Campus Times

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Orientation process revised for fall

Mike Lawson
Staff Writer

Next fall, the changes in the student-orientation program for incoming freshmen will have a different schedule.

Michael Houdyshell, coordinator of campus activities and commuter programs, said the new look was designed to "increase commuter-student involvement and engage students into ULV."

Ruby Montaño-Cordova, associate dean of student affairs, said the new model will "give commuter students a boost, help them with adjusting and make them feel more comfortable and supported," by giving them more options.

Unlike previous years, the orientation will start in August with a parent orientation.

Montaño-Cordova said the new orientation model will make the transition process easier. Students will begin moving in at noon and will not have programs to attend that evening. This way new students can spend more time with their parents.

Thursday, Aug. 31, there will be on-campus orientations. In the evening, students will go to the orientation camp, which Houdyshell said is going to be the same.

Houdyshell said that the camp is a "unique experience that is special to a lot of ULV students."

The normal academic orientation will take place the Tuesday after camp from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Under the new orientation model, there will be no Labor Day weekend programming for staff and new students. There will be entertainment and activities planned for the holiday weekend, but no required activities.

Unlike previous years, the campus will be open during the week, providing better service options.

Montaño-Cordova said the "new student orientation is supposed to introduce students to campus life. But if the campus is closed, life isn't here."

The Registrar's Office and the Financial Aid Office will be open to accommodate students with the registration process.

Other than moving up dates, meaning Orientation Week Leaders (O.W.Ls) must get trained earlier, the new model has little effect on current La Verne students.

Montaño-Cordova said that "new students won't be roaming the campus looking like lost puppies," because they will feel more comfortable after attending the orientation.

"Change is never easy and gives uncomfortableness," said Montaño-Cordova, "but it brings a lot of great possibilities."

SCE showcases benefits of center

Melinda Sanchez
Staff Writer

University of La Verne faculty and staff, and local chamber of commerce members gathered last Thursday at the School of Continuing Education (SCE) in Garden Grove to welcome prospective students at the monthly open house held in the Higher Education building.

The open house is held primarily to promote interest in the school since it moved from Fountain Valley.

Manuel Escalante, director of marketing, said, "After moving to Garden Grove in September, they hold a monthly open house to invite new students and prospective students to see what ULV is all about."

The SCE is an extension of ULV and is primarily for adult students wishing to achieve new heights in their career fields by pursuing an education.

The school also focuses on catering mostly to working professionals working toward a first or second degree of some kind.

According to Escalante the average age of students range from 30 to 36.

"These students are working in a much more condensed time period. We work in terms, not semesters. Going to school only in the evenings, they have 10 weeks for the bachelor's and master's program," Escalante said.

Senior Adjunct Professor John Stupar said, "We have one class a week for five hours, and it's actually quite enjoyable.

"Most of the class time consists of discussion, which allows students to interact with other professionals in their field."

According to Inge Kendall Maranto, of ULV's Regional Campus Development, "It's like a mini-campus, but we bring the University to them."

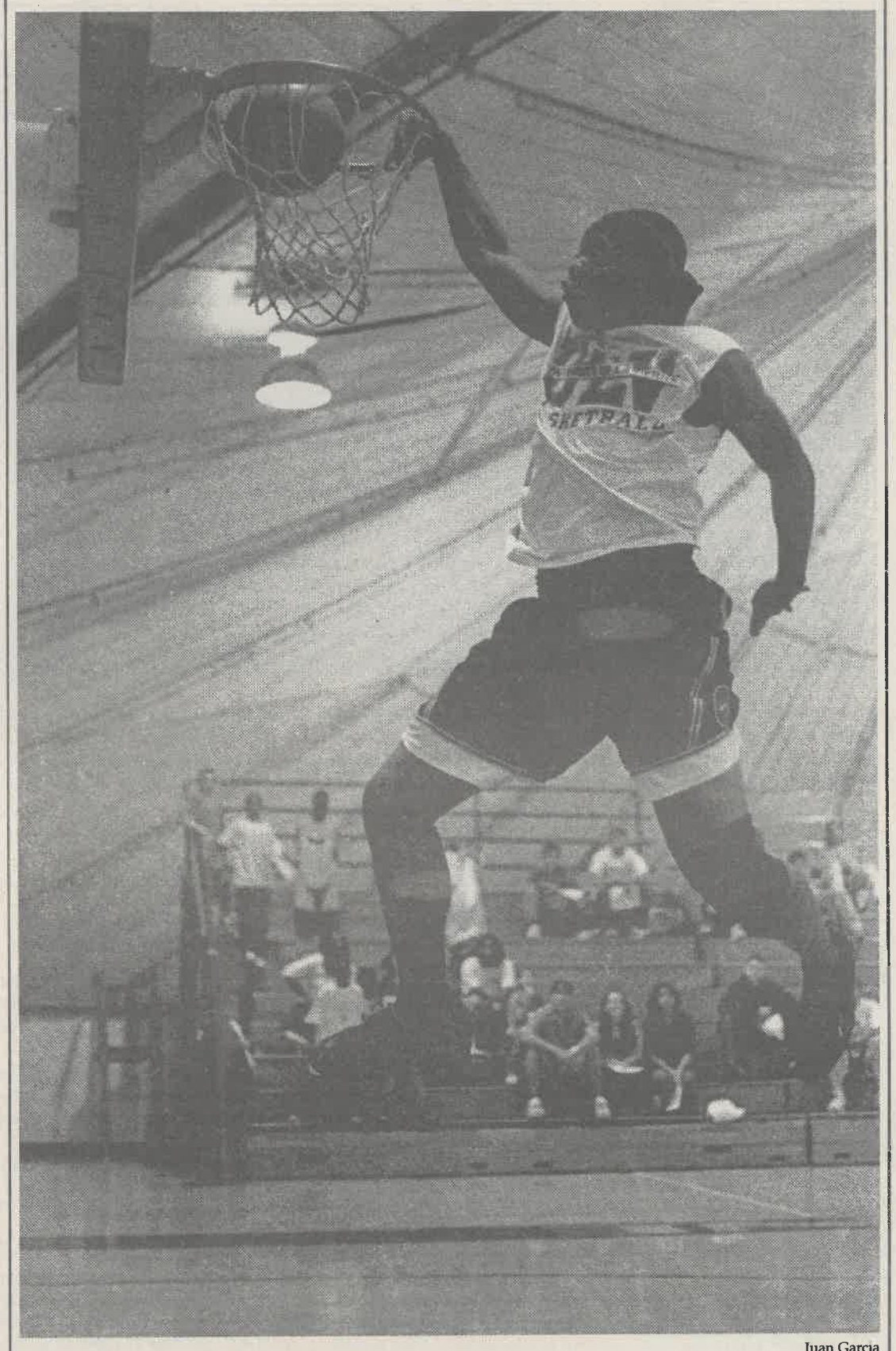
She said that SCE strives and focuses mostly to uphold the ULV tradition and that's why "we try to meet their [individual] needs."

According to Escalante, all the campuses work together. He said, "You can sign up for a class in Garden Grove, and go to the class in Long Beach."

Escalante said, "This educational experience is unique because certain businesses offer classes through ULV to help

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Slam 'N' Jam excites ULV crowd



Juan Garcia

Sophomore Jamal Washington excited the crowd during the Slam 'N' Jam contest on Friday, March 24. The contest was co-sponsored by the Associated Students Federation (ASF) Forum and the Afrikan-American Student Alliance (AASA). The event was organized by the assistance of junior Clyde Weems.

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Stu-Han may encounter face lift

•Dorm cost increased for repairs

Crystal Apilado
Staff Writer

Stu-Han Residence Hall has recently been the source of many problems and conflicts. Stu-Han has seen many changes and will confront more in the distant future.

Besides the repair problems that the building has had, other situations with Stu-Han have occurred. The cost to live in the older building has risen and rumors that Stu-Han will be demolished and possibly replaced have been circulating the University of La Verne campus.

Julie Thurman Francisco, director of housing and residential life, said that one of the factors that contributed to the higher price to live in Stu-Han, was that the prices the University of La Verne were charging students for on-campus housing was lower than at other schools.

When ULV representatives visited other universities, they found that compared to the on-campus prices, ULV was charging 25 percent less.

"In essence, we've been really subsidizing students for housing for many, many years," said Thurman Francisco.

In the past, the prices for housing were frozen in an attempt to get more students to live on campus. Due to the frozen prices, ULV was put behind when other institutions increased their prices.

"Our prices compared to other institutions were really low," said Thurman Francisco.

Another factor contributing to the increase in price is the condition and maintenance of the building.

Stu-Han was constructed in 1957, and the original plumbing and heating systems still remain. Over the years, these facilities have been slowly deteriorating and have had to be replaced or fixed.

"People should understand that basically institutions are rarely ever able to truly charge what the cost of providing housing is," said Brian Worley, director of facilities management.

The plumbing and heating are some of the main problems that Stu-Han has caused the University. The age of the building has continued to take its toll on the function of the facilities.

"We've had to pay more to keep it in good working order for the students," said Thurman Francisco.

Already this year the flat roof on the building was repaired to fix a leak caused by the old age of the roof.

Worley said that Stu-Han had porcelain tubs in the bathrooms that were replaced eight years ago by the shower stalls that are there now. Parts of the plumbing were repaired as well as the heating system.

Some of the problems that Stu-Han is posing now mostly deal with the age of the facilities and of the building. Also, with the evolved technology that was not needed back when the building was first built.

Stu-Han has no central air conditioning system. In the late summer and early spring months, the heat has been reported to be uncomfortable by residents.

The heating system is being kept up as best as maintenance members are able to do so.

Major work was done on it last year and has not been as big a problem. However part of the heating issue revolved around students not understanding how to work the heaters. Once explained, the issue was not as serious.

"It is old and will constantly give us problems," said Worley of the heating system.

Some of the plumbing is hard to be worked on due to where it is placed and has proven to be another problem for the University. The exposed plumbing was worked on a couple of years ago when the bathrooms were reconfigured.

However, the rest of the plumbing would require the walls of the bathrooms to be demolished in order to repair it. The unreachable plumbing pipes are rusting inside, causing the water passageway to shrink in diameter. This results in low water pressure from the showers.

The structure and design of the building is a small issue which has been discussed. The courtyards, in between the wings, provide windows and light to the rooms, but are otherwise not being used.

Change of times may be part of the reason that courtyards are not as popular as they once were. Also the fact that the doors leading out to the courtyards are all emergency exits and are not used could contribute to the lack of interest in them.

"In the time that Stu-Han was designed the courtyards were probably used. We could design a newer building which is more responsive to lifestyles of what the students want today," said Worley.

Another issue is that some of the second floors in the building are starting to develop soft areas. They are soft when walked upon in given spots, another sign of the building's old age.

"It's not a threat to life, it's not really a threat at all. It just shouldn't be," said Worley.

This summer Stu-Han will be facing some more nips and tucks in order to make it more livable and closer to the needs of the its residents.

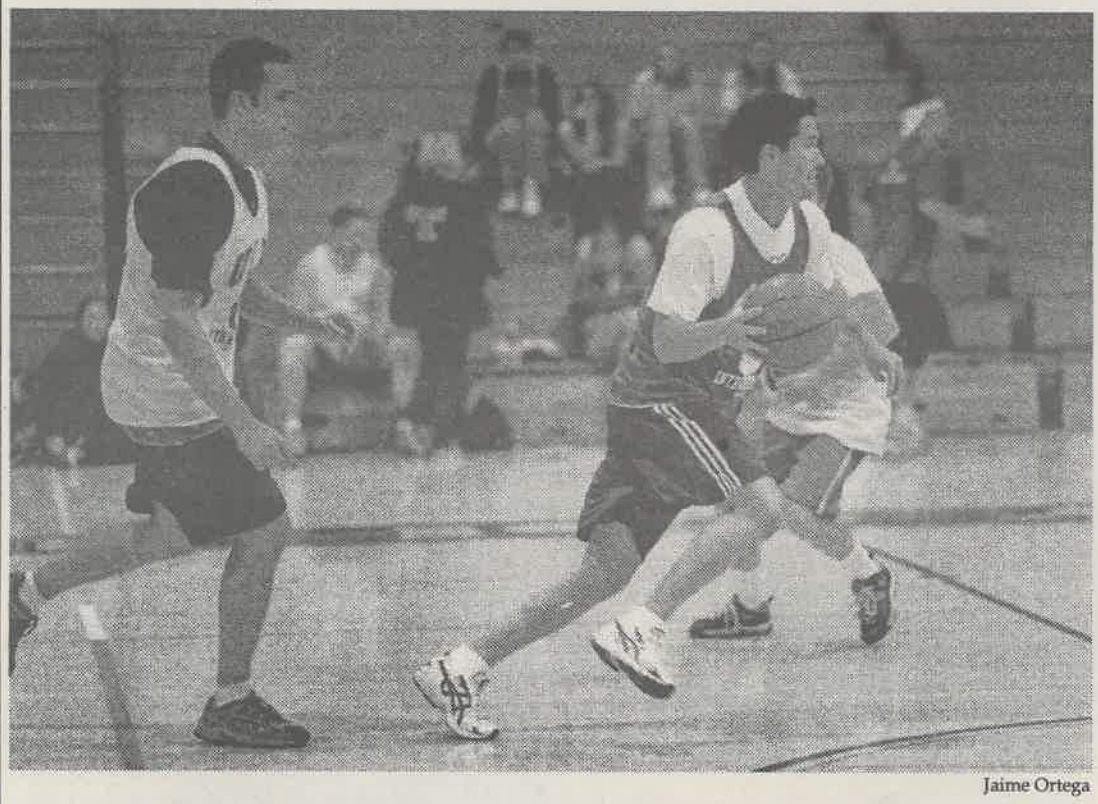
Areas of the building will be recarpeted. Rooms will be thoroughly cleaned and repainted. The water problems in the showers will be assessed to see what can be done to relieve some of the pressure of the problems they pose.

"We've had fewer complaints this year than we've had in previous years. Part of that is due to the fact that we've addressed what were serious issues and we have done our best to fix them," said Worley.

As far as the demolishing of Stu-Han, the idea is up in the air. The actual decision to remove it or not will depend on the result of the study made by the Ira Fink Association Inc. The results of the market analysis is expected back as late as July. The results will help determine whether Stu-Han will be torn down, added on to or rehabilitated.

"We won't know till summertime," said Thurman Francisco, in regard to future plans.

Forum sponsors annual tournament



Jaime Ortega

The annual intramural basketball tournament, sponsored by the Associated Students Federation (ASF) Forum, consisted of eight teams this year. Every Thursday night for the past four weeks, the coed teams played to find out who would be the champions. In the end, the team called the No Names won.

Junior Tom Chambers, co-chair, said, "In the past years with intramural basketball, we've never had the turn-out in terms of participation and school support." Next year, Chambers would also like to start more intramural sports, including soccer, softball and hockey.

Ceremony honors students

Damien Alarcon
Editor in Chief

Alpha Delta, the University of La Verne chapter of Alpha Lambda Delta, had its first initiation ceremony recognizing students who have completed their first year of college with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher. Qualifying students must also have full-time status.

The ceremony was held March 16 in La Fetra Hall. Twenty-six students were honored for their academic achievements. This is the second honor society to be established at ULV. The other, Alpha Chi, is a society which recognizes juniors and seniors who have maintained a 3.5 GPA or higher.

Dr. Doreen Wright, associate professor of English, and Linda Gordon, assistant professor of business, are the faculty sponsors of the organization.

The administrative sponsor, Dr. Barbara Jefferson, who is assistant dean of the School of Business and Global Studies, founded the group in hopes of establishing an official chapter of Alpha Lambda Delta at ULV by next spring.

Alpha Lambda Delta was founded at the University of Illinois in 1924. According to the society's constitution, its purpose is "to encourage superior academic achievement ... to promote intelligent living and a continued high standard of learning and to assist students in recognizing and developing meaningful goals for their roles in society."

The society gives awards, scholarships, fellowships and loans to its members, whether it be for undergraduate, graduate or professional study. Over 560,000 students have been initiated since its beginning in 1924.

Dr. Jefferson hopes to send a member of the newly-initiated class as a delegate to represent the ULV chapter at the national convention of Alpha Lambda Delta.

"In order to be recognized as a chapter, they asked us to do some organizational work," said Dr. Jefferson. "We are just at the beginning stages of getting a national chapter."

Aside from selecting a name, the chapter must prepare a constitution, identify financial resources for installation and chapter activities, prepare and submit a petition to the national organization, host the installation officer once the chapter is recognized, hold at least three meetings a year including installation and elect a slate of officers.

Once a chapter is installed, all members of the local chapter, regardless of class rank, may be installed as charter members.

Of those recognized at the ceremony were sophomores Stephanie Adams, Allison Alastuey, Veronica Arvizu, Vicki Bevard, Pamela Brownlee, Thomas Candelaria, Tammie Davis, Linda Garett, Alina Gheta, Enrique Gutiérrez, Richard Herrin, Kathy Hine, Teresa Hokanson, Chris Huson, Lauren Larsen, Ross Mathews, Arthur Moreau Jr., John Nigbor, Jose Orozco, Jocelyn Pozas, Douglas Quinn, Karen Rafalski, Jacqueline Reaser, Alisha Rosas, April Shenkman, Carole Timberlake and Jenifer Wilson.

ASF Minutes

The University of La Verne's Associated Students Federation met Wednesday in the West Dining Room at 9:10 a.m. The Forum attended to the discharge of business and largely therein to the discussion of upcoming events.

Snowboard Club

The Snowboard Club has been given its allocated money, but is looking for an adviser to go on the trip to Mammoth.

ASF Elections

Applications for the ASF elections will be available Monday, April 3. All positions are open and applications are due April 6.

Events

•Registration for the Variety Show/Slide Show on May 4 will be held all next week. Pictures for the slide show are due April 14.

•As previously noted, Bowling Night will be April 11 at Chaparrel Lanes in San Dimas. It is free to students. The Forum is also planning to hold a skating night, possibly on April 25.

•Spring Fair is April 13, in conjunction with "Detour to ULV," a program for commuter students.

•A debate entitled "Has feminism gone too far?" will be held today in Founders Auditorium at 11:30 a.m.

—Brice Nixon

Dance sheds light on AIDS virus

Julia Carachure
Staff Writer

The Associated Students Federation (ASF) Forum will hold the first AIDS Charity Dance-A-Thon on Friday, April 7 in the Old Gym from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Sign ups have been held from March 20 and will continue until April 5 at the Seal from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

There have been about 12 people who have signed up to date, but ASF hopes that more students will sign up as well.

In order to get more students to participate in the Dance-A-Thon, ASF has contacted the club presidents of organizations on campus in the hopes that they can get more students to participate in the event.

"This is something that the University of La Verne should have. AIDS is one of society's leading epidemics," said senior Araceli Esparza, who is co-chair for the event. "It's something that we can't really relate to unless it is happening to us or to someone we know."

Donations from the dance participants are unlimited.

The proceeds gathered from the dance will be donated to the Foothill AIDS Project, located in the city of Claremont.

The money will go into research to find a cure for the AIDS virus.

Also, the Forum is asking local businesses to donate prizes that will be given out to the participants at the end of the dance.

Prizes will be given out to the participants who have danced the longest and participants who have raised the most money; however, that depends on the availability of prizes that ASF can get to distribute. There will possibly be a raffle, again depending on the prizes that are available.

The event itself will consist of the participants coming into the dance. At this time, participants will turn in all their donated money. ASF members will be monitoring the hours that each participant has completed that night.

Participants will be given a five-minute break each hour in order to rest and get energized to dance. The hourly breaks will be extended longer as the end of the dance is reached.

For more information about the Dance-A-Thon, students should contact the ASF office at ext. 4677 and ask for Araceli Esparza or Crystal Apilado.

Pellicer accepts ULV position

Mike Lawson
Staff Writer

Dr. Leonard Pellicer has accepted the position as Dean of the School of Education and Organizational Leadership for the University of La Verne.

He comes to ULV with a doctorate in educational administration, a masters in education and a bachelor's in English education from the University of Florida. Dr. Pellicer began working for ULV on a part-time basis March 1. He will not become full-time for ULV until July 1.

Dr. Pellicer first came to ULV in April 1997. "I came to speak at the spring conference that the ULV Center for Teacher Leadership sponsors for teachers in the region," he wrote via email. He was invited back to be a part of the Summer Teacher Leadership Institute on several occasions.

Dr. Pellicer happened to be in La Verne during the time University officials were searching for someone to fill the position.

"Dr. Tom McGuire, chair of the Education Department, thought that I might be a suitable candidate for the position," wrote Dr. Pellicer.

Dr. McGuire arranged for Dr. Pellicer to meet and get interviewed by former president Dr. Leland Newcomer.

Dr. Pellicer is currently a full-time professor in the department of educational leadership and policies and director of the African-American professors program at the University of South Carolina.

The African American Professors Program is a program that tries to increase the number of African Americans who are prepared to teach in higher education institutions.

Dr. Pellicer has already resigned, effective June 30. "Within the next few weeks," he wrote, "The Board of Trustees at the University of South Carolina will confer me the title of distinguished professor emeritus."

Dr. Pellicer has also served as a high school principal, assistant principal and a high school and middle school classroom teacher. "I have 22 years of experience in higher education," he wrote. He has received numerous awards and recognitions for outstanding leadership in the field of education.

Beckman Auditorium hosts nights of comedy

Stacey Mieczko
Staff Writer

Beckman Auditorium at the California Institute of Technology opened its doors to an audience prepared for laughs on March 21 and 23.

Eight p.m. marked the curtain call as the Pasadena theater hosted "The College of Comedy" with Alan King. As community members filled the stadium seats, four popular comedians took the stage.

Bill Maher, television personality on ABC's "Politically Incorrect," Rita Rudner, stand-up comedian featured on "The Tonight Show," "Late Night with David Letterman," Comic Relief and author of "Naked Beneath My Clothes," and 30-year veteran nightclub performer and film star, Shecky Greene, were three of the nine entertainers contributing to the comedic event.

They were asked to appear at the auditorium for the taping of a PBS series devoted to performing arts called Great Performances. The Caltech

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School of Education...

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their employees learn more that could benefit their company.

"Most of these classes are closed, and you have to be a member of their corporation to take the course, because it is only offered through our school and their company," Escalante said.

A few companies that work with ULV to educate their employees further include Edison, Boeing, and the Gas Company.

ULV's President Stephen Morgan, said, "Our objective is to provide a quality education opportunity to prepare you for the career that you choose."

"I don't think there's anything more important than higher education," Dr. Morgan said.

Maranto said that the SCE does not offer scholarships or grants, but does have full financial aid available. She said, "As an independent student, you can write your educational expenses off on your taxes ... and some companies will even pay for your classes."

Stupar said, "I think it's a great idea for the University to reach out to the community.

Students are proud, and that's what makes the program what it is."

In Dr. Morgan's brief speech he mentioned Lee Newcomer, the former president of ULV, who "spawned the idea of expanding to other cities and even countries.

According to Maranto, ULV's five regional campuses support Newcomer's idea, and the new site in Garden Grove will only add to the expansion of La Verne's educational influence and growing spirit.

Stupar said, "There's a spirit in this school that's not in any other school ... that makes it what it is."

Club offers support system

Deanna Reyes
Staff Writer

Like most college campuses, the University of La Verne is one full of diversity.

Sometimes students find themselves in need of support or just need to talk about something that is bothering them. The Peace Club, a new organization on campus, may be the answer to a diverse student population.

The Peace Club was the brainchild of freshmen roommates Sokhon Pok and Chris Folden. They wanted a club where every type of person, whether that person be gay or straight, to come together and find support.

Folden said global activist Medea Benjamin, who spoke at ULV earlier this month, personally inspired him.

"We've tried to have a gay-straight alliance, but that didn't really work out," said Folden.

Both Pok and Folden have seen apathy among ULV students regarding a gay-straight club on campus. They hope through promoting a positive atmosphere and friendly attitude, they will attract more students.

The Peace Club held its first meeting last Thursday in the Associated Students Federation (ASF) Forum Office.

With a group of approximately 10 students, they discussed creating more awareness on issues affecting the community and the world.

Although their main goal is to be a support group to students, they also want to make changes on campus and involve themselves in human rights issues.

"I want people to know that this is not just for gay people," said Pok. "It's a support group. I feel it's really important to reach out to other people."

The first activity the members hope the club will participate in is the Multicultural Festival that will be held from April 25 to 27.

Members are currently working on selling coffee drinks made with Fair Trade Cofee, yet the process is still in the works.

The Peace Club will hold its meetings on Thursdays, at 3 p.m. in the Chapel.

Correction

In the March 24 issue, the article titled "New class offers energizing look at France" incorrectly stated Dr. Al Clark's position. He is associate vice president of academic affairs.

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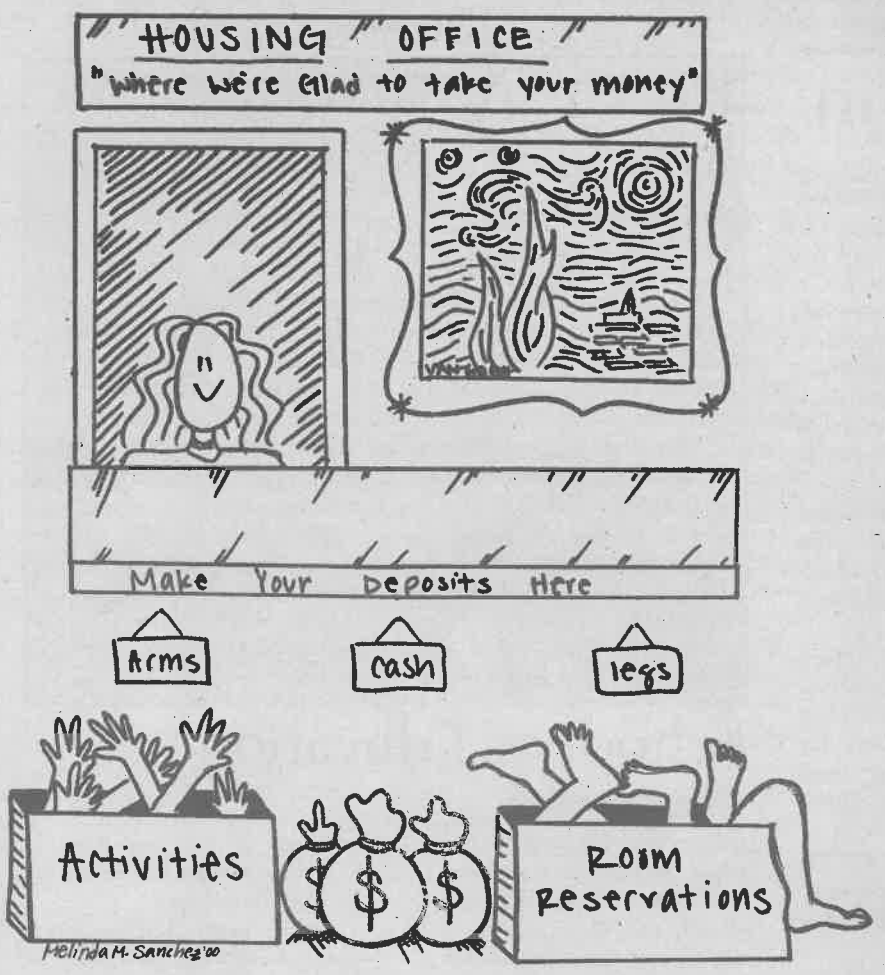
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Opinions

Unnecessary fees bring little in return

Students living on the University of La Verne campus dealt with the annual ritual of reserving or "squatting" their rooms this week, only to be reminded of Housing's mindless tradition of charging their residential community a plethora of fees.

The scene is the same from year to year: Countless frustrated residents making their way to the Office of Housing to begin the reservation process.



Immediately following the "Hello" is the requirement for students to pay $25 for what the department calls an "administrative processing fee." This does not guarantee the resident anything but an application and the opportunity to pursue the possibility to live in one of the four residence halls.

Perhaps this would not seem so inconvenient if some of the surrounding universities used similar protocol with "administrative fees."

But that is not the case.

Students living on campus at Chapman University are fortunate enough to avoid the hassle of paying an asinine fee to merely pick up a piece of paper.

Students residing at residential campuses like Claremont McKenna and Redlands University avoid such a policy as well.

Residents of the on-campus housing facilities at Cal Poly Pomona are also given the right to reserve their rooms without the worry of paying to display an interest in living on campus.

The only financial concern for students living on campus at these other local schools is a reasonable and logical one: to pay for the living space itself.

However, ULV residents could go on and not be too distraught with the fee knowing that, at the very least, they had a place to live.

Then again, they might be frustrated with the fact that they are required to pay a $20 activities fee upon moving into their room.

"I have to wonder what it's going for because I haven't seen much in the way of programs this year," said senior Rick Garcia, ULV resident of three years, and former resident assistant for two.

Garcia is one of many residents who have payed a number of Housing's fees only to gain a minimal return.

"Upgrading and retrofitting some of the rooms would be nice," said Garcia.

With the lump sum of the fees received by housing, students are provided programs which are supposed to meet the interests of the residents, but usually do not exceed the excitement of an ice cream social once every two months.

Unfortunately, housing at ULV does not offer students the same alternatives enjoyed by residents at Cal Poly Pomona where the activities fee is optional and only charged to those who want such services.

According to the Guide to Residential Life for ULV, the No. 1 goal in Housing's "Mission and Vision" is to "advocate for the common good and champion the rights of individuals."

The student residents at the University should be given the individual right not to be charged in excess for services rendered which are standard at other universities.

And if the University should choose to do so regardless of the students preference, residents paying these fees should see a result that actually provides a benefit for the "common good" rather than a service that is to be expected.

Balancing the racial scales

There are few instances, if any, when it is right to use race as a deciding factor in any decision. It is unfair to discriminate against a group of people because they are put into a certain category. History is marred with examples of various group's struggle with discrimination.

The United States Supreme Court on March 20 ruled against "racial balancing" in schools, a practice where school districts consider race in deciding whether to let students transfer to another school. By doing so, school districts say they are attempting to avoid " 'racial isolation' in the classroom."

Patricia A. Brannan, the lawyer for the Montgomery County Public Schools, was right when she said that giving children "interracial exposure and culture makes a very strong impression in terms of being able to deal with people different from themselves." It is extremely important children are exposed to people from all different backgrounds to enable them to interact with each other and become socially-competent adult.

> It is unfair to discriminate against a group of people because they are put into a category. It is contradictory to discriminate in an effort to end discrimination.

But diversity cannot be forced. And it is contradictory to discriminate in an effort to end discrimination.

The Supreme Court was correct in upholding a lower court decision that said racial balancing is unconstitutional when not needed to remedy past discrimination.

In this case, the parents of Jacob Eisenberg, who is Caucasian, wanted to send him to a magnet school when he started first grade. The school emphasizes math and science. Parents should have the right to send their children to a school they believe offers better educational opportunities.

Many school districts allow students to choose to attend charter or magnet schools, or even another public school. But some schools use race in deciding whom they will allow to transfer.

In Eisenberg's case, the Montgomery County Public School District barred him from transferring from minority-dominated Glen Haven Elementary to mostly-white Rose Hills Elementary. Glen Haven was 24 percent white, 40 percent black, 25 percent Hispanic and 10 percent Asian at the time. And white enrollment had decreased in the previous four years. The magnet school was 66 percent white, 16 percent black, 14 percent Hispanic and 4 percent Asian.

The school district decided that, because they wanted to "balance" the number of white students at Glen Haven, they would not let him transfer to the more educationally-focused magnet school, something the court's correctly decided they had no right to do.

This is no different than when an athlete wants to transfer to a school more well-known for its athletic programs. School administrators are more than happy to let a star basketball player come to their school, knowing that it will bring accolades and media attention.

Considering their objectives (or at least what they should be), this makes no sense. It is hypocritical to welcome a transfer student who has athletic prowess, but not allow one seeking academic advancement.

Letters to the Editor

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

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From the Editor...

Death changes perception of life



Damien Alarcon

One issue that will come before all of us at many points in our lives, in one way or another, is death. Death is a topic that many people do not think about until it happens to friends or family.

Many students throughout my four years at the University of La Verne have said they are experiencing major problems at one time or another. When I ask what they are, those students usually say that they are worried about school projects and assignments or relationships.

My typical response to them is that there are always worse things in life. However, I did not begin telling friends or myself this saying until the end of my sophomore year in college. Before then, I had not experienced the worst things in life. I used to stress over things like getting school assignments in on time, thinking about the next football game or wrestling match or whatever.

Drastic events in my life have occurred over the past few years and changed my perception of school, work and life in general. I have been familiar, but not too familiar, with death throughout my life. Extended family members, whom I was not very close to, and friends of family members died often.

However, near the end of my sophomore year, death, for the first time, came within the realm of immediate family and close friends.

In the early morning of Sunday, Feb. 20 (I was still living with my parents at the time), I came home from the gym and walked into the kitchen, where my mom was on the phone crying. When I asked her what was wrong, she told me that my best friend, Sal, was in the hospital and was not expected to live. Instantly, my throat went dry and my body went numb.

The night before, Sal was stabbed in the neck at a party where a fight broke out over the theft of some CDs.

He died in the early morning of Feb. 23. I was fortunate to see him alive for the last time in the hospital bed, but he was unconscious. At the time, it was the worst experience of my life.

Eight months later, my dad died hours after doctors removed a tumor from a kidney and a tumor near his spine. Immediately after his surgery, which took over 12 hours, the doctors informed us that he was fine and would be back to normal in a few weeks.

The rug I was standing on was pulled from under me when my family received a phone call early the next morning saying that he had a massive heart attack. If it was not for Sal's death, I would have been in worse shape. Still, it was hard for me and my family.

It has been over two years since Sal's death and more than a year and a half since my dad's, and still it is depressing to think that they are gone.

Since then, I have not gained an appreciation for life because life holds more horrible things ahead. I did, however, gain an appreciation for the people in my life. My mistake in both scenarios was that I did not have a solid appreciation for my dad, Sal or anybody. I took them for granted and did not think that anything would happen to them.

People need to realize that bad things are inevitable. They need to have fun and help those they care about. They should not let anything else make them feel stressed, scared or worried. When students feel stress from all the unfinished work and assignments ahead of them, they should just tell themselves that there are worse things in life. That is what I do when the pressure is on.

To prepare ourselves for the death of those we care for, we need to realize that it is going to happen sooner or later (hopefully later). Being prepared will help people deal with it and focus more on helping others deal with death.

Strength is easier to attain when one is prepared to deal with death. Strength that is seen through one's action will encourage others to have the same composure. Strength, you can say, will rub off on others. Another thing not to do is focus on the way the person died, but rather to remember your personal experiences with the deceased while they were alive.

Expectancy and appreciation for others will help people endure the absolute worst times.

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

No guilt in embracing these pleasures



Jazmine Ponce

Guilty pleasures are the cheesy admirations we do not want to admit to, for fear of what others may think. I have many of them. Some I still enjoy, and others I wish I could erase from my long-term memory.

Many may not want to admit liking a now defunct artist or actor. Look at New Kids On the Block; there is not one person who will honestly admit they liked them, but somehow they sold millions of records, pillows and life-like action dolls.

Now, I truthfully swear that I never liked NKOTB, (yes, I know everybody is thinking, yeah sure, she just does not want to admit it). No, instead of liking them, I liked one of the cheesiest, most low-budget groups ever created. It was The Party (name doesn't ring a bell? not at all?), a group of five Mickey Mouse Clubbers before the phenomenon of teen popsters Britney (Spears) and Christina (Aguilera).

They sang weak songs that did not even grace the Top 100 list, let alone the Top 10. They had songs with wonderfully crafted lyrics like, "Got to get away from this day to day, got to get away on a summer vacation, tune in, move on, bust out!" I cannot really understand why they did not win a Grammy—oh wait I forgot, it is because they sucked!

From the ages of 10 to 12 or so, I dedicated my down time to the "music" and lives of The Party: Chase, Dee Dee, Tiffini, Albert and, of course, Damon the cute one. I read the teeny bopper magazines and memorized all their songs (which are still registered in my long-term memory). Then one day I just stopped liking them and moved on to Guns 'N' Roses or some other extreme band.

It is a part of my life that I was ashamed of, but even though my tastes have changed dramatically, I realize that, as stupid and crazy as I acted back then, I had fun. And that is what life is about, having fun.

I still have a lot of guilty pleasures which I will unwillingly admit to now. All of them are childish and corny, some may be considered lame. But they are mine and I like them for those reasons.

I guess one of them is (yes, I know as I write this a million people will be screaming, "why?") the lame little kiddy songs of the boy group all the little girls like (drum roll please): 'N Sync.

Come on, that new song "Bye, Bye, Bye" is just fun. Whenever it plays, I just want to "tune in, move on, bust out" to it. I guess I like their songs because it takes me back to those old The Party days, since two of the members used to be Mickey Mouse Clubbers.

My other one would be the soap opera "Passions." I usually never watch soaps, but I got hooked on "Passions" this past July. The stories are extremely corny to the 12th power, plus the actors (if you can call them that) cannot act. The funny thing is they think they can, and they take the dialogue seriously. The plots and characters are just out there: a witch who has a dummy that comes to life, a psychic girl named Charity and the typical rich heartthrob. That is one of the reasons why I am addicted to the show.

No matter what one's guilty pleasure is, they should not worry about what their peers think of them. Embrace that corny, silly part of yourself. As long as you are still young and able to be crazy and have fun liking someone like Aguilera, "The Powerpuff Girls" cartoon or any other cheesy thing, it is OK. Except if you still have posters of NKOTB on your wall, sheets on your bed and worship the music and life of Jordan Knight. The year is 2000, it was 10 years ago. Get over it!

Jazmine Ponce, a junior journalism major, is arts and entertainment editor of the Campus Times. *She can be reached by e-mail at* **jponce@ulv.edu**.

Forced service rarely comes from heart



Agke Grow

Core 305 classes at the University of La Verne should be optional. Forcing community service on students does not encourage students to volunteer in the future.

If people are forced to do something they do not want to do, a wholehearted effort is unlikely to be put forth.

The effort level given by someone who has been forced into volunteer work is small compared to that given by someone who decided to help out of a pre-existing, genuine concern for the cause that is being helped.

In high school, I knew several people who refused to run the mile in P.E. class because they were forced to, but then sprinted to exhaustion after school was out and baseball practice began. They wanted to play baseball, and accepted the running as a part of achieving that goal. However, they failed to see running as being an integral part of their education. Such is the case with service learning.

This is not to say that everyone enrolled in a Core 305 class is giving less than 100 percent. Certainly some people are interested in making the world a better place for everyone, and are willing to give their time.

This is encouraging, and I hope one day I will also find it in my heart to give my time to help those who need it. I am taking my Core 305 class, in which I must read to children for 25 hours, with an open mind. I consider it to be an opportunity to have an experience that I probably would not otherwise have at this stage in my life that might lead to more service.

However, many people do not look at the service-learning requirement in the same light. I can understand their frustration, too. Why, they ask, should you be forced to help out someone that you do not genuinely feel like helping? To do so is to be untrue to yourself and those who you are helping. If I told the teacher and her second grade students I am reading to that I was doing something I did not want to do, do you think they would even want me to stay? I doubt it.

ULV's catalog explains that the aim of supervised volunteer service placement is to practice the University's Mission Statement's affirmation that "service is a primary goal of the educated person." It is almost laughable to think the University believes that making us work for 25 hours without compensation will incline us to do future volunteer work.

The motivation for an individual to habitually offer help to our society can only come from their own heart. No amount of forced service can bring about the maturity and compassion one needs in order to realize that community service is a civic duty.

In fact, some students are embittered from being forced to swallow their Core 305 pill to graduate, and have told me that they will be less likely to perform future volunteer work because of it.

If ULV considers service to be a primary goal of the educated person, perhaps a course focusing solely on demonstrating why service is so important is in order. Then, after we understand why some consider service to be of such paramount importance, if we felt compelled to do so, we could perform community service. As it is, we are put to work doing what we are told is an important service, but are not given the opportunity to determine that for ourselves. We learn about a specific problem in society, such as illiteracy, but for most the focus of Core 305 classes is to finish 25 hours of service.

I hope to one day find that I am ready to do volunteer work for noble reasons. However, most students forced to perform service do not have the interests of others in their hearts.

Agke Grow, a junior journalism major, is sports editor of the Campus Times. *He can be reached by e-mail at* **growa@ulv.edu**.

Doctor to bring ULV recognition

Enrique Gutiérrez
Staff Writer

In a place where most people think of going to the beach as soon as the sun rises everyday, it is odd to find a person who sees a different ray of hope coming from the king of the stars.

That person spends long hours working and that may affect the way people live.

Dr. Iraj Parchamazad, chair of the Chemistry Department at the University of La Verne is that individual.

His goal is that in the not-so-far future, people will use solar energy as the main source of fuel. To accomplish that, he is currently working on the creation of a portable unit which would replace the conventional way electricity is produced.

"It's a new technology that uses hydrogen as a fuel to produce electricity," Dr. Parchamazad said. "The starting material that we have is propane gas, methanol, but the next step is solar hydrogen. They use solar energy, solar radiation and water to produce hydrogen and that one is the most important one which is in my field."

"It is the first experimental project for our energy institute," said Dr. Jay Jones, professor of biology and biochemistry and chair of Academic Computing. "It deals with clean energy."

"Iraj's forté is solar photochemistry and the ideas that Iraj has are really before their time," Dr. Jones said.

The project has already passed the alpha testing, the first of various tests in the process before the product actually goes to the public.

"Right now we need a lot of money to get this to the next step," Dr. Parchamazad said.

The next step, he said, is the beta testing.

"After the beta testing is finished, if it is successful then it goes to the market," said Dr. Parchamazad, "and then we need much more money for mass production."

Despite the large amount of money required to complete the testing, Dr. Parchamazad believes this product is getting close to hitting the market.

"There are several companies working with us, but this is top security," said he. "We have several confidentiality agreements so we have to be very careful with the knowledge that we have."

One reason for that is that the project will affect the entire globe.

"It's really a competition all over the world. We should move faster and with more people," said Dr. Parchamazad.

Dr. Parchamazad, who began working at ULV in 1987, hopes this project will be the beginning of a new era of recognition for the school.

"The Chemistry Department and the Science Division as a whole believes that if the University gets involved in these kinds of high-tech projects it should be a new source of funding for the University, it brings more money to the University, recognition to attract better students and also with the supports of the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation. The University of La Verne will be ranked at the top of this kind of technology," Dr. Parchamazad said. "We would have a good name for teaching and ... with this recognition the University of La Verne will be one of the finest universities. We'll show that not only Caltech or UCLA can can do these kinds of projects."

However, that is only a small part of Dr. Parchamazad's intentions. His plans do not stop there.

"This project is one of the smallest ideas. My wish is to have a very active energy institute with a building and solar photochemistry lab," he said. "And try to create new technology which is safe for the environment, more efficient and safe for natural resources like oil, gas. This is really the thing I want to achieve."

He sounds excited when he talks about the future.

"Here at this University, we can make the Science Division and the Chemistry Department so active to create new technology with energy and environmental issues," he said.

Dr. Jones recognizes the Dr. Parchamazad's knowledge.

"He's a very bright individual and has a good theoretical background. He's done a marvelous job," Dr. Jones said.

Dr. Parchamazad obtained his doctorate and his master's degree as a chemical engineer in France.

He worked as a professor at the University of Tehran, Iran, his hometown. He also served as a technical adviser for Comples, an international organization that deals with solar energy. Dr. Parchamazad's advising took him to places such as Germany, France and England before being a visiting professor at the University of Texas in Austin.

"He's an excellent instructor, excellent researcher, terribly overworked," said Jones. "It's only recently that his research and potential began to be realized. It's very difficult at the University of La Verne to do research. It takes a lot of effort and we do not have the supportive infrastructure that large institutions have."

Junior Manny Escalante, who took one of Dr. Parchamazad's classes said he is always available to his students.

"He wants to make students the best chemistry students they can be," said Escalante. "He's willing to go out of his way to help you."

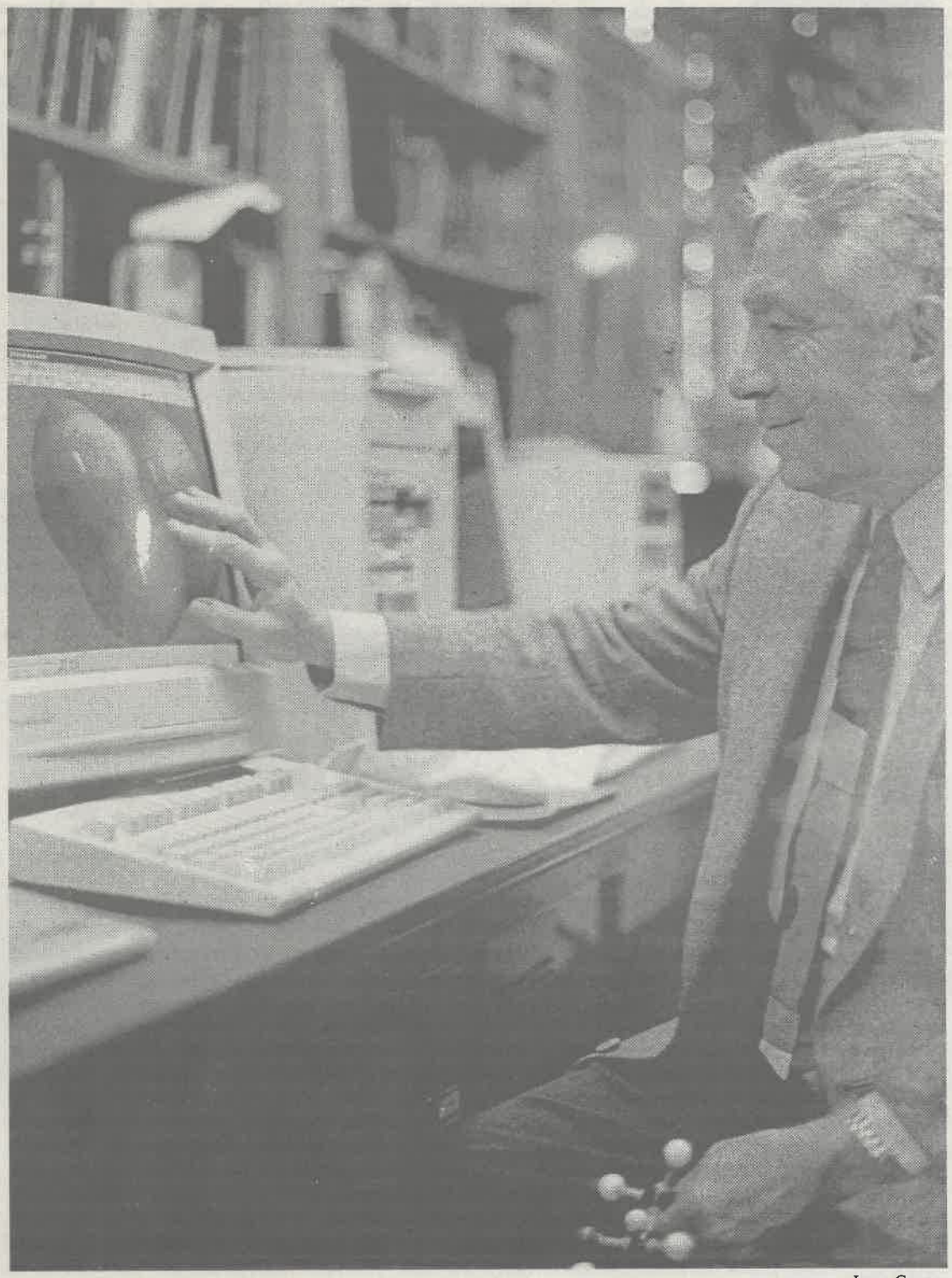
Dr. Parchamazad's interest in the field is such that it has been extended to his descendants. His two children, Patty, 25, and Payam, 19, are also involved in chemistry.

According to Dr. Parchamazad, Patty finished graduate school last year and she now is a pharmacist. While Payam, a sophomore at ULV, is also considering the possibility of majoring in chemistry.

Payam looks at his father as one of his role models."He's hard worker, a motivator. He tries to get stuff done," he said.

"I think of the future and I think that my contribution could be very effective," said Dr. Parchamazad.

Said Dr. Jones, "He's very talented, very dedicated and has a good heart."



Jason Cooper

The Chemistry Department moves forward into hydrogen energy technology with a grant and the leadership of Dr. Iraj Parchamazad. He holds a hydrogen model and displays a computer generated image of the same molecule, representing the basis for its work.

Laughs...

Continued from page 3

presents catalog advertises the show's history. It states that the producer of the show, WNET 13 New York has to date, broadcast more than 600 segments of Great Performances on music, dance, drama and artistic profiles.

Caltech Presents is currently operating in its 36th year. Its mission statement strives to "offer audiences a gateway to cultures and entertainment from around the globe." Upcoming events are plentiful in diversity and number.

Students looking for quality entertainment or maybe the perfect first date atmosphere should inquire about the next comedy/theater show featuring Second Hand. The next show features a network of three entertainers who utilize their physical being in conjunction with costumes and props to form and express their humor. The New York Times critiques the artists, "Suburb, even spell-binding control." The show begins at 8 p.m. on April 7 at the auditorium in Pasadena. Tickets for this spectacular event range between $22 and $14 each.

To mix things up a little, Caltech plays host to four Scottish musicians who make up the Battlefield Band. They make their debut at Beckman Auditorium on April 15 at 8 p.m.

A $17 to $25 admission fee will capture Celtic spirit, intertwined with bagpipes, guitar, cittern, synthesizer, fiddle and good old Scottish vocals.

Lonely kid brothers and sisters of busy, self-consumed ULV students would love to encounter the educational scientific principals of gravity and leverage, simple machines and human imagination in a presentation by Garry Krinsky in his critically acclaimed show, "Toying with Science." Treat a younger sibling to some quality time Saturday April 29 at 2 p.m. Adults cost $10 and children cost $5, for admission

The Lowell Sun raves about the series, "Krinsky's show is bright, fun-filled, and audience interactive. And learning a thing or two didn't hurt either."

Last, but not least, Caltech Presents reintroduces veteran performers in their much anticipated 10th annual appearance at Beckman Auditorium. Capitol Steps, coming to Pasadena in May, uses political satire and song parodies to amuse the audience and lighten serious governmental issues and staffers through humors. Seating will cost between $24 and $32 per person.

All tickets are available through TicketMaster, online at **http://tickets.caltech.edu** and through the Caltech ticket office at 1(800) 225-8324.

The Beckman Auditorium is located off the 210 freeway on Michigan Ave south of Del Mar Boulevard.

Pryor finds inspirations from soul

•Senior leads active ULV life

Angelique B. D'Silva
Staff Writer

A charismatic woman with a world full of possibilities. A woman dedicated to serving the community; one who works through God.

Senior Maisha Pryor is the oldest of two daughters to her parents Herbert and Susie. Pryor is a busy individual, working at the University Bookstore and with Dr. Al Clark, associate vice president of academic affairs; interning at David and Margaret Home in La Verne; but still finding time to join a sorority (Delta Sigma Theta), go to school and get the grades and help at her church, St. John's Christianary Baptist Church as the associate chair director for her choir.

Pryor said she believes that she is able to accomplish all of these tasks because she has God in her life.

She is a strong believer that having faith can allow one to achieve anything. Pryor appears to have a good head on her shoulders, and said that she is also a strong believer that family is important.

One can always find her on the weekends in Los Angeles either with her family or at her church. Pryor said these feeling of helping others brought her to become interested in joining Delta Sigma Theta.

Delta Sigma Theta is a mirror image of all the qualities Pryor prides in herself. Delta Sigma Theta is a non-profit sorority and was founded on helping the community. It was chartered in 1979 at Cal Poly Pomona as a core chapter opened to the Claremont Colleges and the University of La Verne. Delta Sigma Theta, though, died out in 1995. Pryor and a couple of other woman decided to bring back the sorority. After finishing the three year effort, Pryor said she realized she was a Delta woman.

"It was amazing to see that the graduate chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, not knowing any of us, were willing to help us," said Pryor. "It might have taken a long time for the sorority to be re-established, but when you want something badly you just go for it," said Pryor. She said she is proud to be a Delta woman because it has produced many influential people. For example, acclaimed singer and actress Lena Horne.

Pryor is determined and full of aspirations waiting to be achieved. She will graduate this May, and will be soon heading to Charles Drew University of Medical Science to study to be a physician is assistant.

Pryor said through having a close relationship with God that she is able to achieve her goals and help her community.



Natalie Fowle

The Delta Sigma Theta triangle that senior Maisha Pryor is demonstrating an international sign of her sorority. Like many sororities, they have this secretive sign that is only known to their members as a means of ritual. Delta Sigma Theta is the newest presence of Greek life at the University of La Verne and is seeking to become an officially recognized organization.

Alumni find present, past friends on website

Alisha Rosas
Managing Editor

For many students, high school is held close to the heart, yet far from the memory. Too many times the person that one had lunch with everyday, simply becomes "that girl" or "what's his name," due to lack of communication.

The new website **www.highschoolalumni.com** was created to keep alumni from all over the country in contact with each other all within the reach of a computer's keyboard.

The website began after members of a high school in Columbia, SC, wanted to keep in contact with one another after graduation. In a short time, this concept expanded to include over 22,000 high schools throughout the United States. The service is provided free of charge.

All one needs to do to get involved with **www.highschoolalumni.com** is visit the website and register as a student from any American high school. The database used can send out alumni-related information, newsletters and the achievements of former classmates.

Senior Darla Franklin, a diversified major, said that she has managed to maintain a friendship with a classmate from high school and can see the benefits of the website.

"[It is beneficial] for example, my friend moved and I can't see her everyday and it's good that I can talk to her through the Internet."

"I think it would be good especially if your coming up on your 10-year reunion, so people can get in contact with each other," Franklin said.

There is also another website **www.classmates.com,** that provides a similar relationship between members of a graduating class. This website has the largest directory on the World Wide Web for both the United States and Canada. There are currently 5 million self-registered alumni at this website.

To register is simple. Visit the website and enter one's graduation year, first and last name and email address and view the list of registered fellow alumni.

To email or contact a former friend, however, one must become a member of **www.classmates.com.**

There is a $25 fee that provides membership for two years and offers unlimited access to the website. With the membership, one is able to send email to friends and read the personal profiles of fellow students and have the opportunity to add "then" and "now" photographs to one's personal profile.

Like **www.highschoolalumni.com**, this website also provides privacy for all of its registered members. A password is selected for identification and both sites claim that privacy is guaranteed. However, it is suggested that one not post personal information on the Web.

New findings for internet users in Claremont

Leslie M. Estrada
Staff Writer

Rebecca Hamm, art professor at ULV and program director for the First Street Gallery Art Center in Claremont, has become involved with a fresh new website that works side by side with the city's own website, **www.claremontca.com**.

Claremontca.com is the website for the city of Claremont, which has information on local news, weather, politics and entertainment within the Claremont area.

"It all started when the city of Claremont invited us [the First Street Gallery Art Center] to be on their web page," said Hamm.

The First Street Gallery Art Center is a facility of artwork from local to more recognized artists such as Laura De Cuir's "World of Rubies" painting.

Other than Hamm, some of these artists include Dan Kellar, Marta Munguai, Tom Carrion, Patty Poteet and Mary Rose Tellez, to name a few.

In addition, the Gallery provides a place for aspiring artists, including those with disabilities, to display their work.

Hamm is the program director for this gallery, as well as an art teacher at ULV.

"Currently, we are working on the exhibit 'Abstraction II,' which will be held from Thursday, March 16 through April 20," said Hamm.

The "Abstraction II" exhibit will present a collection of artwork from 18 different artists.

Aside from her directing position at the Gallery, Hamm herself is an artist whose passion is presented not only in the First Street Gallery Art Center, but also in her own art studio, located in the College Business Park in the city of Claremont.

"I have spent eight years teaching different art classes at ULV, aside from seven years being program director," said Hamm.

Classes that Hamm has taught are Advertising, Graphic Design, Introduction to Art, as well as Introduction to Art in elementary schools.

"I started the first 10 years of my art profession as a gift artist," said Hamm. "After that, I started becoming more involved when I taught different classes at ULV."

The First Street Gallery Art Center is located at 250 W. First Street, Suite 120, Claremont, CA 91711 at (909) 625-5455, or website **www.claremontca.com.**

Arts & Entertainment

Entertainment Briefs

Now Playing

•"High Fidelity," a comedy about love life and heartbreak, stars John Cusack, Joan Cusack and Jack Black.

•"Skulls" revolves around a secret society and fraternity. "Dawson's Creek" Joshua Jackson, "Popular's" Leslee Bibb and Paul Walker star in this thriller.

•"The Road to El Dorado" is an animated film about the search for the city of gold. Armand Assante, Kenneth Branagh, Kevin Kline and Edward James Olmos star.

•Tomorrow a sneak preview of "Return to Me" a romantic comedy starring "The X-Files" star David Duchovny and Minnie Driver ("Good Will Hunting") will be shown at participating theaters, check local listing for times.•

Tickets on Sale

• Tickets for the Vans Warped tour June 29 at Arrowhead Pond parking lot go on sale today. Scheduled to perform are Green Day, NOFX, Long Beach Dub Allstars, Mighty Mighty Bosstones, Suicide Machines, Jurassic 5 and MxPx.

•The The's May 17 performance at the El Rey Theater go on sale tomorrow at 10 a.m.

•Tickets for 311, Incubus and the Kottonmouth Kings July 1 at the Irvine Meadows go on sale tomorrow at noon.

•Tickets are currently on sale for Ozomatli May 12, Suicide Machines April 13 and The Vandals April 15 at the Pomona Glass House.

John York

Former member of the Byrds John York performs at the La Verne Public Library tomorrow at 2p.m. The event is free.

—Jazmine Ponce

'Roswell' crash lands in downtown Covina

by Christine Owen
photography by Matt Wright



The Warner Brothers Network Television show "Roswell" has been sporadically filming in downtown Covina since last July. Most Covina residents have visited a taping of an episode or are aware of what is going on. Covina resident Mike Fern stops by the set on his way to work.

Anyone driving through downtown Covina is sure to have seen it. It is not hard to miss a spaceship suspended above the skeleton of a restaurant or a UFO Center sign attached to the building that used to be a bank. No, the city of Covina has not taken drastic redecorating measures. What it is doing is allowing 20th Century Fox to use the home turf downtown streets of Citrus and Badillo to film the series "Roswell."

Filming in downtown Covina began last July and will continue until the middle of April, which is when the season ends. There is no guarantee that the filming will resume again in the summer because the show has yet to be picked up again by the Warner Brothers Network.

According to the Warner Brothers website, the show is based on "Roswell High," a book series by Melinda Metz, and takes place in the New Mexico town made famous by the supposed crash of an alien spacecraft in 1947. "Roswell" follows the lives of three teenagers who have hidden their extra terrestrial identities behind human facades.

The series is produced by writer/executive producer Jason Katims ("My So-Called Life"), director/executive producer David Nutter ("The X-Files"), Jonathan Frakes ("Star Trek: The Next Generation"), Kevin Kelly Brown ("Soul of the Game") and Lisa J. Olin (the upcoming "Total Recall" sequel).

"Roswell" has been airing on the Warner Brothers Network on Wednesdays at 9 p.m., but in an attempt to boost ratings, the show will swap places with "Felicity," which currently airs on Sundays at 9 p.m. Four new shows were released at the beginning of last season, however, only two airtime spots are available for next season. "Angel", the "Buffy" spin-off, has already nabbed one of the available spots, which leaves "Jack & Jill," "Popular" and "Roswell" to vie for the remaining spot. The two shows that do not get picked up by the network will inevitably be canceled.

The sporadic episode shootings that take place bring increased foot traffic to downtown Covina, which results in increased business for such places as Gardengate Needlepoint and Coffee Shop, located at the core of the filming action. Although motor traffic is temporarily halted while segments are being filmed, curious onlookers are allowed to watch, but held at bay by hired security guards.

J.R. McGrath, who makes coffee drinks at Gardengate as a part-time job, said that while they are filming, crowds of people congregate outside his store because it is right across from the action.

"It [filming] affects business greatly," McGrath said, stating that practically the entire production staff has wandered over at one time or another to order drinks.

"It really boosts our business because we have the entire crew, actors/actresses coming in to order coffee drinks," McGrath said.

In regards to meeting the actors/actresses, McGrath said that "the guys are cool, the girls seem to be a little stuck up." He said he has met "all of them" as they often come over to the eager fans during filming breaks to sign autographs and take pictures.

Ranae Graham, owner of Southwest Constructors (electrical contractors), had the unique opportunity of renting to the filming company for the filming one of the "Roswell" episodes. Graham owns a warehouse just off of Citrus, which attracted attention because it was a "very large, open building," she said.

Graham said she was approached by a property management employee (who worked for the series) that walked into her office and asked if she would be interested in renting the building for two days.

"We negotiated a fee and they rented it out," Graham said.

Of the two days spent shooting, one day was needed for the crew to set up and shoot, and the next day was used to clean up, although no major transformations occurred in the building. "We just had to take the trucks out. Everything else we shoved back into the shelf areas," Graham said.

Describing the whole experience as "very interesting to see," Graham was surprised at the length of the clip that was actually aired on television. "The part that was filmed here was on television maybe one minute, and they were in the building actually filming probably

Continued on page 9

Cusack discusses career, upcoming movie

Jazmine Ponce
Arts & Entertainment Editor

John Cusack, an established actor from such films as "The Grifters," "Being John Malkovich," "Grosse Pointe Blank" and such 80's generational films as "Better Off Dead," "Sixteen Candles" and "Say Anything" sat down for an interview at the Century City Hotel to promote his new movie "High Fidelity" opening today.

"High Fidelity" revolves around the love life of music afficionado Rob Gordon, who recently broke up with a long time girlfriend. In the film, Gordon explores his top five break ups. As well as starring in the film, he co-produced and co-wrote the screenplay with close friends Steve Pink and D.V. DeVincetis.

Throughout the film Gordon and his fellow music fiends Dick and Barry constantly make "top five" lists. Cusack when asked what his top five bands were, said, "I don't make list, believe it or not I totally revert from character." Though he does name The Clash and Nirvana as two of his all time favorite groups.

The movie, based on Nick Hornby's cult novel, is originally set in England. Yet, when Cusack read the book to adapt it he realized the novel was universal and could be filmed in his hometown of Chicago, Ill.

"I read it and I knew all the places in Chicago. I knew the record shop, I knew those guys. And the most interesting thing about the book is all the stuff about men, sort of interworking of their minds," he said.

The film marks Cusack's eighth with his sister Joan Cusack ("Runaway Bride," "Cradle Will Rock"). He finds working with his sister is entertaining and easy.

"It is fun. She is just a great actress. So much of acting is like developing a short hand with someone. So, if you know people, it is like you can skip the process and just go to the fun," said Cusack.

Cusack, whose first venture into producing was the cult favorite "Grosse Pointe Blank," plans to write a sequel.

"I just have to write it. Maybe he will be (character Martin Blank) CEO of some bio-tech or dot com internet company."

He is well known for his teen generational films of the '80s and considered a movie icon by fans is not fazed by the attention he gets from '80s film.

"Well all I can say is [that] it is on film," said Cusack.

As a cult film character, almost every Cusack fan seems to love is Lane Meyer from "Better Off Dead."

"People love that movie and I don't understand it," he said.

Though he is not fazed by the admiration he receives, he does enjoy watching his movies with real audience.

"I like to see them play in front of a live house. Not like critics or industry types but I like to sort of see it with people who like movies and want to go have a good time and are not going to be like Rob, Dick and Barry and be above it all. I like watching that because that is sort of what you do it for is to see it play," he said.

In "High Fidelity," the relationships of men and including the ups and down are heavily expressed. To Cusack, the film and novel are universal and easy for men to relate to. He also can find correlations in this movie to his own life.

"I think the thing about the book that is so cool, and hopefully in the film, is that he is telling to you some universal truths about men and their relationships to women and themselves. I think every guy can relate to the fact that they might be with a girl they really like, and they might be with a girl they love, but still after a while they just become a girl.

"Somehow that is just shattering to our fragile male egos. We want that first rush we had when you just get with someone. We keep chasing that dragon and sooner or later you get older and you realize that it is not a real good look when you are like the 45-year-old guy in a club trying to get a date and it al starts to get sad, and you realize you are playing with real bullets. When you get to be 33 it is not to far down the road," said Cusack.

In all of the films he has done he does not have a favorite character but likes the ones from his recent films."

"If I do one that just worked out recently that seems to be my favorite because it is fresh. I liked Schwartz in 'Malkovich' and I like Rob. I think if the film works, then the characters make sense," said Cusack.

In the film, Cusack's character goes through comedic emotional turmoil, but always seems to strive though his troubles with honesty, which is one of the qualities he likes.

"I think his honesty, and somewhere after all is said and done, he has this capacity to be really sort of honest about the way things are and what he really feels. There is a part of him that after he is done bitching and whining, moaning, dragging his feet he looks at things in a hard way. There is a certain courage to that, so that is pretty cool as a character. I think most people are like that, in some ways you are a coward and in some ways you are really brave and they sort of shift back and forth, depending on how their emotions take over," said Cusack.

One of his favorite parts of the movie was being able to work with Jack Black ("Cable Guy," "Cradle Will Rock") and Todd Louiso. One of his favorite scenes in the film is when Rob realizes his fantasy woman is just that, a fantasy.

"I like all the actors. I think they are all so cool. I like I all the stuff with me Jack and Todd. I particularly like the scene where Rob comes back and he has created this 'Vietnam' of this girl because sometimes we do that too. They are not real. We just create these fantasies with these women," said Cusack.

One of the troubles Cusack said he had while adapting the film was the emotional and comical narratives by Rob in the novel. In the film, Rob performs inner monologues, where he speaks directly into the camera, which often worried Cusack at times.

"The thing that was cool about that[the monologues] was that whenever he did it he was in the most painful truth he could find. I would say 'look' if I am going to do it...he has got to hurt, because that is the only way it is going to keep focus.

"If you are doing it to move the story forward, you are screwed. The stuff that is so great on the book is all those interior monologues are so kind of brutally honest. I kept looking for devices to get all the material in. You cannot just get them in conversation, I didn't want to voice over, so finally we thought maybe he should just bust it out and start looking at the camera and confessing. I was worried about doing it when I started," said Cusack.

For Cusack, great things are considered great over time. With the extensive amount of fans Cusack has and the ability to attract films with universal characters Cusack is one of those actors that will almost always be considered good.

"Something is good if it is good like three years from now. Some of the films that I have done I thought were good, they still are. People still remember them they still sort of have a place in people's mind or hearts," said Cusack.

Roswell...

Continued from page 8

four hours," she said.

The segment filmed in Graham's business was that of a garage area where a band was practicing. During the filming, when one of the actresses failed to show up, Graham's receptionist was asked to get her hair and makeup done in order to assume the role. Sebrina Gutierrez, 23, said that she came just to watch one day when one of the girls who was a 'feature' did not show up and they needed someone last minute. Gutierrez said she was paid to play a small, non-speaking role as the girlfriend of one of the actors.

"The part I played was a feature, I'm still an extra, but I'm a little bit more than an extra," she said. "Extras usually don't have their hair and makeup done."

Gutierrez, who had never had this type of experience before, said that while the experience was "really exciting," it is "not something she would pursue."

Although no filming has ever taken place at her business before, Graham said that approximately 15-25 years ago when the series "Knight Rider" was being filmed in Covina, lunch was served inside her warehouse to the cast and crew on a rainy day. The appeal for the warehouse might be because the building is "old and kind of unique."

Graham said she was pleased with the experience as a whole and would rent out her building again.

"Roswell" fans wanting to see the action up close have a short 15-20 minute drive from the University of La Verne. Taking the I-10 west and exiting north on Citrus Ave. is the most direct route to the filming and sets.

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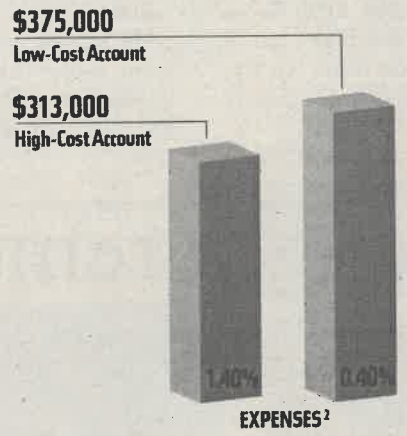
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ULV wins 2nd, drops Harvard in 4

Reginald Miller and Christine Owen Staff Writers

Proving that it can still compete against Division I schools, the University of La Verne men's volleyball team trounced Harvard University on Monday night in the Supertents. The Leopards won in four games, 15-11, 9-15, 15-4 and 15-11.

Although he emphasized his happiness with the win, head coach Jack Coberly said he felt his team could have played more proficiently to "get it done a little better in fewer games.

"The win was good, but I didn't like how we earned it."

Coberly said fatigue may have played a part in his team's overall performance during the Harvard game. The team had just returned from a road trip Sunday, and had been up at 6 a.m. the past two mornings.

"I don't know if we were a little flat because of that, but at least we were starting to execute, we were starting to dig the ball and cover and do all the basics right," Coberly said. "That's all we really have to do right now for the last two matches of the season."

Contributing to the winning effort against Harvard, senior captain and outside hitter Dave Spegon collected 23 kills and five service aces. Senior setter Matt Wright also fueled the team's performance with 50 assists.

"I think both Dave and Matt deserve more recognition than they get. They are both exceptional players and lead the team extremely well," said freshman opposite Jake Swann. "Matt set a great game. Dave hit .318, which is huge for an outside hitter who gets 44 sets."

Coberly said the rotation of players in different positions was a key part of the Leopards' win.

"I thought that Agke Grow, coming in tonight, taken out of libero, carried the team. He simply carried the game," Coberly said.

Grow, who was switched to outside hitter during the third game, had five blocks and five kills.

"Agke is an incredible blocker and came in and blocked well when we needed him to," Swann said.

Another player Coberly praised was freshman Shane Haldeman, who played libero when Grow was rotated.

Coberly said, "Shane came in as the libero and did a good job. He was real excited and pumped, and that's what the position is. It's like going absolutely berserko and digging everything, and that's what you're supposed to be - a digging machine."

Despite severely spraining his ankle during Saturday's match, Swann played Monday with his ankle heavily bandaged. He had the second highest number of kills (18) and blocks (four), along with sophomore middle blocker Tom Hilton, who also had four blocks.

"Jake played really well with his hurt ankle," Hilton said. "Dave played extremely well, Nate [Silva] and Agke played well. We had a lot of guys stepping up."

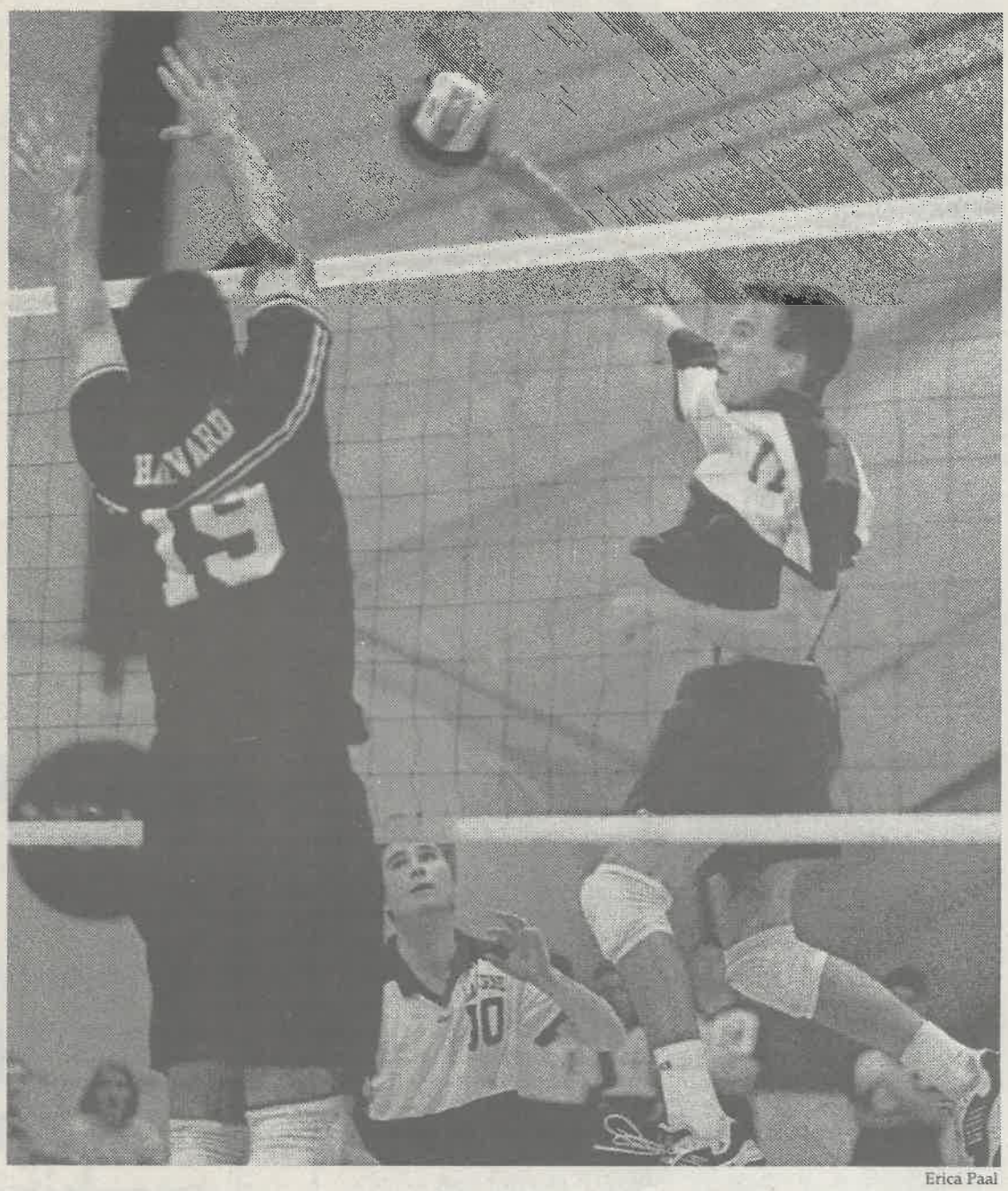
Although there were not hundreds in attendance on Monday night, Coberly said he was pleased that fans were there to encourage the team.

"Especially when you don't have a winning season, it's nice to know that kids will still show up and support the team," Coberly said.

Saturday, the team travelled to Stockton to face Division I University of the Pacific Tigers.

"It seems like a hard place to play. It's a five-hour drive to get up there," said assistant coach Morgan Coberly, "but in the past we've always played them really well."

Keeping consistent with their tough schedule, the Leopards started strong against the Tigers, ranked No. 15 in the Division I polls, matching them point-for-point in the first game until a momentum shifting injury took the wind out of the Leopards' sails.



Erica Paal

Jake Swann (#11), freshman opposite for the men's volleyball team, puts down one of his 18 kills for the night against Justin Denham (#19) of Harvard during Monday night's match in the Supertents. The Leopards won against Harvard, picking up three of the four games. Swann played in the game on Monday despite a sprained ankle.

With the game tied at 12 in the first game, Swann went down with a severe ankle sprain.

"Once Jake got injured we stayed quiet and we stopped playing well," Coberly said. "That carried over into the second game."

The Leopards eventually surrendered the first game, 15-12.

"It made it difficult," said team captain Spegon, "to lose someone like Jake who's probably the kill leader on our team. You can't stay afloat basically."

The Leopards were visibly outsized by their taller opponents and lost the next two games as well, 15-8 and 15-4.

"It's hard to play defense behind a small middle blocking team like we have, especially when we play teams that have huge middle blockers like UOP," Spegon said.

Statistically, the Leopards were led in kills by Spegon, who had 15. He also registered a team-high 11 digs. Wright led the Leopards with 31 assists.

The Leopards play their second-to-last game of the season tonight when they host UC Irvine, ranked No. 18 in Division I, at 7 p.m. in the Supertents. ULV closes out the season Wednesday when they host 12th ranked Cal State Northridge.

Sullenger remembered at dedication ceremony

• Plaque revealed at new ring

Enrique Gutiérrez Staff Writer

With the sensation of a nostalgic encounter with the past, the University of La Verne honored a coach who knew how to impact others' lives beyond athletics.

A short but emotive ceremony took place to reveal the plaque that stands behind the renovated discus ring at the University of La Verne, which is now known as the Jim Sullenger discuss ring in memory of the man who spent the last eight years of his life coaching at La Verne.

The event, which had about 40 in attendance, preceded Saturday morning's Southern California Intercollegiate Conference track meet.

Athletic Director Jim Paschal and track and field head coach Pat Widolff were among those who talked about the legacy of Sullenger, who died on Sept. 8 of last year at age 80, due to a blocked small intestine.

"He started out as an assistant coach, but to be honest, after eight years he's one of my best friends," said Widolff.

When he first arrived at ULV, Sullenger contributed as a volunteer, said Paschal. He then became a "part-time paid volunteer" before becoming the throwing coach for the Leopards.

"He made an impression on me right away," Paschal said. "He gained respect pretty quick because he was an athlete. He was experienced and a knowledgeable thrower himself."

During his time at ULV, Sullenger demonstrated the difference a person can make in other's lives by dedicating time to them.

"I couldn't begin to tell you all the things he did for the athletes. He gave all the time. He was an extremely giving man," assistant track and field coach Cres Gonzalez said. "I was extremely blessed to know him. I know that every single person that he coached took something from him."

According to those who knew him, Sullenger was characterized by his competitive nature and by his love for his family and friends.

Said Paschal, "He was a doer. He wasn't a guy who would sit back and watch. He certainly inspired me when I walked by and saw him at age 80 walking out to throw the shot put and get ready to participate in the senior Olympics."

"He contributed tremendously to the success of this program," said Widolff. "Every year he had at least a conference champion, a national qualifier. But that isn't why Jim meant so much to me. He taught me that family is the most important thing. Don't ever let anything get in between you and your family. Don't ever lose sight of that.

"Another thing Jim taught me, he never stopped learning."

Sullenger saw his career interrupted in 1941 when he was drafted to serve in the Army.

"He was going to be a P.E. teacher," said Dottie Sullenger, Jim's wife for "54 great years."

"It couldn't have been better," she said. "He was wonderful. A true gentleman."

After serving in the Army for about four and a half years, Jim Sullenger went on to work in the jewelry business.

"He had his own business," said Dottie. She also said they worked together at their retail

Continued on page 11

Baseball struck by midseason slump

•Leopards winless in last 3 games

Agke Grow
Sports Editor

After a close 12-11 victory over Pacific University of Oregon on March 18, the University of La Verne baseball team has fallen upon hard times, and has managed only one win in its last six games.

Disappointing performances in the team's last three games have resulted in a 7-6 loss to North Central College (Ill.), a 17-6 loss to UC San Diego and an unsatisfying 11-11 final score against Point Loma Nazarene University in a game called due to darkness. ULV's record now stands at 13-7-1 overall, 9-3 in conference.

Last Friday, La Verne looked to carry the momentum of a March 20 win over Linfield College into its home game against North Central College.

The beginning of the game went well for La Verne, but the team was unable to maintain its lead, and lost 7-6.

After jumping out to an early 6-0 lead, mental and physical errors started to hurt La Verne.

"We didn't have the ability to continue to play hard for nine innings," said head coach Bobby Lee. "It's disappointing to me, the effort level of this group, because the athletic ability is much, much better."

On the bright side, Lee said, "Jon Cruz pitched well enough to win. Nate Devine swung the bat [well]."

La Verne began the game focused, and made outstanding defensive plays to escape the first two innings unscathed.

Junior pitcher Cruz got out of the first inning with a pickoff, as well as a double play turned by senior second baseman Corey Rooper from junior shortstop Eddie Muñoz. Junior first baseman Devine stretched for the ball to end the inning. ULV turned another double play to get out of trouble in the second inning.

The Leopards threatened in the second inning, but a great throw from North Central left fielder Tom Marran caught senior Garren Injijian at home plate. Injijian, who was trying to score from second base on a single by junior third baseman Matt Cresto, dislocated the last digit on his left pinky finger in the play.

"I was coming around to score, and I went in head first to home plate," said Injijian. "Either he doesn't have the ball yet and I'm taking him out, or he has the ball and I've got to slide."

Injijian slid and his finger clipped the catcher's shinguard.

"I went to urgent care, and they popped it back in place," said Injijian.

After coming close in the second, La Verne put together its offense in the third inning. Senior outfielder Masa Ueda led off the inning with a single, but was picked off at first by NCC pitcher Chris Colmone.

Senior outfielder Andrew Woolsey renewed the attack by drawing a walk, and reached second on a passed ball. Devine then singled to left, scoring Woolsey to give ULV a 1-0 lead.

The Leopards followed up with a five-run fourth inning. Rooper singled to left. Junior Aaron Hill, pinch-hitting for the injured Injijian, moved Rooper to second with his grounder to third. Cresto drew a walk, and a passed ball moved the runners to second and third.

Ueda then singled to left for an RBI to make the score 2-0, and Cresto moved to third. Ueda stole second, and the rattled NCC pitcher walked Woolsey to load the bases, and gifted a run by walking Muñoz. With the scoreboard showing 3-0, Devine capitalized on the bases-loaded situation by smacking a three-RBI double down the left-field line to give the Leopards a 6-0 lead.

La Verne then got too comfortable with its lead, and although it held North Central scoreless for the first five innings, ULV failed to score in its final five innings.

"[We were] very complacent," said Lee. "We don't have the ability to finish, to play for 27 outs. I think its a lack of detail."

NCC scored once in the sixth inning, and scored two runs in each of the final three innings to steal the win.

Ueda said, "We had a six-run lead, [and just] had to play catch and pay attention to detail, so [we] don't get beaten by those teams."

ULV had a 6-5 lead with two outs in the top of the ninth inning, but Jared Folley slapped a two-RBI single to left to give NCC a 7-6 lead they never surrendered.

> 'We do a couple good things, then we just kind of sit back, let the ball roll, and just let it get away.'
>
> *–Bobby Lee, head coach*

"It's amazing," said Lee. "We come out and we do a couple good things, then we just kind of sit back, let the ball roll and just let it get away. We made three more errors today, so that's 43 in 19 games."

The team's frustration continued on Monday, when La Verne hosted UC San Diego in a non-conference matchup.

UCSD racked up 17 hits, including four doubles, a triple and two home runs en route to a 17-6 drubbing of ULV.

ULV starting pitcher Ryan Christoph took the loss, and his record now stands at 4-2.

Powerful Triton pitching limited the Leopards to only four hits, two of which came from Injijian, who homered and knocked in two of ULV's six runs.

Five of La Verne's runs were earned against UCSD starting pitcher John Beaven, who was chased after three and one-third innings. Erick Snyder and Yeshayah Goldfarb then held the Leopards hitless for the final five and two-thirds innings.

Rooper went one for two, and scored twice. Freshman catcher B.J. Hand went one for three with an RBI double.

The fielding problems continued for the Leopards, who committed eight errors in the game.

On Tuesday, ULV traveled to San Diego to play Point Loma Nazarene University, and again surrendered a late-inning lead.

Ahead 7-3 in the eighth, ULV surrendered a run, and lost the remaining three-run lead in the bottom of the ninth inning when PLNU's Brad Vericker hit a three-run home run to send the game to extra innings.

La Verne scored four runs in the top of the 11th to take a 11-7 lead, but once again, Vericker came to PLNU's rescue with a three-run homer to make the score 11-10. A hit batsman with the bases loaded tied the game for PLNU at 11-11, and after the inning the game was called due to darkness.

Lee said, "It could be an unbelievably long month of April, or kind of an enjoyable month of April. It's a pretty good group, but potential sucks. Performance counts."

La Verne had an opportunity to break out of its slump yesterday at home against Azusa Pacific University, and will play a three-game series against Caltech beginning today at 2:30 p.m. in Pasadena. The series moves to Ben Hines Field tomorrow for a double header. The first game is slated for an 11 a.m. start. On Tuesday, ULV will seek revenge when the team visits UCSD at 2:30 p.m.

ULV drowns Poets, bit by Bulldogs

Danny Craig
Features Editor
and
Reginald Miller
Staff Writer

The scoring combo of sophomore drivers Tandis Morgan and Summer Hammons sparked the drive for the University of La Verne women's water polo team to defeat Whittier College 10-4 on Saturday.

With 3:17 left in the first quarter, Hammons passed to Morgan across the Poet defense to set up a score on the left side. After Morgan shot one past Poets goalie Sarah Kisselbach, the next two La Verne goals were scored in the same fashion to give the Leopards a 3-2 lead. in the second quarter.

"Summer went ahead and made some assists to get the game started and Tandis finished them," said ULV coach Tim Hugar.

Morgan capped a four-goal game with 45 seconds left in the first half as she scored from the middle unassisted and with a tightened Whittier defense.

Just as the half was drawing to a close, freshman hole set Jennifer Pacheco scored the first of her four goals in the match with five seconds remaining to give ULV a 5-2 advantage.

In the second half, after another Pacheco goal, freshman right flat Emily Tollefson found a place in the Poets goal from the right side as she threw one up and over the head of Kisselbach to make the score 7-2 after three quarters.

With 4:60 remaining in the fourth quarter, Whittier attempted to answer after Pacheco scored her third goal against the Poets.

Whittier point driver Christina Laney scored her third goal at 4:55 to make the score 8-3.

But for the Leopards, the momentum continued.

After Pacheco scored her fourth goal at 3:12, freshman wing Jennifer Brady capped ULV's 10-point performance by scoring from midtank with four seconds left on the shot clock and 2:12 in the match.

Despite a late Poets score at the one-minute mark, Whittier finished the match tired and defeated.

"La Verne played well. We didn't play our game," said Poets coach Maureen Travers. Travers said she was disappointed with the point differential in comparison with her team's efforts.

"La Verne might be a better team, but their not a six-goal better team," she said. Travers' squad will go on to play Pomona-Pitzer College in league competition.

The victory over Whittier gives the Leopards a 1-0 record in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SCIAC).

"It's a good way to start our first league game," said Morgan.

Morgan said the squad has high expectations for SCIAC competition, including the No. 1 -ranked team in the nation in Division III, Redlands University.

"I think if we can come out as strong as we did in the first quarter and play out a good four quarters, then I think we have a chance against them [Redlands]," said Morgan.

Unfortunately, that was not the case as the Leopards suffered a 7-3 setback at the hands of the Bulldogs Wednesday, dropping their conference record to 1-1.

Things were looking good for the Leopards after one quarter as they were tied 1-1.

"They have more depth on their team," said Pacheco, who led the team in scoring with two goals.

The Bulldogs roster consisted of over 20 and allowed them to substitute in full squads at a time, as opposed to the Leopards having just a few.

"Usually we are able to outdo teams," said Tollefson, "We are in better shape than half the teams here, We have worked harder than the teams in our conference."

The Leopards play Pomona-Pitzer tomorrow in Claremont, starting at 11:00 a.m.

Sullenger...

Continued from page 10

jewelry store for almost 50 years.

It was not until he retired that he began practicing throwing the discus and the shot put. He found a discus ring at ULV so he practiced there, although he did not think it was up to competitive standards.

"He always wanted a new discuss ring for all the throwers," said Sullenger.

That is how Jim's relationship with ULV began.

"He was so dedicated, so honest," said Dottie. "He enjoyed working with the students."

Senior Andrew Woolsey, who was present representing the Associated Student Federation Forum, said he was influenced by Jim's passion at what he did.

"I think that's the biggest thing in life. If you love what you do and you are sincere about it you're going to affect a lot of people and I think that's obvious today," he said.

The plaque was possible in part by donations of ASF and by Sullenger's wife.

"In years to come there will be several coaches that will train athletes at the University of La Verne in this discuss area. We hope that they would be as enthusiastic, as involved, as caring, as engaging and as competitive in their pursuit of life as Jim Sullenger was," said Paschal.

Sullenger is survived by his wife, a daughter, Sally, and a grandson Christopher.

Golf in bunkers vs. UCSD

Vince Zavala
Staff Writer

Three of five Leopard golfers managed to shoot below 80 in a losing effort against fifth ranked University of California at San Diego.

"Although we lost a relatively close match to a strong team, we left the course with a sense of accomplishment," said senior Scott Garrison, who finished the match with an 86. "We are getting a lot closer to putting up much better numbers."

Senior Steve Lewis shot a team low 77, and the Leopards dropped a close match, 315-307, at the par 71 Sierra La Verne Country Club.

Senior Jim Brooks and junior Paul Gomez finished the day eight over.

The Leopards will tee it up again on April 6 at 1 p.m. when they take on Whittier at the Hacienda County Club.

Leopards run with steady progress

Brice Nixon
Editorial Director



Naoko Yokota

Junior Mario Guerrero (left) placed 6th and freshman Ryan Scot-Acosta (second from left) placed 7th in the men's 1500 meters against Whittier and Pomona-Pitzer last Saturday at ULV. The next meet for the Leopards will be held today at 3p.m. at Whittier. La Verne, Whittier, Caltech and Redlands will compete in the event.

Two freshman had top-three finishes in four individual events to spark the University of La Verne women's and men's track and field teams to victory over Occidental, while the women also topped Pomona-Pitzer on Saturday.

"We were pleased," said head coach Pat Widolff. "We had some good marks, some good surprises. The main thing I was really happy with [was that] we don't have that many women, but they really competed, did a lot of events."

Freshman Liz Lucsko was one, competing in six events, including both relays. She was first in the 100-meter intermediate hurdles (15.61 seconds), tied for first in the high jump (5-0) and was second in the 100 (12.94) and 200 (26.62).

Lucsko's performance was key to the Leopards' wins over Pomona-Pitzer, 86-65, and Occidental, 80-65 at the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SCIAC) quad meet hosted by La Verne (3-1 in SCIAC).

Freshman Brandon Tedrow was second in the long jump, with a mark of 6.68 meters, and third in the 400 (51.31), high jump (5-10) and javelin (48.16). He was also fourth in the discus (133-8 1/2). La Verne (2-2 in SCIAC) outscored Occidental, 102-38, but Pomona-Pitzer topped ULV 90-72.

"We thought we had a chance to beat Pomona-Pitzer," said Widolff. "They scored one-two-three in the hammer, one-two-three in the [shot put] and that was kind of it. Outside of those two events we could have beat them."

At one point, Tedrow, who had just completed the javelin, scratched his last attempt in the long jump to hurry over for the start of the high jump, after which he ran the 110 high hurdles.

In the women's sprints, freshman Dejuana Satchell won the 100 (12.67) and 200 (26.35) and senior Eboni Stanford was third (13.6 and 28.27).

The 400 and 1,600 relay teams took first against Pomona-Pitzer, their only competition in the women's relays.

The men's sprinters were second and third in the 100, topping Pomona-Pitzer's entrants, and first and fifth in the 200.

The men's 4x100 relay provided one of the meet's highlights.

The Leopards were in second when junior Brandon Jones took the handoff and blazed into first. Junior Kephyan Sheppard finished off the race in 42.36. In the 4x400, La Verne was second to Whittier, 3:25.29 to 3:25.52.

Sheppard won the 200 in 22.27 and was second in the 100 (11.22). Freshman Will Lawson's 11.24 placed third in the 100 and Jones was fifth in the 200 (23.15).

Jones' first-place long jump of 6.68 meters led the Leopards, who claimed the top three places in the long jump, first and third in the high jump and second, third and fourth in the triple jump.

In addition to the long jump, Jones was third in the triple jump with a mark of 12.99 meters. Junior Andre Ike leaped 6-2 to win the high jump.

Freshman John Horton edged a competitor from Occidental, 6.30 to 6.26, for third in the long jump. He was nine centimeters short of winning the triple jump with a mark of 13.40. Sheppard was fourth with a jump of 12.29.

For the women, freshman Adriana Ramirez won the triple jump (10.37) and was second in the long jump (4.74). Stanford was third in the high jump (4-4).

The Leopards also had several top finishers in the throwing events.

Sophomore Diane Williams won the javelin with a throw of 112-5, while freshman Amber Clayton was fourth (83-4).

Freshman Stephanie Malesala was first in the shot put (10.86) and freshman Lindsay Main was fourth (10.30). Malesala also placed second in the discus, at 121-1/2, and Main was third behind two throwers from Pomona-Pitzer in the hammer (109-8).

Bobby Vail, a freshman, was second in the discus with a throw of 139-1/2 for the Leopards' men.

In addition to Tedrow's third-place showing in the 400, several other Leopards were in the top-four in the middle distances.

Horton was fourth in the 400 (51.75) and senior Dan Eckardt was third in the 800 in 2:00.35.

Senior Anna Caples was third behind two Pomona-Pitzer runners in the 800 (2:31.62) for the women. Clayton was second in the 400 (63.01).

The Leopards had no top finishers in the distance events except freshman Stephanie Pedroza, who tied a runner from Pomona-Pitzer for third in the 3000, finishing in 11:41.

La Verne did, however, have several competitors place in the hurdles. In addition to Lucsko's top time in the 100 intermediate hurdles, freshman Bev Samano took second in the 400 low hurdles in 1:14.92. For the men's team, Lawson was second in the 400 intermediate hurdles (57.13).

Today, the Leopards compete against Redlands, Whittier and Caltech in another quad meet hosted by Whittier at 3 p.m.

Softball secures 1st place with wins over CMS

Matt Cresto
Staff Writer

Women's softball showed no mercy Saturday against Claremont-Mudd-Scripps and took the lead in the conference standings with a 12-4 record.

The Leopards trailed the Athenas by a game before Saturday, and when the dust cleared they found themselves with the tables turned and the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship in their hands.

Sophomore pitcher Lacey Cramer put together back-to-back wins against CMS, only allowing two runs in both games combined.

The dominating pitching by Cramer allowed ULV hitters to step up to the plate with confidence. They scored seven in the first game and 10 in the second. The second game was called in the sixth inning because of the mercy rule.

Coach Julie Kline was extremely pleased with her team's performance.

"We emphasized fundamental softball, offensively and defensively," said Kline.

The Leopards got the scoring started in the third inning with a two-out RBI double by freshman Gina Meza, scoring freshman Augie Torres. Torres led off the inning with a line-drive single over third base.

The Leopards came back again to put another run on the board in the fifth. Freshman leadoff hitter Libby Ramos slapped a single over the shortstop to start the inning. She was then sacrificed over to third on a bunt by junior Robin Haaker.

With a runner in scoring position, Meza ripped her second double down the third base line, almost decapitating the the CMS third baseman. The double scored Ramos, giving the Leopards a 2-0 lead.

The Leopards decided to put the Athenas away in the top of the seventh as they put together a five-run inning.

The inning was started off with three consecutive singles. Ramos beat out a slow roller in the hole at short. Haaker followed with a bunt-single down the third base line . Meza capped off a 4-for-4 performance with a single to right.

After a force out at home, senior Kadie Tillema powered a one-out single through the six hole to score Ramos.

Freshman Jackie Russo doubled an 0-2 pitch down the right-field line, scoring two runs.

The Leopards scored again on an error by the CMS third baseman and ended the scoring on Ramos' second hit of the inning, bringing in one run.

CMS tried for one last comeback in the bottom of the seventh with a two-out rally, but could only stir up one run, and the Leopards put the Athenas away 7-1 in Game 1 of the double header.

The Leopards did not stop the beating after game one. La Verne jumped out early in the top of the second inning. After freshman Sue Whitcher led off with a single, Russo hammered her second double of the day scoring Whitcher.

The Leopards brought their mashing sticks to the plate again in the third inning, scoring five runs. Torres started the inning with a double. Ramos' singled and Haaker followed with a triple. Meza singled home Haaker.

Whitcher was then hit by a pitch, the first of two in the game. Senior Jennifer Thompson brought in the final two runs of the inning on a double. A double by Whitcher in the fourth inning scored Haaker and Meza.

La Verne collected two more runs to put the icing on the cake in the sixth inning. That was enough for the umpires to call the game on account of the mercy rule, 10-1.

Haaker led the Leopards in Game 2 with three hits. Whitcher contributed two hits and was hit by a pitch twice.

Cramer continued her dominance on the mound from Game 1, and allowed only two hits through six innings during the second game.

"This was a team effort all the way," said Kline. "We win together and we lose together. Today we won together."

ULV heads into its last conference games against Occidental in first place, holding their playoff destiny in their own hands. Redlands trails ULV by one game, but a La Verne sweep at Eagle Rock on April 8 assures the Leopards the conference title and a playoff berth.

Spare Times
Vol. 1, Issue 1
March 31, 2000

Whales make splash in San Pedro

It is not necessary to drop an entire week's worth of spending money, a day of laundry or shopping, and make a two-hour drive, just to get a glimpse of Shamu at Sea World. For just $15 and half the driving time, one can enjoy sea life, unenclosed, in its natural habitat, by hopping aboard the Los Angeles Harbor Cruise "Discover Whale Watching" in San Pedro.

"[Whale watching] is a very cooperative enterprise. We're all trying to show customers a good experience," said Captain Gene Meister.

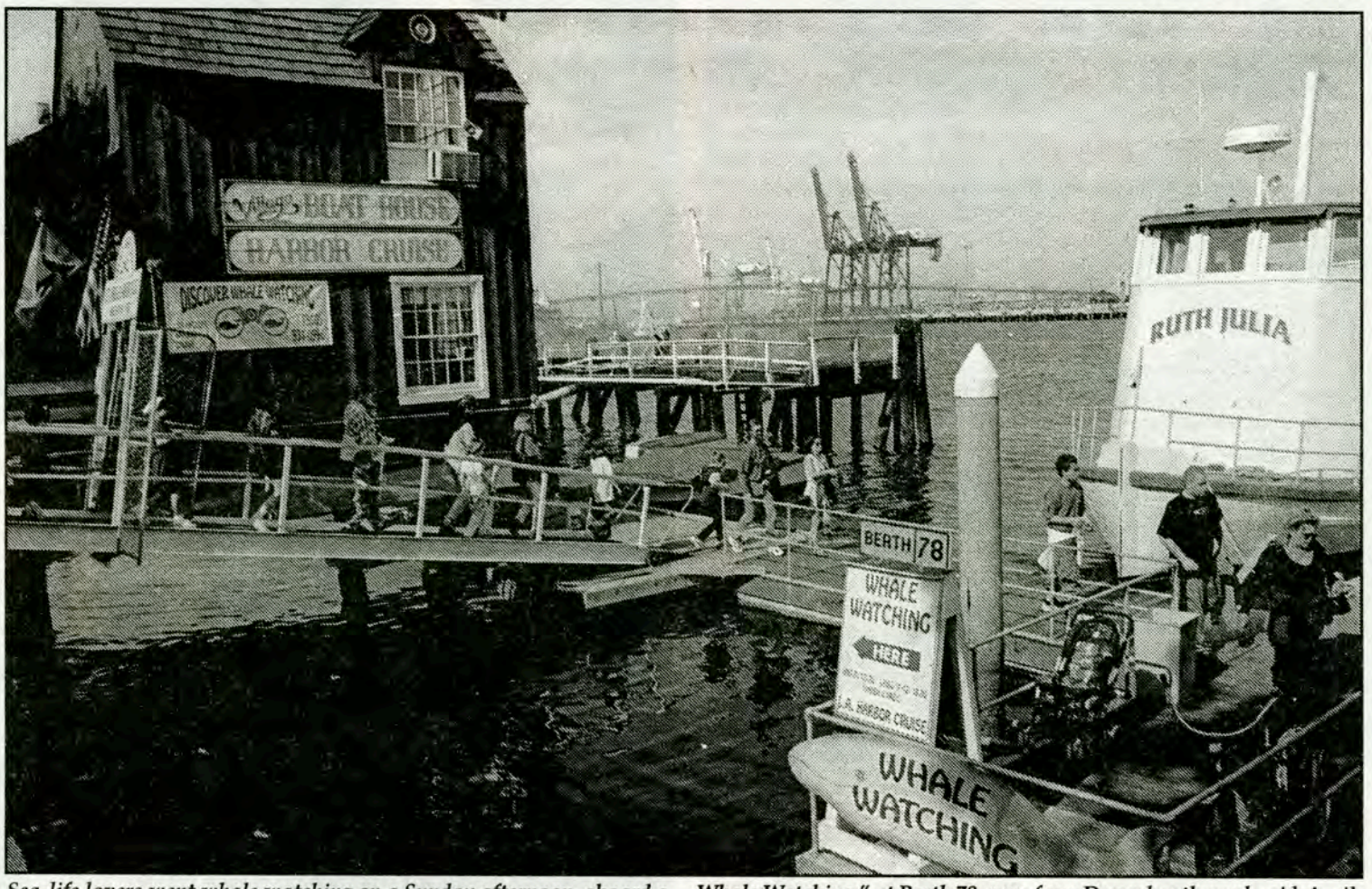
Sightseers will be shown the California gray whales on their annual migration from the Bering Sea to the warm waters of Baja California where they will breed and birth their young.

Although there are many whale watching boat companies leaving the Port of Los Angeles, there are none quite like this. Los Angeles Harbor Cruise is the smallest boat by far, offering a less crowded, less commercialized experience. Comfort comes from both the informative commentary provided by an experienced staff, and spacious lounge areas, rest rooms, an expansive deck, and snacks and beverages.

Meister has been with the company since it opened 16 years ago. "We have probably as much, if not more, experience as the [other whale watching companies]," he said. "The captains are well-trained, and the deck crews are trained in safety and public service handling."

With "Discover Whale Watching," binoculars are a thing

Continued on Page 4



Sea-life lovers went whale watching on a Sunday afternoon, aboard a Los Angeles Harbor Cruise at Ports O' Call in San Pedro. "Discover Whale Watching," at Berth 78, runs from December through mid-April. Adults cost $15 and children ages 6-12 cost $8.

Local theaters affordable to students

Once upon a time, in a land far, far away, families, friends and couples, young and old alike, could withdraw $20 from the ATM and go to the movies ... and even buy a popcorn, soda and probably still have change.

Seriously. Stop the eye rolling. The price of admission and concessions at movie theaters has increased, to say the least. In fact, what used to be a mildly inexpensive pastime has now turned into one of the most expensive three hours, if lucky, (four if one drives slow, gets there early and watches all of the credits roll) forms of entertainment known to man. In fact, the only thing more expensive to do in that short amount of time is drop a $20 on a hand of black jack in Las Vegas and lose.

Rene Luna, a sophomore broadcasting major, sometimes goes to Edwards La Verne Cinema because of its location.

"I go there, but I don't like it because it's too expensive. They don't offer student discounts," he said.

Alas, going to the movies can cost no more than one green Jackson. And no, a couple on a date will not be sneaking food in their pockets and running from the seats to the drinking fountain while sitting in the diviest theater in town. Is this a cruel joke? No.

It has been discovered that most movie theaters now allow outside food and drinks, though, apparently, not enough people have bothered to ask because customers are still walking away from concession stands feeling raped and pillaged.

Instead of paying $10 for a popcorn and soda, stop at the convenience store and buy goodies; or better yet, swing through a fast food restaurant and enjoy trying to eat a meal in the dark.

Other things to keep in mind when choosing a theater are student discounts, stadium seating and the number of theaters, because that will determine the variety of shows and times. It just depends on what aspects of the movie-going experience are more important to the viewer.

> 'I go [to Edwards La Verne Cinema], but I don't like it because it's too expensive.'
> *—Rene Luna, sophomore broadcasting major*

Luna bases his decision on location and prices. "I like going to the AMC Theaters in Ontario because it's cheaper and it offers student discounts. It's also a cool environment, there are a lot of people," Luna said.

Sean Smith, a graduate student, does not agree with Luna's theater picks.

"AMC doesn't put the movie times in the newspaper ads Monday through Friday," he said. "Edwards does. I prefer Edwards in the [Ontario] Mills because there's a student discount, it's more comfortable and the parking is better."

Below is a list of popular movie theaters including the pertinent information to make a wise decision for the next movie night.

Edwards La Verne Cinema
1950 Foothill Blvd., La Verne
(909) 392-4885
General admission: $7.50
Matinee: $4.50
Stadium seating: yes, some theaters
Allow outside food: yes
The cool thing is: it is just a hop, skip and a jump

Continued on Page 3

Alternatives to Boredom



New country western nightspot draws in crowds from San Gabriel and Inland valleys.

Page 2



BCA students combine travel with study in European, Asian, Latin American countries.

Page 3

University of La Verne
1950 Third St.
La Verne, CA 91750

Country die-hards two-step to Montana's

Montana's, the Inland Empire's newest country western nightspot, opened just more than two months ago in San Dimas and is already drawing in country-crazed crowds.

The club, formerly known as the Western Connection, was bought Jan. 1 by Jim Grant, a quintessential entreprenuer, and it took five weeks to retro fit it.

"[Business] is going superb, better than we planned," Grant said.

Montana's facilities include a full bar, a 2,000-plus square foot dance floor, including an upper level dance area and even a couple of pool tables. There are also plenty of bar stools with tables, and booths situated around the dance floor.

The club gives off a country feel not only with the music and customers in wranglers and cowboy hats, but also by the cowhide-covered chairs and the sparkling saddle hanging from the dance floor ceiling.

Free dance lessons are offered every evening except Monday, when Montana's is closed, but available for private parties. Cover charge for open dance floor is $5.

Montana's schedule of events is as follows:

Sunday is West Coast Swing Night and lessons begin at 6:30 p.m. and there is open floor at 8 p.m.; Tuesday is an open floor with no cover charge and dance lessons at 7 p.m.; Wednesday is $1.50 for most drinks, $2 bottle beer night and KIK-FM deejays, with dance lessons at 7 p.m.; and Thursday is $2 bottle and draft beer, with no cover charge. Dance lessons are at 7 p.m.

Friday is K-FROG night, with dance lessons at 7 p.m.; and Saturday is KZLA night with dance lessons at 7 p.m.

With some of the popular country clubs being the Boogie in Anaheim and the Branding Iron in San Bernadino, Montana's offers something to this community the others do not—close vicinity.

"There are not many country places around here to start. Montana's is bigger, better," Grant said.

Tanya Hinkle, 22, from the San Fernando Valley, dances at Montana's and at Borderline in Thousand Oaks. She prefers Montana's because "there are more people and a different crowd."

Montana's staff is friendly and personable, having been known to show some customers how to line dance near the end of the not-so-busy evenings.

"The staff won't ever say 'I don't know' to a customer's question. Instead they will say, 'I will get that answer for you'," Grant, who is found meeting and greeting guests at the door on Friday and Saturday nights, said. "At Montana's we treat people fair and give them great music."

Eric Hensley, 25, of Chino Hills, used to go to In Cahootes in Fullerton, the Boogie and Desperado, but now only goes to Montana's.

"I come here three days a week. I like the atmosphere, the music and the hospitality from the people who work here," he said.

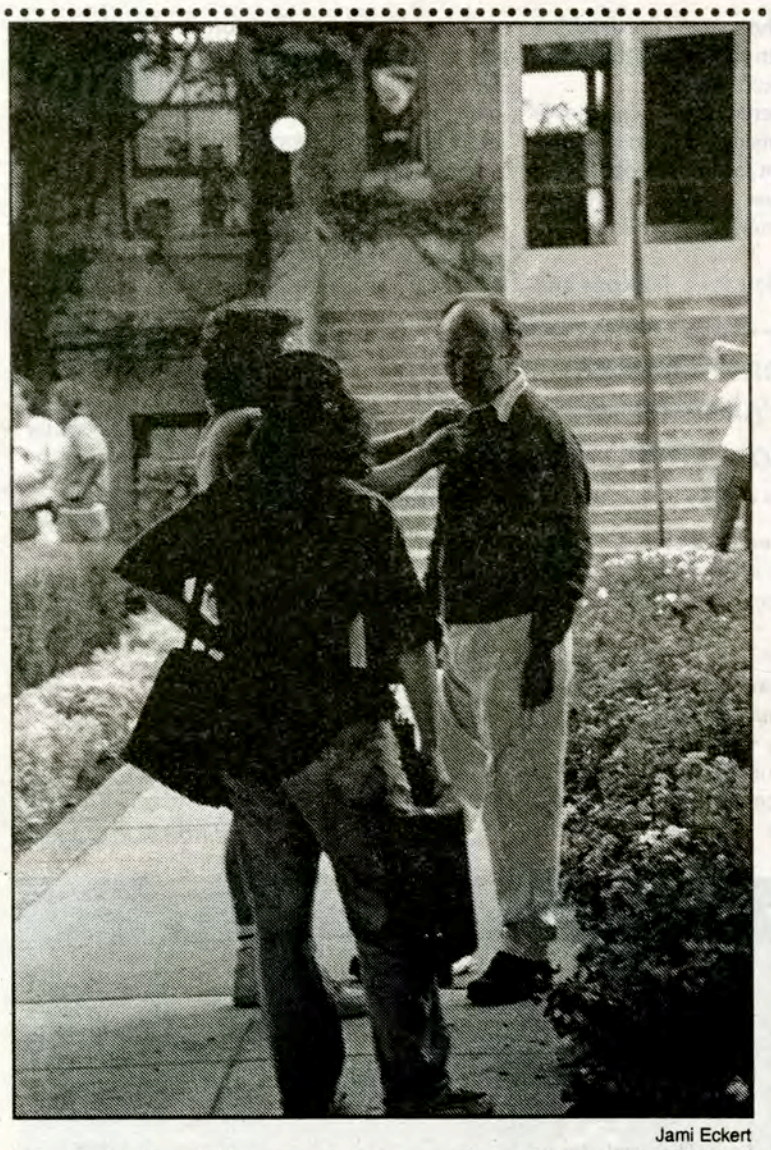
Carolina Franco, a junior business major at the University of La Verne, goes line dancing at the Boogie, Branding Iron and now Montana's.

"Line dancing is just fun, it's something different. The music, the songs are true lifestyle songs. They come from the heart," Franco said. "I also like to see the guys in tight pants."

Montana's is at 657 W. Arrow Highway. For more information, call Montana's at (909) 592-2211 or visit their Web site at **www.montanasnightlife.com**.



Local residents, dressed in their best Wranglers, cowboy boots and hats, came down to Montana's, the newest country nightspot on Arrow Highway, in San Dimas. They danced the two-step, Power Jam, Electric Slide, Cowboy Cha-Cha, Black Velvet and Slappin' Leather.



Jami Eckert

Co-star Kirkwood Smith and crew are shown in front of Founder's Hall in Oct. 1993 after shooting a scene of the film "Seeing is Deceiving." The beginning of the film was shot on campus in various locations, such as Davenport, Woody Hall, student art studio and La Fetra Auditorium. "Seeing is Deceiving" is a psychological thriller about a young psychic, played by Jennifer Beals, who helps Professor of Criminology Daniel Baldwin stop a string of serial killings.

LV attracts Hollywood lights, camera, action

While most University of La Verne students are trying to get out of dodge, Hollywood continues to gain permission from the city to film scenes from many well-watched flicks.

There is no need for the La Verne community to drive to Hollywood, the city of glamour and glitz, to catch a glimpse of their favorite stars. On a free afternoon, grab some friends and a camera, and go walk amongst the stars in La Verne, or at least the memory of their presence.

The first star spot is at the University of La Verne, where **"Seeing is Deceiving,"** with Jennifer Beals and co-star Kirkwood Smith filmed this psychological thriller. The movie was filmed in various locations on campus including, Davenport Dining Hall, Woody Hall, the student art studio and La Fetra Auditorium, Oct. 5-8, 1993.

Also on the ULV campus, **"Best of the Best,"** starring James Earl Jones and Eric Roberts, was filmed in the University Gym, Feb. 13-15, 1989.

"Uncle Sam," starring Jason Adelman and Isaac Hayes, was filmed all over town including Heritage Park, off Wheeler Avenue and Via De Mansion and ULV, Nov. 25 to Dec. 20, 1995 and Feb. 14-16, 1996.

There is no need for the La Verne community to drive to the city of glamour and glitz to catch a glimpse of their favorite stars.

(While still at ULV, glance across Third Street at the La Verne Police Department, where none other than actor Christian Slater spent jail time from January to March 1998.

The United Methodist Church, at 3205 D. Street, is where both **"The Graduate"** and **"Wayne's World II"** filmed the famous church scene. "The Graduate," with Dustin Hoffman, was shot in the 1960s, and then the imitation scene in "Wayne's World II," starring Mike Myers and Dana Carvey, was filmed July 13-14, 1993.

Over on Fifth and Sixth streets, between F and G street, **"Inventing the Abbots,"** directed by Ron Howard was filmed April 8-16, 1996.

The end of the 210 Freeway seems to be a popular place for filming. **"Earth Girls are Easy,"** with Geena Davis and Jeff Goldblum, was shot right around here in 1987, along with **"Chips 99"** in December 1998. The ever-popular horror series, **"Nightmare on Elm Street VII"** was filmed from the 210 at Damien Avenue and Sentinel Street, Dec. 13-16, 1993.

Another favorite filming spot is Brackett Airport, where parts of **"Airport," "Odd Couple II," "Executive Decision"** and **"Primary Colors"** were shot. "Airport" with Helen Hayes and George Kennedy was filmed in the 1970s. Comedic film "Odd Couple II," with Walter Mathau and Jack Lemmon, was filmed Sept. 7 and July 24-28, 1997.

"Executive Decision," starring Kurt Russell, was released in 1996, and "Primary Colors" with John Travolta took place at Brackett June 2-4, 1997.

BCA provides study, travel opportunities

It seems the only time people can afford to travel in their lives is when they are making mega-bucks with a great career, and then they cannot afford the time traveling takes from their busy schedules.

Studying abroad is an opportunity young people in college have been given that alleviates having to plan a trip around holidays and summer months, and can still be inexpensive for starving students.

Dr. Al Clark, associate vice president of academic affairs, oversees the University of La Verne Brethren Colleges Abroad (BCA) program. He said studying abroad can be the most memorable part of a college career. "[Students] will learn about other people and their culture while learning about themselves," he said. "They will come back loving places they've been and, at same time, have a greater appreciation of here.

"Long after they've forgotten every word they ever read in school, they'll be telling their grandchildren about their trip abroad. Even the bad experiences are fun to come and tell about," he said.

ULV offers the BCA program to its traditional undergraduate students on the main campus. BCA, approaching 40 years in existence, allows students to choose from a variety of European, Asian and Latin American countries. In Europe, students can study in Strasbourg, France; Nancy, France; Marburg, Germany; Barcelona, Spain; Cheltenham, England; and Athens, Greece.

In Asia they can go to Dalian, China; Sapporo, Japan and Cochin, India. In Latin America, students can study in Quito, Ecuador and Xalapa, Mexico.

Students can also study in Israel in the summer, or with the Communications Department during its trips in January, which have included Vietnam and the Amazon.

Angela Mlinarevic, a senior international business and language (German) major, studied abroad in Marburg, Germany from the fall of 1998 to the summer of 1999.

"It was the best experience I've ever had. The culture was so different, the school system was different," she said. "It is great to put yourself in a different environment and see if you can make it."

> 'It is great to put yourself in a different environment and see if you can make it.'
> —*Angela Mlinarevic, senior international business and language major*

Students pay tuition of $12,000 a semester or $23,000 a year to ULV, prior to studying abroad.

The tuition price covers room and board, several short excursions and one long trip, depending on where one studies abroad. For example, in China, the study abroad tuition covers a tour of at least 10 cities within the country.

"Studying abroad is certainly affordable for students particularly living on campus. Then, the cost of going abroad is essentially the cost of a round trip ticket," Clark said.

To be eligible for the BCA program students must have a grade point average of at least 2.5, and juniors and seniors are preferred due to space limitations, with only a little more than 20 total spaces available for studying abroad per year.

"In many cases, we support sophomores who want to go abroad if the juniors and seniors are filled and slots are still opened," said Clark.

The principle reason students do not study abroad, Clark said, is because "it is hard to get out of the ruts we are used to.

"We're comfortable with girlfriends and boyfriends. Change is hard. It's going to be different no matter where you go ... the food, the people, the place," he said. "But, I've never had a student come back and say they didn't like it and they didn't recommend it to every student."

Things students should consider before deciding where to study abroad are the following, Clark said:

1. Students should choose a sight that will provide practical academic needs, having courses that will help them to graduate.

2. Students should determine if they would like to practice a language or if they still need to fulfill a language requirement.

3. Students should decide where they want to go and what they want to see. Also, decide if they want to stay in a big city or somewhere more rural.

Mlinarevic knew she wanted to study in Germany ever since high school. "I have family there and I've taken six years of German," she said.

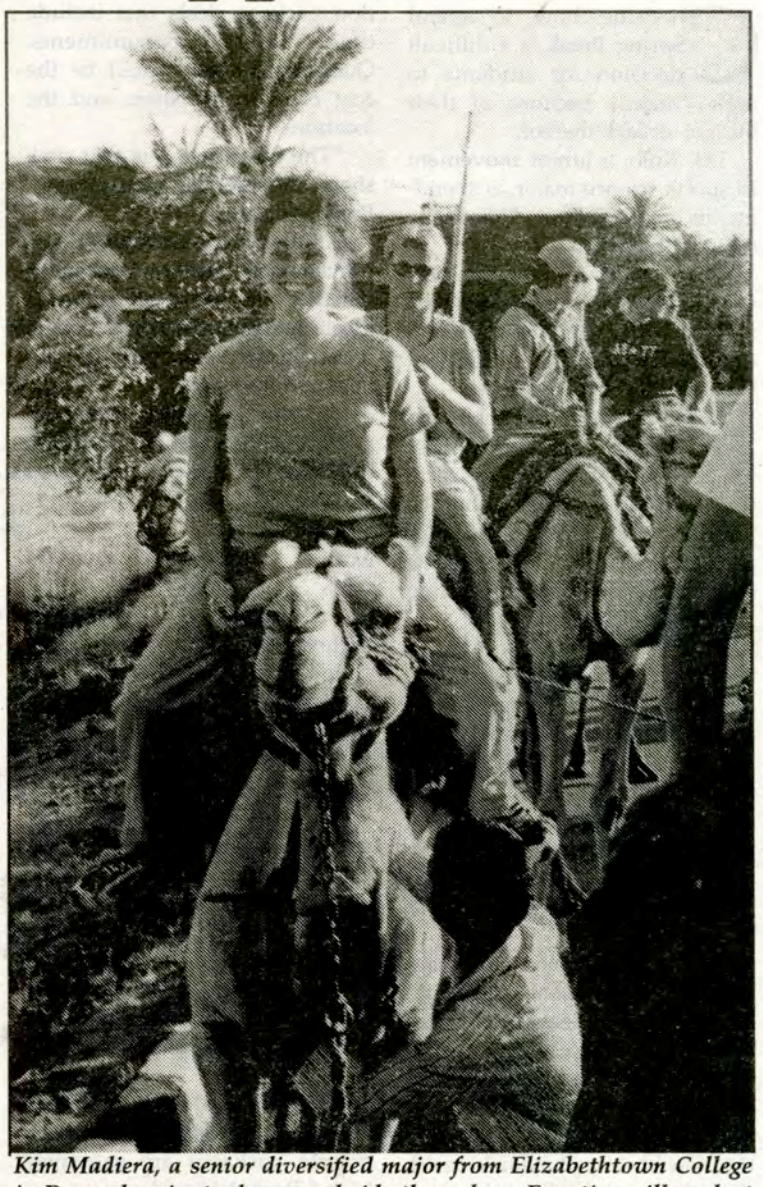
Once the student has chosen where he would like to study, they must go through the application process. It includes a compilation of the following: a completed application, four letters of recommendation, a short essay, a copy of academic transcripts, three 1 1/2 by 2 inch photographs and a $50 application fee.

Studying abroad also covers the Core 310, International/Intercultural requirement. Students must register and attend two class sessions, pre- and post-studying abroad.

Personal budgets vary, depending on whether students plan on traveling, how many gifts they plan to buy and if they eat outside of the normal food budget.

"For the minimum of personal items, going out to eat and not planning to travel, you need at least $500 in European countries, less in Ecuador or Israel, but more in Japan," Clark said. "Although, if you're planning to travel, you'll need at least $1,000 in Europe."

Mlinarevic said the best part of her experience was "probably traveling by train, by boat, by plane to all of the different countries ... Croatia, France, Czech, Spain."



Kim Madiera, a senior diversified major from Elizabethtown College in Pennsylvania, took a camel ride through an Egyptian village last Spring Break while studying abroad in Athens, Greece. She stayed in a restored villa with about 20 other students from the Brethren Colleges Abroad (BCA) program.

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Theaters ...

continued from Page 1

away from the University of La Verne. Within walking distance for automobile-less students.

Edwards 22 Cinemas
1 Mills Circle, Ontario Mills
(909) 476-1500
General admission: $7.75
Matinee (before 5 p.m.): $5.75
Student discounts (after 5:15 p.m.): $5.75
Stadium seating: yes
Number of theaters: 22
Allow outside food: yes
The cool thing is: it has got an IMAX theater.

AMC Ontario Mills 30
1 Mills Circle, Ontario Mills
(909) 484-3000
General admission: $7.75
Matinee: $5.50
Student discount (w/i.d.): $5.50
Twi-lite shows (4-6 p.m.) Monday-Friday, excluding holidays: $4.50
Stadium seats: yes
Allow outside food: no
Number of theaters: 30
The cool thing is: they accept Mastercard and Visa.

Remember as a child wearing pajamas and slippers and bringing a pillow and blanket to watch a movie from between the back of your parents' heads, in the backseat of the family car? Drive-in theaters, although sparse, do still exist and have been found.

Below is a list of the closest drive-in theaters which have yet to succumb to the pressure of extinction.

Edwards Azusa Foothill Drive-in Theater
675 E. Foothill Blvd., Azusa
(626) 334-0263
Opened year round
General admission: $5 per person
Box office opens: 6:30 p.m.
Shows at: 7, 9:30 and 11:30 p.m.
Number of screens: one
The cool thing is: in case the movie was missed the first time around, this theater shows previously released films, from a few months back.

Pacific Vineland Drive-in Theater
443 N. Vineland Ave., City of Industry
(626) 961-9262
General admission: $5 per person
Box office opens: 6:30 p.m Shows at: 7 and 9 p.m
Number of screens: four.
The cool thing is: for avid moviegoers, all of the films are new releases.

Inexpensive vacations offer fun for break

Choosing how to spend Spring Break is a difficult decision for students to make, mainly because of their budget, or lack thereof.

D.J. Kolb, a junior movement in sports science major, is spending his break working. "I need the money," he said.

The key to finding the best vacation deal is going to someone who is going to tell the truth and find the best price for the desired vacation—a travel agent.

Ron Puchalski, from Upland Travel, has been in the business for 29 years. "Looking up vacation spots in a book or on the Internet can be deceiving as far as pictures," he said. "Travel agents have got the experience of getting feedback from others."

When traveling, the most important consideration is budget. "What can you afford? And if it is $1,000, is that including spending money or not?" Puchalski said.

Once a budget has been set, vacation spots become limited. Step two is determining what type of an environment is wanted.

"Next, it is whether you want a warm environment, cold environment, and where you've been before," Puchalski said.

Heavy west coast Spring Break spots are Mexico and Hawaii, and the East Coast flocks to Florida or the Caribbean, Puchalski said. Something to avoid may be vacation package deals that include time share commitments. Questions to ask would be the cost of the time share and the location.

"The bottom line is that time shares are a joke in many ways," Puchalski said.

Another consideration when purchasing a vacation package is whether to make it all-inclusive, meaning it includes hotel, food an entertainment—everything but personal souvenirs.

Student discount rates are another consideration, although they are not very feasible in the United States, except student fares through Southwest Airlines.

Internationally, particularly in Europe, student discounts are given through youth Europasses and youth hostels.

Puchalski said females have an extra consideration when travelling—safety.

"When it is women travelling, we keep in mind location of hotel and security measures," he said.

A problem students may encounter is booking a vacation for Spring Break at this late of a date.

"You should book your trip before fall for Spring Break. Last minute packages are extremely high," Puchalski said.

Some students may think spending a few days in Las Vegas will be their best "bet." Puchalski said that is not always the case. "You are better off going to Mazatlán than Vegas if you are planning to gamble. Vegas is great for a person not into gambling. It's an entertainment city," he said. "If you are into gambling though, you could blow a lot of money pretty quick."

Manny Rodriguez, a junior movement in sports science major, is going to Laughlin with friends. He's got a personal budget of $250. "I will probably go for four days, depending on how long my money lasts," he said.

> 'Last minute [vacation] packages are extremely high.'
> —*Ron Puchalski, travel agent, Upland Travel*

One fairly inexpensive Spring Break idea for students, Puchalski said, is renting a houseboat. "Again, it depends. Are you dealing with people that are really active? If you just want to party, houseboats are great."

Staying by the water seems to be a popular choice. Chris Huson, a sophomore undeclared major is going to Lake Havasu. He has got a $200 food budget. "[Lodging] is free and there is a bunch of people out there," he said.

A few other recommended Spring Break spots are Mazatlán, Cabo San Lucas and Cancún, which are all considered singles towns, Puchalski said.

"Cabo has a lot of clubs, more nightlife and water sports. Mazatlán is great if you want to get drunk every night," he said.

Puerto Vallarta, on the other hand, is more of a couples place.

Another option is taking a cruise. They can last three to eight days.

"Something to keep in mind with a cruise though is age. One person in the cabin has to be 25 or older," Puchalski said.

Chris White, Upland Travel agent for the past year, said, "Cruises are for active people. Carnival cruises are geared toward the younger crowd."

Puchalski also brought up the confinement some may feel on a cruise. "It's not like staying on land. Everything is on board. Cruises are the best value, though."

Here are a few vacation packages:

Carnival "Holiday" cruise
Three-day cruise.
Departures: Fridays, April 14 and 21.
Stops at: Ensenada
Ship facilities: Considered the "Fun Ship," with the Nautica Spa, Gambling Club Casino, Tahiti Lounge, late-night Reflections Dance Club, Doc Holiday's western-themed nightclub and Cyber City virtual reality games.
Price: As cheap as $689, all-inclusive.

Four-day cruise
Departure: Monday, April 17.
Stops at: Catalina and Ensenada
Ship facilities: Same as above.
Price: As cheap as $899, all-inclusive.

Carnival "Elation" cruise
Seven-day cruise
Departure: Sunday, April 16.
Stops at: Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlán and Cabo San Lucas.
Ship facilities: Largest Superliner ever to set sail for the Mexican Riviera, with three pools, Nautica Spa, six whirlpools, spiral waterslide, Casablanca Casino, lounges and bars.
Price: $1,335 all-inclusive.

Apple vacation: "SuperClubs Breezes Montego Bay"—Jamaica
Duration: five nights
Description: Located on Dr.'s Cave Beach, minutes from the airport, a beachfront resort fr singles and couples with non-stop fun.
Price: $886, all-inclosive, except airfare (meals, drinks, watersports)

For more information on vacation packages, call Upland Travel at (909) 985-9691.

Whales ...

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of the past, because the captain of this boat is not afraid to get close to these "gentle giants," as the company refers to them. All boats must stay 100 yards away from the mammals, which still gives passengers an up close view, whether it be California gray whales coming up for air or seals sunbathing on buoys.

Eager whale-spotters do not have to stand on their tiptoes to see over dozens of heads. And, if by chance, some are on the wrong side of the boat, it will not take long to jet over to the where the action is.

Because the cruise is only two and one-half hours, excursionists can spend the rest of the day wandering through Ports O' Call, where there are plenty of fish n' chip restaurants, candy stores, shops and street vendors. Whale watching runs from December through mid-April. Los Angeles Harbor Cruise hours are Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m., weather permitted.

Adults cost $15, children ages 6-12 are $8, and children under 6 free. Discount rates are available for pre-booked groups and charters.

Discover Whale Watching is at the Village Boat House, Berth 78, Ports O' Call Village, Port of Los Angeles, in San Pedro.

Directions: Take the Harbor Freeway (110) south toward San Pedro, exit Harbor Boulevard, follow signs to Ports O' Call and then follow signs to Berth 78.

"Our signage is very evident so that people can find where we're at. [Other whale watching companies] don't promote or spend money on personal signs," Meister said.

For more information, call (310) 831-0996.

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Seals sunbathed on a buoy just outside of Los Angeles Harbor because their beaches are inhabited by people. They gave a welcoming bark to passengers partaking in "Discover Whale Watching."