying for college. Instead of having to call universities and ask for applications to be sent through the mail, students can now go online to fill out college applications.

E-mail has become a popular method of getting in touch with people, and it is cheaper than using a telephone. Most college students have an Internet account with one of the many Internet providers.

"My e-mail account has enabled me to get a hold of my professors when I am typing a paper late at night and I have a question about what I am working on," said Heidi Bugl, a junior psychology major. "The Internet is an essential tool for success in my college career."

As the Internet popularity grows so do the risks. Identity fraud through the theft of social security numbers, having confidential records accessed, and risking the theft of credit card numbers are now risks.

However, all legitimate sites do provide secure servers that encode personal information and prevent others from accessing them.

Just like one should be careful about giving out personal information over the phone, one should do the same on the Internet. Do not give out information to anyone unless there is a justifiable reason.

Internet technology is advancing at a rapid pace and increasing one's knowledge of the Internet is important.

"What I'm trying to do right now in Academic Computing, is to get new software and some instructional media specialists to help faculty use the Web and other resources more effectively," said Dr. Jay Jones, professor of biology and biochemistry. "I am doing this so that they can learn more about technology, and use it more extensively in their courses."

Lacking computer knowledge used to be acceptable but that is changing as more services and goods shift from the traditional markets to the Internet. Being computer literate is becoming a vital part of daily life, as Internet access becomes one of the most powerful research tools available.

"If you have access to a computer, a modem and the software, you can be searching for information from absolutely anywhere on the planet that has Internet access and the only thing that limits you is your imagination," said Bentley.

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Monk...

Continued from page 1

with his thumbs cuffed behind his back, and asked whether he thought Tibet would ever be free.

If the guards did not like his answer, they tied him to the ceiling and lit a fire beneath him. If he still refused to answer to the satisfaction of the guards, boiling water was poured over his head, Gyatso said.

His prison term was set at seven years. Gyatso saw prisoners all around him dying from starvation, which drove him to escape in 1962.

"Hunger forced me to eat grass and insects, and I also once ate my shoes," said Gyatso.

He was recaptured near the Bhutanese border he was trying to cross, and his prison term was raised to 15 years. As punishment for trying to escape, he spent the next seven months with his hands cuffed behind his back.

In 1975, he was relocated to a Chinese labor camp.

"I had to plow the field many times," Gyatso said. "But we did not push the plow. We pulled the plow like [animals]."

He pointed out that German visitors saw them pulling plows and took photographs that helped expose what was happening at the labor camp.

He escaped the labor camp in 1979. He then put up posters calling for Tibetan independence in 1983 and was again arrested. He was taken to Old Sangyip prison in Lhasa to serve a nine year sentence. In 1990, he was transferred to Drapchi prison.

Gyatso said, "Ever since 1980, they [Chinese guards] began using electric devices to torture prisoners."

A shock applied to his mouth by prison guards immediately cost him his two front teeth, and within days the remainder of his teeth fell out. His tongue is also permanently damaged.

Gyatso also said that Chinese guards shocked females in their genitalia, which often resulted in death.

Gyatso was released on Aug. 25, 1992, on the condition that he return to a quiet monastic life.

Thirteen days later, he decided to escape from Tibet and make the long, treacherous journey across the Himalayas to India.

He has since devoted his time toward heightening awareness about Tibet's oppression.

Gyatso is believed to have served more years in prison than any surviving Tibetan that has reached the West.

On Dec. 10, 1998, Gyatso received the John Humphrey Freedom Award given by the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development.

During his acceptance speech, Gyatso said, "As long as there is injustice in Tibet, as long as Tibet is squashed under an unfeeling, totalitarian system, that voice of our common aspirations will continue to speak loud and clear."

China is occupying Tibet to this day, so Gyatso continues to raise the issue in hopes that one day enough pressure from the outside world will build and China will come to the bargaining table with Tibet.

However, Gyatso has paid the price both mentally and physically to help his country try and regain its freedom.

At a lecture given in London in 1998, he said, "I feel like I am in a dream, but my heart tells me that this is real. No guards will burst into this room carrying torture weapons. I will not be called to attend a confession meeting or to watch the execution of another prisoner. It has taken me a long time to believe that I am really a free man."

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Arts & Entertainment

Entertainment Briefs

Knott's Tickets

At the University of La Verne Bookstore, Knott's Scary Farm tickets are being sold for $20. Tickets are available for the following dates: Oct. 24, 27, 28, 31.

Buyers must provide ULV student identification and are limited to two tickets per person.

Homecoming '99

The following is a list of events that are being sponsored by the Office of Campus Activities for spirit week:

•Monday, Oct. 25—Dunk a football player in the Quad from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

At 8 p.m., Illumination of the Homecoming Court will be held at Founders Hall.

•Tuesday, Oct. 26—Everyone is invited to attend the free lunch, "Then and Now," which will be held in the Quad at 11:45 a.m.

•Wednesday, Oct. 27—The ULV community is invited to attend Cosmic Bowling from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Chaparral Lanes located in San Dimas.

•Thursday, Oct. 28—From 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Pumpkin Bowling will take place in the Quad.

From 8 p.m. to 12 a.m., Casino Night will be held in the Old Gym.

At the Movies

The following movies open today nationwide:

•"Body Shots" starring Sean Patrick Flanery, Jerry O' Connell and Tara Reid.

•"Three to Tango" starring Matthew Perry, Neve Campbell and Dylan McDermott.

•"Bringing Out the Dead" starring Nicholas Cage.

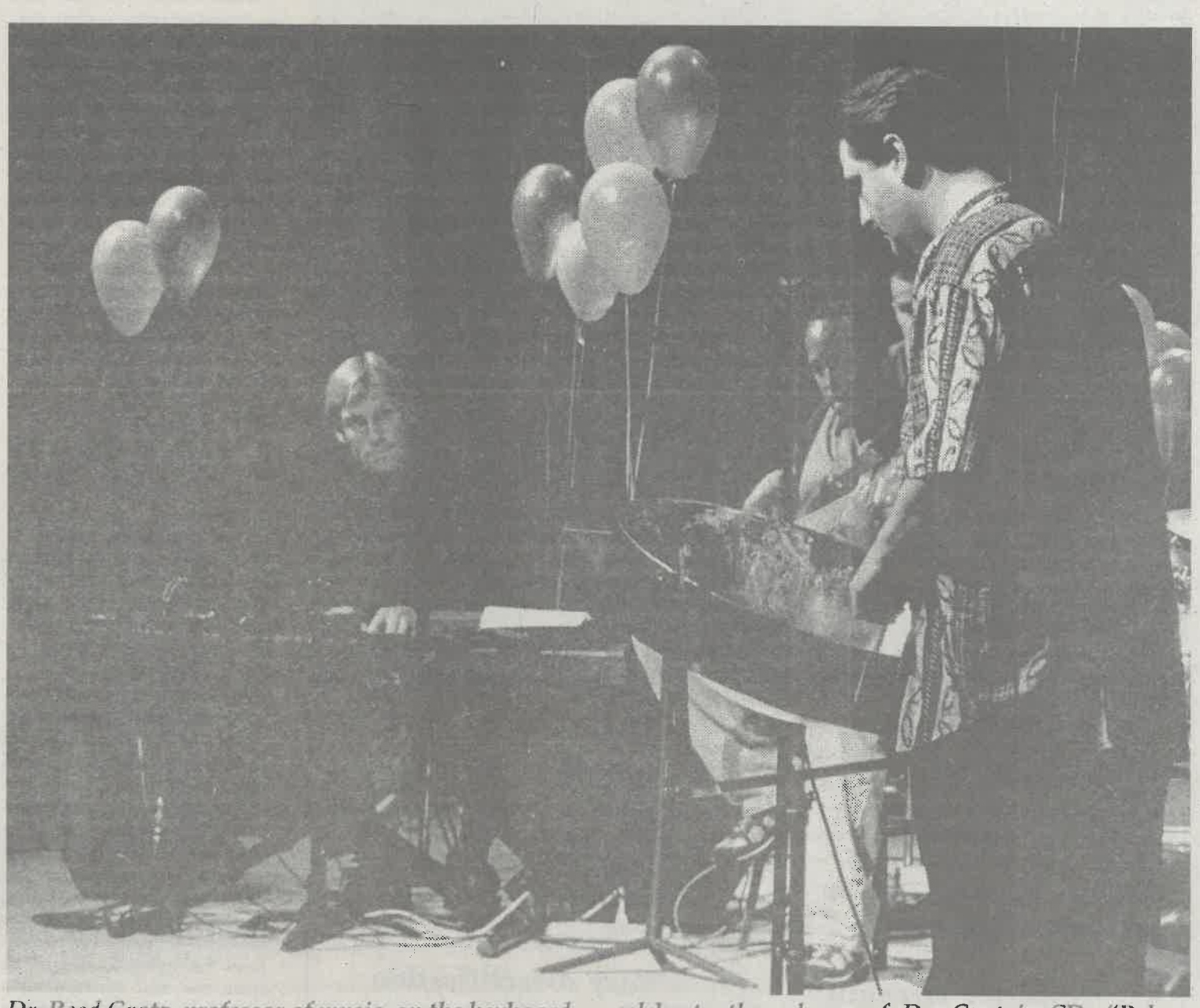
•"The Best Man" starring Taye Diggs and Nia Long.

•"Bats" starring Lou Diamond Phillips and Dina Meyer.

—Alisha Rosas

Foot-tapping performance celebrates CD release

by Araceli Esparza
photography by Erica Paal



Dr. Reed Gratz, professor of music, on the keyboard, accompanied by Andrew Ford on bass and Steve Biondo on the steel drum, performed at the Dailey Theatre last Friday. The performance was held to celebrate the release of Dr. Gratz's CD, "Below Sealevel." After the performance, friends, family, students and faculty gathered for a reception on the stage in Founders Auditorium.

Audience members' head-bopping and foot-tapping actions were not enough to explain the smoothness and clarity of the Reed Gratz Jazz Band's debut at the University of La Verne on Friday night.

The concert, held at the school's Dailey Theatre, was part of an effort to promote "Below Sealevel," the first compact disk to be produced and officially released by Dr. Gratz.

The contemporary jazz performance brought in friends and families for an event some described as one of the University's greatest performances.

"We loved it," said Dr. Ann Wickman, professor of sociology at ULV, speaking for herself and husband, Harvey. "We're not musicians, but we appreciated the tunefulness of the performance; it was very easy to listen to."

Contributing to the Jazz Band were musicians with whom Dr. Gratz, professor of music, has previously worked.

Dr. Gratz guided tunes via the keyboard, while Administrative Assistant Steven Biondo took to the percussion, introducing the steel pan to listeners. Ronald Muldrow and Andrew Ford plucked the chords of the guitar and bass, respectively, drummer Cory Mason tapped away to various rhythmic beats, and Gratz's son, Ian, a junior at ULV, contributed to the performance as a vocalist.

"We put this together in about an hour and a half, but I think it turned out great," said Dr. Gratz.

Dr. Gratz said the purpose of his new CD was simple: the two-year project was the final product of some of his overall work. The title of the CD also is significant, he said.

"For a couple of years, I lived in Holland, in a town that is below sea level," said Dr. Gratz. "That's where I did a lot of recording—which is where I got 'Below Sealevel.' "

During Friday's concert, he entertained visitors with several of his personal pieces, including some not featured on the latest release.

Among the works performed were "Bajia Blanca," "Erin's Eyes," which he wrote for his daughter Erin, "Toca La Manaña (The Morning Plays)," and "Hi! Ho, Silver."

The Jazz Band also paid homage to renowned musician and songwriter Duke Ellington, who would have celebrated his 100th birthday this year. Ian Gratz led the piece "Do Nothing Until You Hear From Me" in commemoration of one of his father's favorite musicians.

"The Duke Ellington piece was the best piece—I think—because Reed's son got to sing, and I have watched Ian sing since he was young," said Jon Rothe, senior adjunct professor of music at the University. "I've been playing music with Reed for a long time, but tonight he sounds better than ever before."

As for his first CD release concert, Dr. Gratz said it is "difficult saying, 'I'm finished.'

"It's a difficult thing for any artist—just letting it go," he said. "But I'm already starting on the next project."

"We keep saying what a treasure we have at La Verne; we really do have a hidden treasure," said Dr. Wickman, who purchased one of Gratz's CDs after the concert.

"But this year has been the best year yet as far as performances here, and this is one of the best performances we've seen," she said.

Leopards remain unscathed, 35-33

•La Verne, 5-0, ranked 24th in AFCA Division III national poll



Michelle Zimmerman

The University of La Verne Leopards tore onto the field Saturday afternoon intent on maintaining their undefeated record. The Leopards were able to continue their winning streak with a 35-33 win over Chapman University. La Verne is currently 5-0, surpassing last year's record of 4-5, with four more games in regular-season play. They will face the Bulldogs at the University of Redlands tomorrow.

Agke Grow
Staff Writer

After winning its first two games by a combined score of 85-3, the University of La Verne football team has had three close calls in a row.

Coming off a win over Claremont-Mudd-Scripps by a field goal and a 15-14 win over Pomona-Pitzer, La Verne allowed the result of Saturday's match against the Chapman Panthers to remain in doubt until only two seconds were remaining on the clock.

The Leopards remained true to this season's form, and came away with a 35-33 victory in front of a noisy home crowd of nearly 1,000.

With the clock nearly expired in the fourth quarter, Chapman was down to its last chance. On fourth down, quarterback Steve Villanueva was sacked by La Verne senior defensive end Korey Turner, and the game should have been over.

However, a holding penalty against ULV gave Chapman one more shot at the end zone, and they did not waste it. A touchdown pass to Eric Del Conte brought Chapman within two.

With two seconds left to play, the Panthers scored on a 12-yard touchdown pass, making the score 35-33. A two-point conversion would have sent the game into sudden death, but La Verne's defense held on its final play, and ULV improved its record to 5-0 overall, while Chapman fell to 2-3.

Senior linebacker Mike Barreiro said, "Today we had some breakdowns on our assignments, and there were some open receivers."

The defense stepped up on its final play and prevented Chapman from forcing overtime.

Villanueva attempted a quarterback keeper and ran right, but he was stopped well short of the goal line, preserving La Verne's two-point lead.

Barreiro fell on the ensuing onside kickoff, and La Verne escaped with a victory.

"This is the ugliest 5-0 football team I've ever coached, but on the other hand, they are 5-0," said head coach Don Morel.

The ugly was easy to see. ULV was intercepted, and lost the ball two more times on fumbles. La Verne committed 15 penalties that gave away 117 yards, and one of the penalties negated a touchdown. Five of La Verne's penalties gave Chapman first downs.

ULV failed on three extra-point conversions, including a two-point attempt, allowing Chapman to hang around. The Leopards also had a punt blocked into their own endzone, and the ball was recovered by Chapman for a touchdown.

There were bright spots in the game that shined through the tarnish of sloppy play. The team never trailed in the game, and the defense shut out Chapman in the first and third quarters. The offense was effective, scoring 35 points, although La Verne's running game sputtered according to Morel.

The offense received a boost from senior receiver Rashard Magee, who caught 12 passes for 286 yards and two TDs.

"This is my first complete game, my shoulder's been hurt," said Magee.

Magee's presence opened up the field for senior quarterback Dan Blahy, who found open receivers all afternoon. He finished with 21 completions in 33 attempts, for 447 yards. Blahy was also ULV's leading rusher, gaining 60 yards on 12 carries.

But going into tomorrow's tough conference match at Redlands (3-2, 1-0), the most important statistic is that La Verne has yet to lose.

To continue that trend, La Verne will have to work on some things.

"Redlands is a passing team," said Barreiro. "We need to work on our coverage."

"I'd love to say we need to get better at one thing, but the truth is we need to get better at a bunch of things," said Morel, adding that the special teams units must improve.

"I'd rate our performance at a B-plus," said Magee. "But I think we can improve. I think next week we can get an A-plus."

Freshmen runners continue to improve

Brice Nixon
Sports Editor

Led by youth, both the men's and women's cross country teams at the University of La Verne witnessed vast individual improvements, but had disappointing team showings at Saturday's Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SCIAC) multi-dual meets at La Mirada Regional Park.

The women's team, led by junior Leti Arroyo, finished fifth among the eight SCIAC schools, ahead of Occidental College, Caltech and Whittier College. The men's team placed seventh, beating out Occidental.

Claremont-Mudd-Scripps finished first in the team standings in both races, but Pomona-Pitzer had the top runner in both the men's and women's

Continued on page 8

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Men's soccer shut out of win streak

•Second-half breakdowns lead to losses

Danny Craig
Staff Writer

The hopes of a season winning streak were broken Saturday for the University of La Verne men's soccer team after a hard fought 1-0 defeat to the Stags of Claremont-Mudd-Scripps at Ben Hines Field.

"Today was overall the best game we've played," said ULV head coach Shayon Jalayer. The men's coach expressed a contentment with both halves played by the squad.

The first half of the Leopards-Stags matchup proved to be an exceptional display of athleticism from the La Verne offense.

With 13 shots at the CMS goalkeeper, La Verne clearly came at the Stags' defense with full force.

Relying on freshman goalkeeper Robbie Turner for only four saves throughout the half, the Leopards' defense evenly competed with the 15 shots on goal from the CMS offense.

Despite a noteworthy effort from both teams, the preliminary half of the match ended for both squads without a score.

The second half began the unfortunate tale for the Leopards when, two minutes into the period, CMS midfielder Randy Snow headed in the ball past Turner's right side to score the Stag's only goal.

Despite the 43 minutes remaining in the half and the 20 total game shots on the Stags' goal, ULV failed to pull out a score. CMS would take the SCIAC win, bringing its record to 11-1-1, 7-0-1 in league.

"They had their chances to win, so did we," said Stags head coach Louis Bilowitz in admiration of both teams' performances. "I consider us pretty fortunate to win," said Bilowitz.

"We're one mistake away from competing at this level," Jalayer said. Although content with the number of shots taken by his players, Jalayer expressed the increasing need for the squad to take on opponents on the field.

"In the past, they used to walk right over us," said La Verne captain Jorge Macias, noting the annual improvement in the La Verne-CMS bout.

"We're going up hills, and that's good," said Macias.

The SCIAC match brought the men's soccer record to 4-9, 2-6 in conference.

Unfortunately for Macias and the Leopards in general, the hill took a downward turn last Wednesday during a 3-0 loss to Redlands.

Possibly out for the season with a knee injury from Monday's practice, Macias witnessed from the sidelines what La Verne players described as a loss due to a late-game breakdown.

With five shots on goal fired at the Bulldogs' defense early in the first half, the Leopards took an early aggressive stance with the opposition.

Along with the apparent aggression displayed in the first half came the infractions. The men's squad was issued four of its five yellow cards in the first half.

"The first half is just intensity," said freshman midfielder Nathan Chabolla, commenting on the source of the team's infringements. Chabolla explained that in the second half however, "the frustration set in."

Although an evenly played half with two saves for each goalkeeper, neither the Leopards nor the Bulldogs entered halftime with a score.

Coming into the second half with an open game, La Verne's defense was hit early when Redlands midfielder Peter Ma headed in a goal for the Bulldogs. At seven minutes into the half, Ma's goal was the first of three that would be scored for the La Verne opposition.

Nineteen minutes into the half, the second piece of the Redlands' arsenal was fired when Bulldogs forward Riste Simnjanovski scored on a penalty shot to the make the score 2-0.

The third round hit the Leopards at the 75-minute mark when Redlands midfielder Mike Sundseth toed in a goal past Turner's left side to set the game's final score of 3-0.

"It's just a matter of composure," said Bulldogs head coach Rob Beccera, content with his team's victory yet dismayed with the physical aspect of the game.

Jalayer, frustrated with the carding and second half performance of the Leopards, said, "Some guys just don't want it bad enough."

With their 2-7 SCIAC and 4-10 overall record, the men's team will travel to take on third-place Cal Lutheran (9-6, 6-3 SCIAC) tomorrow at 1:30 p.m.

Water polo goes 1-3 in tourney

Enrique Gutiérrez
Staff Writer

The last five weeks have been a hustle for the men's water polo team of the University of La Verne.

After participating in various tournaments, it is time to face league play.

The Leopards enter Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SCIAC) competition with a 2-12 record.

Head coach Tim Hugar said that the team has played mostly Division I opponents so far. He also said he has high hopes for this season.

"It's always our goal to be the best we can and we want to win the conference," he said.

"We have a strong team where everybody makes a contribution," said Hugar. "This team seems to work together very well. It plays more as a team than as individuals."

The team participated in the Convergence Tournament at the University of Redlands last weekend.

The squad finished its participation with a 1-3 record, losing to Loyola Marymount 12-2, Brown University 7-5 and host University of Redlands 13-12 in overtime.

It was the second loss to Redlands this season. They previously lost to the Bulldogs 16-7 in the UC San Diego Tournament.

The Leopards' only victim was Boston College, whom they defeated 9-7.

Before their conference opener, Hugar commented on the Leopards' expectations.

"It seems that Whittier, Redlands and Claremont are the three favorites," Hugar said, "and we beat Whittier in overtime and we lost to Redlands in overtime so that means it's going to be a pretty tight year.

"So I have a reason to believe that we have an excellent opportunity as long as we play our best water polo," Hugar said.

The Leopards will have another chance to redeem themselves as they host Redlands on Wednesday at 4 p.m. However, before that happens La Verne has to travel to Claremont to play Pomona-Pitzer tomorrow morning at 11.

X-Country...

Continued from page 7

races.

Junior Adam Boardman won the eight kilometer men's race in 26 minutes, 23.10 seconds, four seconds ahead of Cal Lu's Geir Kristensen, a junior, and six seconds faster than junior Eli Klovee Smith of CMS.

Freshman Ryan Scott-Acosta was the top runner for the Leopards in the men's race. He covered the course in 28:24.50 to finish in 25th place, fourth among freshmen.

CMS placed three runners in the top 10 to edge Whittier. The Stags' fourth and fifth runners both finished ahead of Whittier's fourth runner, giving CMS the win.

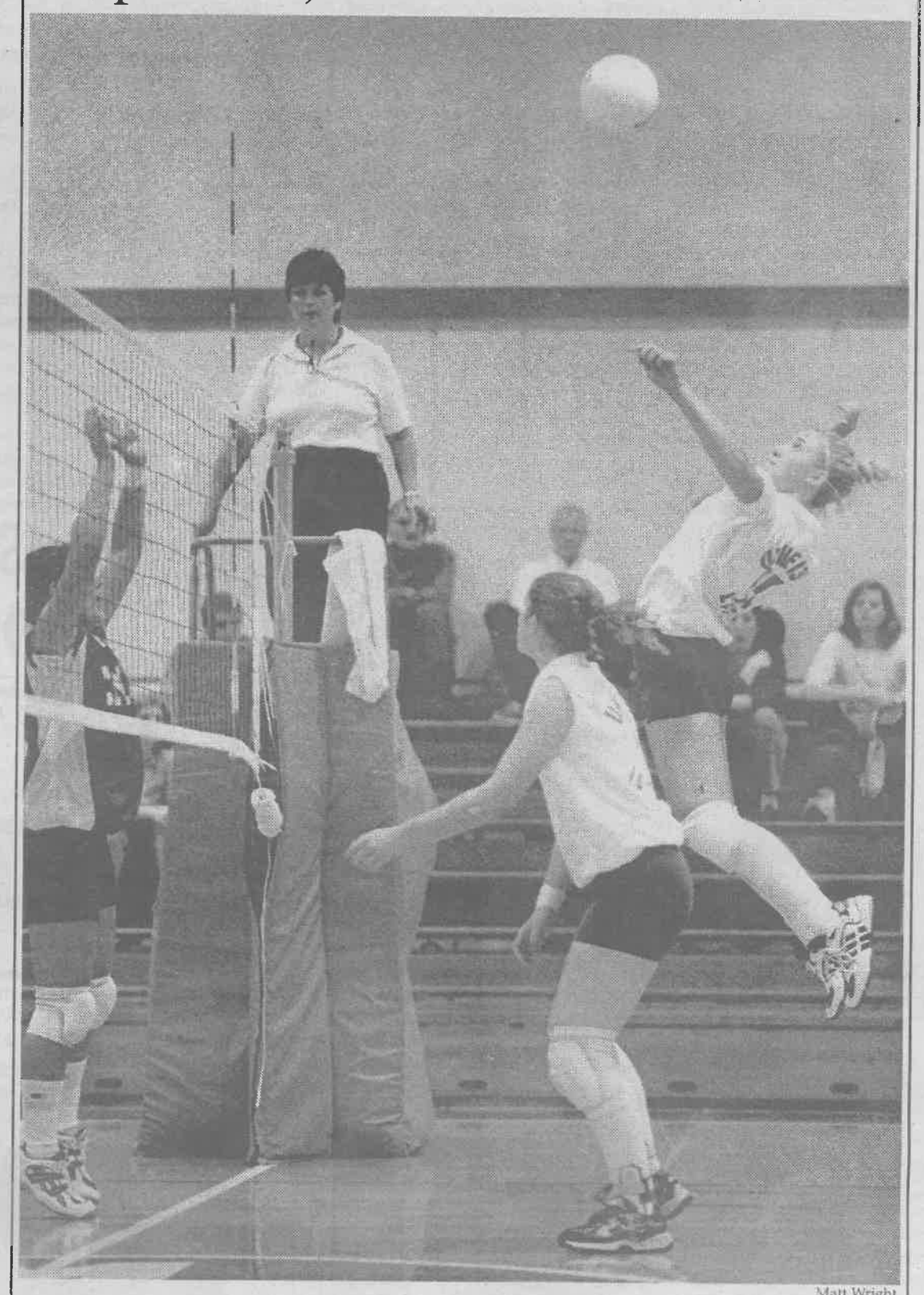
Freshman Brandon Becerra was the only other member of the La Verne men's team to finish under 30 minutes. He finished in 36th place in 29:17.30, improving his personal record by two minutes.

Pomona-Pitzer's Anastasia Finnegan, a senior, paced through the 5K women's race to finish first in 19:12.80, seven seconds ahead of senior teammate Leah Barnes. But the Athenas dominated the race, with five runners in the top 10.

La Verne's Stephanie Pedroza, a freshman, placed 12th (20:17.80) and another freshman, Erika Schatz, finished in 21:41.70 for 33rd place.

All runners from both the men's and women's teams will try to qualify for the NCAA Division III West Regional when they compete in the SCIAC Championships Oct. 30.

Despite loss, La Verne 2nd in SCIAC



Matt Wright

The women's volleyball team suffered a tough five-set defeat to Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Tuesday night. In the fifth game, the Leopards held a 13-8 lead but could not finish off the Athenas. CMS came back and won with game scores of 15-9, 13-15, 15-10, 8-15 and 15-13. Freshman setter Meredith Zembal covers the hit as freshman middle blocker Stacy Lupu attacks the ball. La Verne is 5-2 in SCIAC and 10-6 overall.

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Schools in Crisis

Teens deal with violent aftermath

Images blasted the television screens on April 20, 1999 with groups of terrified students running for their lives with their arms on their heads in Littleton, Colo.

A small quiet town, considered safe for most suburban families, Littleton served as the most recent catalyst of concern for the nation's schools.

However, months later, as administrators, teachers and students seek explanations in the aftermath of events like Colorado, students in local areas show little to no fear.

"After Columbine, people were throwing stuff and yelling. They were fighting. I wasn't really afraid, more like disgusted," said Kelly Williams, a senior at Bonita High School (BHS) in La Verne, Calif.

The shooting, which days later spurred copy cat threats throughout the nation, brought about a wave of safety concerns for students and teachers alike.

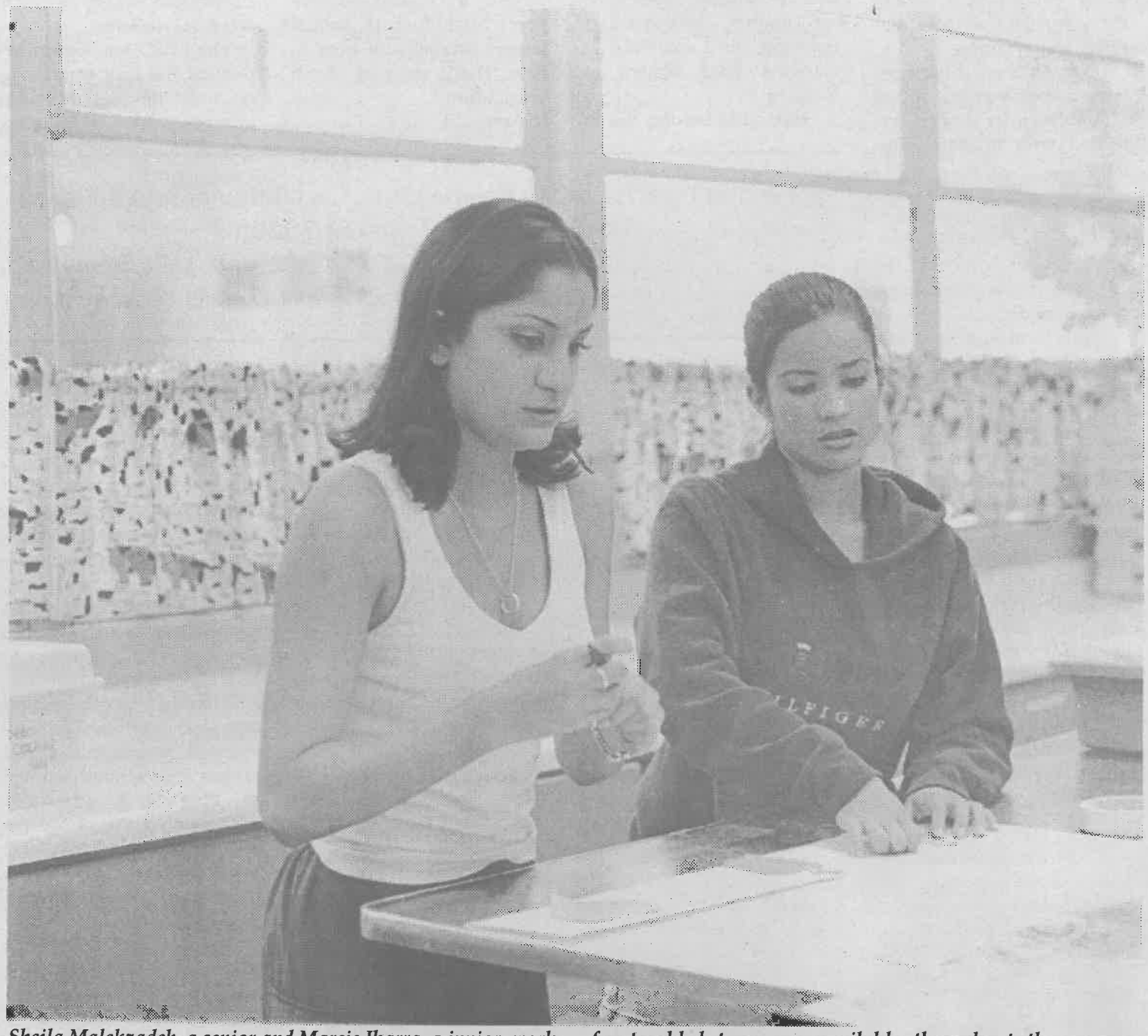
For schools like Bonita which resemble the societal make-up of Columbine, the idea that "nothing like that can happen here," is still common for students.

"I am kind of scared, but this school doesn't have a problem with violence. I feel really comfortable here," said senior Stephen Duran.

Not all students feel so confident.

"I realized that can fully happen here. I honestly don't think that this school can prepare for that—no school can," said Williams.

In retrospect, a group of peer helpers at BHS have continuous intervention with troubled teens to identify students in need of attention.



Sheila Malekzadeh, a senior and Marcie Ibarra, a junior, work on a poster board during one of their class sessions in Peer Coaching. Both Malekzadeh and Ibarra are part of the peer class just recently certified at Bonita High School. Referrals for troubled teens are available throughout the campus. Malekzadeh and Ibarra have both received training for conflict mediation, a skill highly used by several schools in preventing violent acts during school hours.

"The sad thing is teachers knew these kids were outcasts," said Jeannine Dole, Bonita High School's peer coaching adviser.

In an effort to identify troubled students, the peer coaching group of about 25 students is working toward certification in mentoring and peer helping skills.

"I think this class encourages that. We are all outgoing. Being like that influences people around you," said Lauren Dukes, a junior.

The problem, according to the majority of the peer coaches, has to do with poor security.

Proctors are not adequately trained to deal with violent situations on campus.

"The other day, when there was a fight, someone threw hot soup at the proctors who were trying to stop the fight," said Sheila Malekzadeh, senior.

Instead, proctors "are worried about what we're wearing," she said.

Another major concern for students, is physical fitness among the proctors.

"They should be able to handle students, and they should be able to run after students," said Williams.

See Peer Coaches page 2

Community, district adapt program to decrease harm

In an effort to decrease teen angst, frustration and ignorance on issues affecting students, the Pomona Unified School District has implemented the Pomona Peer Resources.

Serving the district's schools for 10 years, the program covers a variety of areas like conflict mediation, peer tutoring and guidance for freshmen students.

According to Mike Russo, head of Peer Resources and a former counselor at Ganesha High School, Peer Resources is convenient because it deals with students helping other classmates their age.

"It is very cost effective. As far as peer intervention, they [the students] get in the way of what can happen," he said.

Aside from the peer helping skills, students are educated and thereby educators of tobacco, alcohol, child abuse and other topics which are common teen issues.

Overall there are about 500 peer students in the district who are either certified or in training.

"They are the hosts of intervention. The program allows kids to grow in communication as well as gives them the chance to practice what they learn," said Russo.

In addition, Peer Resources has also been incorporated within elementary and middle schools in the district.

It is understood, however, that schools at different levels require different needs. For this reason, the district encourages parental support.

"We are still new, but we have a parent advisory group. Parent involvement is very important," said Russo.

See Peer Resources/page 3

Signs of Potential Violent Students

- Students who are anti-social and who often discuss angry thoughts about fellow peers.
- Students obsessed with aggressive behavior.
- Students often seen alone, depressed or unreasonably angry for long periods of time.
- If any student portrays one of any of these characteristics, a peer helper, school counselor or psychologist should be referred to the student to prevent potential violent outbursts.

Information compiled from manuals for conflict mediation and peer helping

Bordering districts offer diverse safety plans

Situated on neighboring borders the Pomona and Bonita unified school districts, offer their respective students several safety options in a society that considers schools and safety an oxymoron.

Among their differences is the assumption that strong campus security is often correlated with financial support.

William Brinegar, BUSD director of secondary education human resources development and former PUSD employee of six years, compared both districts.

"Our incidences are much lower. Unfortunately, socioeconomic status is a factor," Brinegar said.

However, even with socioeconomic differences, the PUSD has put forth a large investment toward safety in schools.

"Our district considers safety a top priority. It is conducive for children's learning," said Enrique Medina, Jr., PUSD's public relations officer and principal on assignment.

Like most school districts, Pomona acknowledges violence on campus as a top safety issue.

Primarily, the concern stems from outside influences in the community.

"If I were a parent, I'd think my kids are relatively safe on campus rather than off campus," said Stewart Solomon, head counselor at Ganesha High School in Pomona.

Some attribute the rise in concern to nightly headlines of school violence.

"The tragedy is, whenever anything happens, like Columbine or at Georgia, the media is all over it," said Dr. John Rickenwald, superintendent of the Bonita Unified School District.

Others, like Medina, Jr., disagree.

"With or without Columbine, money is still being allocated to help decrease violence," he said.

Brinegar, said the possibilities of Columbine are possible everywhere, which leaves the district's action only to be proactive.

"The main thing is to be prepared. It can happen," Brinegar said.

The next precaution takes place in the classrooms, "we don't teach how to handle guns. Certainly not how to hate. That's not part of the curriculum," said Rickenwald.

> "We don't teach how to handle guns. Certainly not how to hate. That's not part of our curriculum."
>
> *—Dr. John Rickenwald, Bonita Unified School District Superintendent*

However, due to changing times, the PUSD has established a new position in the community, which helps oversee all the peer counseling programs within all the schools in the district.

"Peer pressure is incredible. Behavior norms are quite different—everywhere," said Medina, Jr.

The PUSD said its involvement with the Pomona Peer Resources, a student group supported by the district, and directed toward PUSD schools, is an asset used on a daily basis to decrease violence.

"We want to get to the students before any violence occurs," said Medina Jr.

In addition, the PUSD is piloting a digital web page surveillance system to better serve the students.

The BUSD has also incorporated the peer counseling resources and used them as a primary source in reducing violent tension in schools.

According to both school districts' suspension and expulsion codes, "possession of a firearm, brandishing a knife, selling a controlled substance and sexual assault are mandatory recommendations" for the board to suspend and/or expel a student.

Furthermore, the districts say violence is considered a threat of intent or action to hurt another individual.

Although most violent acts stem from the "he said, she said," rumor mill spread within high school campuses, other violent acts occur with involvement of sources outside of the schools, said William Stelzner, PUSD's director of People Support Services.

Brinegar said most BUSD campuses are "neutral territory. The stuff we get is outsiders in the parking lot looking for confrontations, waiting to settle something."

In those situations, uniformed supervisors intervene.

In other cases, however, violence is brought into the campuses because of outside influences. School officials in such said cases have limited options.

Stelzner said expulsions are a strong indicator of violence in schools. He said some students who have been expelled for possession of a weapon have not carried it with an intent to harm other students.

"Unfortunately, about 75 percent of students expelled had poor decision making. In most cases, students carrying weapons, carried them for protection from harm on their way home," he said.

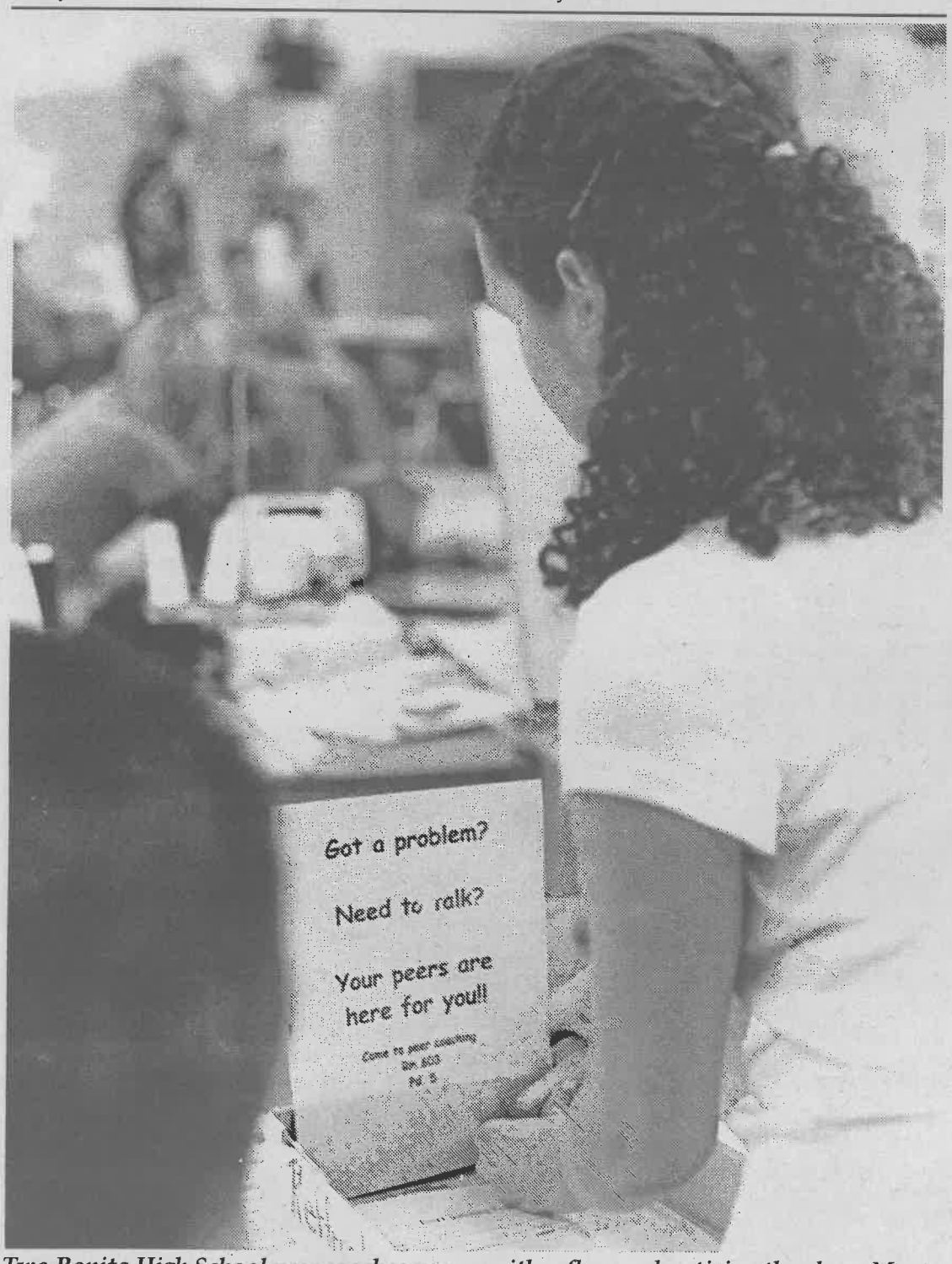
Brinegar agreed.

"Supervisors have an indication of problems."

For the time being, both districts acknowledge the threat of potential violent outbreaks and have planned accordingly.

"I am not afraid," said Stelzner. "The potential is there. Sure it can happen here in Pomona. We've been dealing with a community that has potential for violence. Perhaps we are better prepared for violence than a community like Columbine."

Another major commonality between the districts is that neither district is willing see events like Columbine and live in fear.



Two Bonita High School peer coaches use class time to prepare for their "clients." A student puts together a box of referrals with a flyers advertising the class. Many clients use these confidential referrals to get help.

Peer coaches . . .

Continued from page 1

At the moment, students suggest safety re-organization be a top concern for school officials.

"No matter how much we want to deny it. We need structure, we need authority. Proctors are a good idea but they are approaching it the wrong way. When there is tension, you're not going to want to help them out," said Dukes.

Students also emphasized the predictability of proctors' locations.

"If I really wanted to bomb the school, I'd know where the proctor was, what he was doing and where he was standing. They [students] can plan it. It's not going to make a difference," said Duran.

Ironically, the same students who feel this way, still consider BHS safe.

Dole, however, disagrees.

"We are not prepared. As a teacher, I don't think we are ready," she said.

According to Dole, grant proposals for safety issues were being developed prior to the shooting in Littleton, and were being considered for some time by school administrators.

"After Columbine, the money was right there," she said with a snap of her fingers.

Still, Dole, along with the students, feels no school can ever be financially or physically prepared for a tragedy like that of Columbine.

Scott Rothmeyer, a senior said, "You can't live in fear."

Most students agreed.

"If it's gonna happen, it will happen," he said.

"You can only do what you can do," said Dole.

For this reason, BHS peer coaches realize the importance of being available to students at all times. Reaching students at an early stage helps ameliorate the problem.

"We want to help them before it's too late. This way, the students don't feel like they are alone and they have no one to turn to," said Dole.

For Bonita's peer coaches, the most they can do is to prepare, practice, get certified and reach out to other students who show signs of anti-social behavior.

Teens sentence peers to correction

Headed by Los Angeles Superior Court Commissioner Armando Moreno, the first Teen Court of Pomona took place in the City Council Chambers last week.

Three students were sentenced by a jury panel comprised of their peers.

"The main reason" for Teen Court, said Moreno, "is not so much to punish, but for public humiliation."

The accused teens were sworn in and faced a panel of about six or seven students from schools in the Pomona Unified School District.

Questions relevant to the accused were directed toward the student as well as his parents.

A translator was available for clarification.

"We're in school and we're his own peers," said Daniel Segura, a senior at Garey High School.

A couple of the accused were questioned on their reasons for shoplifting. About 80 audience members watched and listened to their responses.

"It is reverse peer pressure," said Moreno. "The world is a looking glass and we see the image of ourselves through the eyes of others."

A 17-year-old girl, among those accused of shoplifting, took the stand.

She stole merchandise from a local Kmart store, where she, allegedly took the merchandise as a gift for someone.

"I didn't have no money. Not 1 cent on me," she said.

When asked why she persisted on taking the merchandise without paying for it, she responded, "I am the type of person that likes to give. I mean, if it's someone's birthday, I want to give them something."

The jurors, prior to the court, were advised to look for inconsistent stories. Apparently, the 17-year-old was shoplifting for a gift to give to a male. When she was caught, cosmetics were found in her bag.

Another student, a 13-year-old boy was accused of stealing batteries from a RiteAid store.

He was allegedly influenced by his 21-year-old cousin. The boy's mother watched in anguish as a translator explained why he stole from the store.

"He said he didn't have any money," the translator said.

The mother shook her head and responded, "he wanted to buy some batteries, and so I gave him a $20 bill and told him to buy the batteries and an ice cream cone."

All of the accused teens were convicted by the teen jurors.

The jury sentenced the teens to an evening curfew of no later than 6 p.m. In addition, they could not be out of the house prior to 6 a.m., without parental guidance

They were also sentenced to community service and counseling hours. Most were required to write a letter of apology to their parents and to the corporations from which they stole merchandise.

Moreno said the jurors sentenced typical punishments.

"These are not heavy duty cases. They are all first time offenders," he said.

"It's like scolding," said Segura. "I don't think they are going to ever do it again."

Teen Court will take place once a month for the rest of the school year. Possibilities for multiple hearings during the month are being considered for next year.



Five students from various schools in the Pomona Unified School District sit on a panel facing a student accused of shoplifting. Panelists questioned the student and his parents in hopes to help the student change.

Teachers confront potential violent outbursts

• Concern grows with classroom rage

During the event of an emergency in a classroom, teachers are the first to react to a given situation.

In other cases, they are the cause for the emergency.

School violence has been a concern for teachers primarily because they are the immediate contact between the students.

"Teachers are the one's in the front line," said Bill Stelzner, Pomona People Support Services.

National Criminal Justice System records shows that on May 27, 1998, two teenage students were arrested for allegedly pointing a gun at students and faculty at an elementary school in Delaware.

According to the authorities, the two were playing with what appeared to be a gun.

When the two were confronted by a teacher, the two allegedly pointed the weapon at the teacher.

Because of incidences like this one, administrators and district officials are seeking to accommodate the situation by better equipping peer helpers and school officials with techniques that identify troubled students.

"We have in-service meetings and stuff like that," said Jeannine Dole, peer coach at Bonita High School in La Verne, Calif.

"But we are not ready," she said.

Although students do not have the same concern, Stelzner said it is always different for teachers who are involved with students on a daily basis.

"Teachers have a narrow view of the whole campus," said Stelzner. "Their view is more focused."

Ganesha counselor Stewart Solomon, agreed.

"I am not afraid. We don't have that kind of violence, but it can happen anywhere," he said, of violent outbursts like that of Colorado and Georgia, in April.

"But in the back of my mind, the thought lingers. It can happen anywhere," he said.

In other situations, teachers feel more threatened when stepping off school property.

"I feel safe on campus," said Dianne Burch, a peer counseling adviser at Ganesha High School, in Pomona Calif.

"It's just the area we live in," that is not safe, she said.

Because schools in the Pomona district are in some "bad areas," according to counselors at Ganesha, the security staff is compliant with all the security precautions.

However, Burch said the "campus is all spread out. It's very hard to secure the perimeter," which may allow outsiders to enter the campus.

Outsiders on campus, according to students and teachers, is the biggest fear.

The idea of a familiar student attacking a teacher or his own peers, is not as prevalent for Ganesha counselors as it is for Bonita school officials, however.

Mary Lou La Forrest, Bonita Unified School District's officer of child welfare, said, "a lot of the time you'll see students blow things out of proportion."

A similar situation was reported on May 9, 1998 when a 5-year-old was given a "time-out" by his kindergarten teacher, in Memphis, Tenn. The student, allegedly obtained a weapon from his grandfather's dresser drawer.

He, according to authorities, had shown a fellow classmate the firearm and told him he wanted to shoot his teacher and another student.

The student was stopped before shooting anyone.

Luckily, neither Pomona nor Bonita school districts have had to report extreme violent acts either by part of an outsider, or a student.

However, in respect to the proctor's safety training, Burch said "I don't know whether they are adequately trained."

She said with violent acts like these, Ganesha is "no more [at risk] than any other school," in the area.

Peer resources . . .

Continued from page 1

This kind of involvement, however, has in the past, been problematic.

"You can point a finger and say that [the parents] don't care, but, that's not true," said Bill Stelzner, director of Pomona's People Support Services.

At times, poor parental skills have been a concern. However, the district realizes that "there are very few parents who don't support their kids. Even those who badmouth their kids want the best for them," he said.

Notwithstanding, the district feels confident with the parental and community support.

"Without a question, this community is more prepared than others," said Russo, with respect to peer and violence prevention programs.

"Without peer counseling there is no safety net."

Schools in Crisis

Layout, photography and text by Angelica Martinez

Advised by Eric Bishop and Gary Colby

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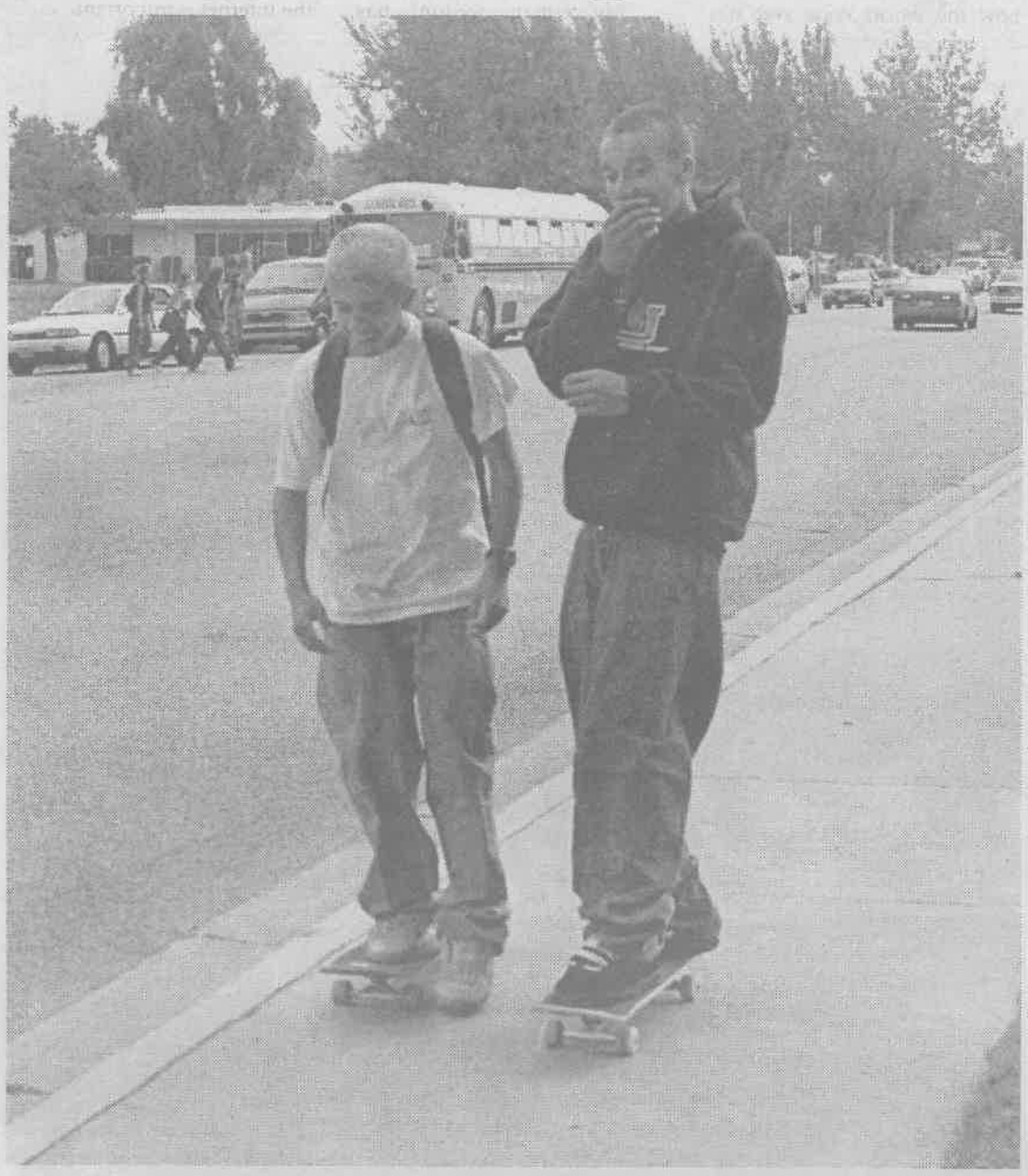
Drugs, weapons threaten security



Although in previous years, the understanding of ethnic and financial status plays a role in violence and gang activity, the Pomona Unified School District has received results which state otherwise.

Representative of its community, a large portion of Pomona's student ethnic background is of Hispanic descent.

Of the total number of students, 72 percent were Hispanic; 10.8 percent black, 9 percent white and 6 percent asian in the 1998-99 school year.

In the past five years however, the gang activity has significantly lowered in and around the campus.

"There's not really that many gangs on campus," said Ganesha head counselor Stewart Solomon.

In most cases, like in neighboring Bonita Unified School District, gang activity is not as seen as it was in the past.

"Group fights are not as high. We still have the same gangs. They go back long enough to date four generations," said William Brinegar, director of Human Resources and Secondary Education Development at BUSD.

"But they are not as active," he said.

On the other hand, the biggest concern for school officials in the neighboring district of Pomona is the possession of drugs on campus; immediately to be followed by students' possession of an armed weapon.

"Typically, marijuana is the most common drug. About 90 percent of all students caught with possession of drugs, were carrying marijuana," said Stelzner.

In addition, "the most common weapon carried by students is the knife," he said.

According to Stelzner, there is not a particular reason which explains these student's actions. However, he said teen social acceptance had a key role in their decision-making.

"Kids who live in particular socio-economic groups who don't find success in schools, will find a group to be successful in," said Stelzner.

According to statistics from the National Criminal Justice System, on May 13, 1998, a 7-year-old brought a loaded 9 mm pistol to a South Carolina elementary school.

A spokesman for the Sheriff's Office said, "We don't think she had any criminal intent to hurt anyone. It was just like 'Hey I have a gun.' "

In most cases, the need to be accepted by groups is the most dangerous of all.

These "groups" are outside or negative influences which can make a student feel comfortable, even if the group's actions represent negative outcomes.

"Kids can influence kids, sometimes better than adults can," said Stelzner.

In comparison, Brinegar said BUSD's latest concern has to do with fights and confrontations with outsiders from off-campus.

Of his 18 years in the District, "There's only been five confiscations of armed weapons," he said. "Three of which, were fire arms."

Mary Lou La Forrest, coordinator of child welfare and former counselor at Bonita High School agreed.

With about 28 years of experience, La Forrest said that although violence is related to ethnic and financial status, circumstances vary with each student.

A household "takes two paychecks. Kids are missing out on a lot," said La Forrest.

She explained a variety of factors that come into play when attributing violent behavior to students. However, few are consistent, she said.

"There is a wide spectrum," she said. "Sometimes you will find students with two parents who are very rich to other households with low income and without parents. It's an individual basis."

The NCJS reports similar occurrences.

On May 20, 1998, a Fayetteville, Tenn., 18-year-old shot and killed a fellow student. Apparently, the assailant was upset that the victim was dating his ex-girlfriend.

Classmates were shocked and described the shooter as "a quiet and unassuming student."

Above: Two students ride skateboards home after a day at Bonita High School. According to district officials, after school confrontations from outsiders are the major concerns of violence aside from the run of the mill fight during school hours.

Below: Bonita High School Peer Coach Dana Davis, a senior, makes a peer coaching poster outside the her class during school hours. The peer coaches were certified just days before and are increasing the amount of clients they help.

