ULV President
Steve Morgan
A Legacy of Leadership
Changes to meet challenges at hand

Change is good. For those of us privileged to be a part of this community, we have seen the benefits of positive changes made by each successive generation.

The University of La Verne is beginning another significant period of change, one that will transform the campus for decades to come. In this issue of the Voice you will read about the Campus Center Project, a landmark effort that will create an important new building, improve existing facilities and form a virtual crossroad on the main campus.

I am extremely pleased with the assistance we have already received from trustees, alumni, faculty, parents and friends. Our fundraising effort for the Campus Center Project has exceeded $10 million in just over one year’s time, the most this university has ever raised in such a short span. And as more people become aware of this important campaign, we will continue to build support and achieve our financial goal.

Yet in the midst of such change, I believe it is important for us to recognize those campus community members who have accomplished so much with the resources they’ve been provided. Due to the university’s unprecedented growth in recent years, we have been faced with numerous space challenges. Where some issues have been addressed with our efforts involving the Barkley Building, Wilson Library, Landis Academic Center, Oaks Residence Hall, Hoover Building, Miller Hall and the Packing House (now the Arts & Communications Building), other challenges still remain.

I salute our faculty and staff who have been and continue to be patient. Their creativity and dedication allow us to successfully continue our educational mission in spite of the need for expanded facilities.

At this important time in the university’s history, I invite you to visit the campus and see the changes that are underway. I also ask you to get involved, both by giving generously and by spreading the word. Tell others what is happening at La Verne and let them know we are ready to make new friends and forge mutually beneficial relationships.

We have much to look forward to and much to accomplish. I am excited about the projects awaiting us in the months ahead, and I am confident that, together, we will help the University of La Verne continue its ongoing quest to better serve those students who look to us for their educational opportunities.
Hail to the Chief! Here's a president who has earned it

Steve Morgan wasn't too sure about us doing a feature piece about him, let alone putting his picture on the cover of the Voice. That should come as no surprise to anyone who knows this intelligent, dynamic and humble man.

But as the 20-year anniversary of Dr. Morgan's inauguration as president of the University of La Verne approached, there was no question we wanted to remind alumni and friends what he has done for the school.

We are also privileged to have the story written by Charles Bentley, a La Verne graduate, and the school's Director of Public Relations. A more loyal Leopard you will not find. The interview for the story involved perhaps the two most positive men on the planet — one asking the questions, one answering them.

One of the things Dr. Morgan is very enthusiastic about these days is the Campus Center Project, which we also focus on in this issue of the Voice. The Campus Center Project is an awesome undertaking, but as you'll read in the story that begins on Page 10, it has the potential to transform the University of La Verne. The school already enjoys a fine reputation for its academics, its terrific faculty and its caring environment. With the renovation of the Super Tents, the creation of a central, outdoor Plaza and, the centerpiece, the construction of the Sara and Michael Abraham Campus Center building, the university will have a modern, well-defined heart of the campus.

Check out Leo Lines and a spread on Alumni Weekend '04 to catch up on what fellow alumni are doing, and read about how one of the school's most famous alumni was honored at the President's Dinner Gala 2005 in January.

We've also got updates on athletics, and we feature an outstanding teacher, Jonathan Reed, and a top student, Wendy Schwartz.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the Voice. Please feel free to share your thoughts about the magazine with me at (909) 593-3511, ext. 4687 or at ulvoice@ulv.edu.

Sincerely,

Rusty Evans

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Corporate Associates, the premier enterprise membership group in the Inland Empire, provides a forum where business leaders meet and discuss significant issues. Participation will allow you to receive vital information and make contacts with the prominent decision-makers throughout the region.

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ULV RATES HIGH AMONG NATION'S TOP COLLEGES

In the 2005 “America’s Best Colleges” issue of U.S. News & World Report, the university was ranked in the third tier of the National Universities category, part of a group of 52 schools that included Arizona State, DePaul, Illinois-Chicago, Temple and Texas Tech. The entire category, divided into four tiers, featured 248 institutions (162 public, 86 private), all offering a wide range of undergraduate majors along with master’s and doctoral degrees. La Verne was again rated among the category’s leaders in campus diversity.

KEELER HONORED AS OUTSTANDING ADVISOR

The Society of Professional Journalists, the nation's largest journalism organization, honored Communications Department Chair George Keeler with its 2004 David L. Eshelman Outstanding Campus Advisor Award. Keeler, in his 25th year at ULV, was presented the honor during the SPJ National Convention in New York City. In addition to being department chair and a full-time professor, Keeler is advisor for the university's student magazine, heads his department's internship program, serves as advisor to the campus SPJ chapter and is on the board of directors for the society’s Los Angeles Professional Chapter.

NEW CENTERS OFFER INFORMATION, RESOURCES

Two new centers established by the university's College of Business & Public Management are providing vital resources to individuals and organizations throughout Southern California.

The Center for Health & Aging is the first in the Inland Empire/San Gabriel Valley area dedicated to supporting professionals in the field of gerontology. The Center for Strategic Thinking is working with businesses, municipal governments and non-profit organizations as well as community and business leaders to research and resolve strategic planning issues.

“As part of the college's long-term strategy, our mission says to share our resources with the business, professional and academic communities,” Dean Gordon Badovick said. “Both centers offer opportunities to provide outreach service to the region and are different from what already exists.”

SCE PARTNERS WITH AMERICAN SUZUKI

The university's School of Continuing Education (SCE) recently entered into an educational partnership with the American Suzuki Motor Corporation, an agreement that is putting that company’s employees into the driver's seat of attaining a college degree. Under the partnership, SCE will be delivering courses on site at the corporate headquarters in Brea. Employees who successfully complete those courses will be working toward earning a bachelor's degree in Organizational Management.

The agreement is one of many such partnerships involving SCE. Southern California Gas Company, The Boeing Company, Vought Aircraft in Hawthorne and BF Goodrich Aerospace in Riverside are among the businesses and corporations that have enjoyed successful educational

LITERACY CENTER GETS $100,000 GRANT FROM PARSONS FOUNDATION

The College of Education & Organizational Leadership received a $100,000 grant from the Parsons Foundation to help relocate and expand the ULV Literacy Center.

More than 350 students grades K-12 have been tutored free of charge at the Literacy Center, with individuals seeing an average increase of 1.7 grade levels after just 10 hours of instruction.
collaborations with ULV over the past 30 years.

ONLINE CAMPUS PAPER REFRESHED BY STUDENTS

Recognizing the growing need for current information, a group of students have redesigned the award-winning Campus Times Web site to augment the university’s weekly student newspaper. As part of their senior projects, four communication department students – Alexis Carrillo (design), Steven Falls (Web editor), Erin Zabarnik (publicity/consulting) and Brian Ortega (publicity/consulting) – revised both the look and content of the site. Maia Kinsinger and Elizabeth Zwerling served as faculty advisors to the project.

In addition to providing an Online version of the weekly print publication, the new site will also offer Web exclusive stories every Monday and Wednesday during the fall and spring semesters. For a first-hand view, go to www.ulv.edu/campustimes.

FOOTBALL PROGRAM TO HOST GOLF TOURNAMENT

Enjoy a fun afternoon while assisting the University of La Verne football program at the 4th annual Leo Football Golf Tournament. Scheduled for Monday, June 20 at Sierra Lakes Golf Course in Fontana, the tournament opens with a shotgun start at 1 p.m., followed by a post-tournament awards dinner and voice auction. The cost is $125 per-player or $500 per foursome, with the proceeds going to benefit Leopards football.

“This tournament is about those who have made ULV football a tradition and those who will maintain it for generations to come,” Head Coach Don Morel said.

For additional information and to register for the tournament, call (909) 593-3511 ext. 4439.

SPEAKERS FACILITATE AN EXCHANGE OF IDEAS

Throughout the academic year the university serves as host for celebrated individuals for lectures, events that offer a free exchange of information, viewpoints and ideas for students and visitors alike. A few of the recent notable speakers include:

• Sarah Weddington successfully argued Roe v. Wade before the United States Supreme Court in 1973. Since then, she has become a nationally recognized attorney, author and educator. During her visit to the ULV College of Law, part of the Dean’s Distinguished Speaker Series, Weddington discussed Roe v. Wade, its current significance and future influence.

• Tim Wise, acclaimed anti-racist author and director of the Association for White Anti-Racist Education, spoke on a number of topics during a pair of campus lectures. Wise’s visit was co-sponsored by the university’s Coalition for Diversity, which includes several university schools and organizations.

• Jean Lipman-Blumen, noted author and educator, spoke on “The Allure of Toxic Leaders” during her visit as part of the Master of Science, Leadership & Management’s “Coffee, Cake and Conversation” Series. Lipman-Blumen provided an in-depth look at recognizing such leaders, outside influences that strengthen their hold, and strategies to diminish the need for such leadership.

• Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca focused on the question of public safety and its importance in the post 9-11 era during a speaking engagement hosted by the university’s International Studies Institute. Baca, also director of Homeland Security-Mutual Aid for California Region 1, offered his view on terrorist activity potential and prevention in the region.
In his 20 years as president of the University of La Verne, Steve Morgan has helped restore the school to financial solvency and has done it with a smile.
By Charles Bentley

Steve Morgan has long been an admirer of Walt Disney. An avid collector with a particular affinity for all things Mickey Mouse, Morgan appreciates the values that world-famous cartoon icon embodies, and he often speaks about Disney’s vision, imagination and dedication.

Yet when it comes to defining the leadership Morgan has exhibited during his 20 years as University of La Verne president, the true measure can best be found in Disney’s own words.

“Leadership,” Disney said, “implies a strong faith or belief in something. It may be a cause, an institution, a political or business operation in which a man takes active direction by virtue of his faith and self-assurance. And, of course, leadership means a group, large or small, which is willing to entrust such authority to a man — or a woman — in judgment, wisdom, personal appeal and proven confidence.”

First named to the position in 1985 at age 39, Morgan became one of the nation’s youngest college presidents. Twenty years later, he has matched Harold Fasnacht for the longest presidential tenure in La Verne history. Through a period of extraordinary change, Morgan is proud of the transformation that’s occurred during that span and just as proud of those things that have remained constant.

“We’ve seen so much growth and we’re still learning how to deal with that growth. We’re trying hard to become a better place while still finding ways to hold on to what has made La Verne special for so long,” said Morgan. “Our students and the addition of new faculty are what keep us fresh and active and moving forward. And it’s our experienced faculty members and alumni that help keep us in touch with our history.”

Morgan is a third-generation La Verne graduate, joining both his mother, Ruth (Miller) Morgan (1936), and grandmother, Grace (Hileman) Miller (1914), as alumni.

Ironically, despite his family’s history, Steve Morgan initially didn’t attend what was then La Verne College and never imagined he would forge such an enduring relationship. As he recalls it, his first campus visit came when his junior high school class visited the science department.

“I remember touring the chemistry lab. Ernie Ikenberry gave us this enthusiastic talk on chemistry, most of which went right over my head,” Morgan said. “I actually started out as an undergraduate at UC Santa Barbara. Then after my first semester, I came to realize it just wasn’t the place for me and transferred to La Verne.”

Morgan quickly became active in the campus community and even served as student body president his senior year. Along the way, a number of sources around La Verne began influencing his career path. Two individuals who directly impacted his life were former presidents Fasnacht, who closed out his 20-year tenure in 1968, and Leland Newcomer, who was Fasnacht’s immediate successor.

“I remember watching President Fasnacht when I was a student and being fascinated by all the things he did. Somewhere along the way I started thinking that maybe being a college president would be an interesting job,” said Morgan. “By the time Leland Newcomer came, I had pretty much decided I wanted to go into public administration but was leaning toward working in city government. When President Newcomer heard me say that, he told me ‘No, you want to go into higher education administration.’”

Along the way, Morgan acquired plenty of professional experience. Following his graduation from La Verne, he held a number of positions at the university over an eight-year span, the final year spent as vice president of development. From 1976-79, he was director of development for special programs at the University of Southern California. He then served nearly six years as executive director for the Independent Colleges of Northern California.

Through it all he discovered becoming a college president was something he wanted to do. Still, Morgan had never thought of returning to his alma mater before he learned La Verne was accepting applications for president.

One of 80 candidates, Morgan eventually was selected as a finalist. Ben Harris, now chair of the university’s Board of Trustees, had been a member of the board for nearly six years when that presidential search began. He was immediately taken by Morgan’s demeanor and professional abilities.

“I remember being impressed by this tremendous young man with great administrative skills,” said Harris. “He came at a very critical time in the history of the university.”

On Feb. 11, 1985, the recommendation of Morgan for the presidency received unanimous approval during a special Board of

“It is fair to say that Steve is responsible for the outstanding status and reputation the university enjoys today.”

Ben Harris
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Continued on 8
During his presidency, the university has upgraded science and technology infrastructure throughout campus. It has developed distance education and online programs, enhanced the overall curriculum and increased academic research. And it has established a number of campus-based centers, among them the Institute for Multicultural Research, the Literacy Center, the Learning Enhancement Center, the Career Development Center, the Center for Strategic Thinking, and the Center for Health & Aging.

There has been an affirmation of campus diversity as a university priority, including the creation of a “First Generation” program to serve the needs of students who are the first from their families to attend college.

Morgan’s devotion to the university, his vision for its future and his ability to share both his passion and his purpose have proven integral to his leadership. According to Board of Trustees member Larry Rinehart, Morgan’s communications skills have been a key factor. “I have never in my career met anyone who can speak extemporaneously as effectively as Steve,” said Rinehart, president and CEO of PFF Bank & Trust. “He draws the audience to him with his wit and charm, and when he speaks, you can be certain Steve has the full attention of everyone in the room. Add this to the class and dignity that Steve exhibits and you have a natural leader.”

An important factor in the Morgan presidency is the assistance and encouragement Steve Morgan has received from his wife, Ann. During his first 10 years as president, he recruited Ann — herself a La Verne graduate along with her brother, Louis McMurray — to serve as an “unpaid” university employee. She provided leadership for the campus beautification effort, making ULV a more attractive place; played a major role in planning for the Landis Academic Center and Wilson Library project as well as the Oaks Residence Hall Community, plus the refurbishing of several existing facilities; and helped with preparations for hundreds of events (and thousands of visitors) held both on campus and in the Morgan home.

“Even after launching her own career as a psychologist, she continues to find time to participate in La Verne activities and support my endeavors,” Steve Morgan said. “I could not do this job successfully without her support and the many sacrifices she has made, both on my behalf and for the university.”

Morgan never envisioned his term as president would last this long. He believed Fasnacht’s mark would stand for many years, and initially felt 10 years would be “about right” for his tenure.

“But then La Verne is a place where so many people have come for what they thought would be a short while and wound up staying,” said Morgan, who even now doesn’t discuss a clear timeline for his presidency. “Let’s just say I’m closer to the end than the beginning.”

There remain endeavors Morgan would like to see come to fruition. They include the Campus Center Project, the construction of a new residence hall and renovations to several other campus facilities. He would love to see an agreement involving the land adjacent to the university’s Brown property south of Arrow Highway, a move that would create new space for La Verne’s athletic program while freeing usable space on the central campus. And he looks forward to the day when the College of Law attains ABA accreditation.

“Once we accomplish those things,” said Morgan, “I think the university will be well placed for the rest of this century.”

Morgan believes the best is still ahead for the university, and that it is just a matter of imagining what can be and then figuring out how best to get there.

“At the University of La Verne, we make a difference,” Morgan said. “We enable people to pursue their dreams.”
A ULV first: Graduation in January

A class of 336 finds a way to beat the heat and crowds of the May ceremony

By Jamie Black

The first 112 commencement ceremonies in University of La Verne history enjoyed similar surroundings: The promise of spring melding with the bright futures of the graduating class. Then, for the first time in university history, the initial edition of the new class of 2005 was welcomed to the podium on a clear and crisp January afternoon.

On Sunday, January 30, more than 300 graduates participated in a ceremony that was smaller, shorter, and considerably cooler than traditional commencement ceremonies in late May.

“Everything went great. It got a good reception from students, their families and faculty,” said ULV registrar Marilyn Davies, who coordinated the ceremony with Associate Dean of Student Affairs Ruby Montano-Cordova. “It was a smaller, more intimate ceremony. It was great, because students who were done with their classes didn’t have to wait until May. And, we’ll have fewer graduating in the spring, which is good for such things as parking and seating.”

A crowd of family and friends estimated at 4,000 was on hand to view the ceremony. Of the 578 students eligible to participate, 336 new graduates donned their caps and gowns and collected their diplomas.

“I thought there was tremendous anticipation and excitement for the ceremony,” Montano-Cordova said. “Prospective graduates liked the idea of not waiting till May. The audience was very close to the stage and the graduates. We had the audience facing their guests and I really felt a connection between them.”

The 3 p.m. ceremony at Ortmayer Stadium featured University President Steve Morgan, keynote speaker Dr. Antonio Flores and student speaker Mary Wartelle.

Dr. Flores, the President and CEO of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU), spoke about the importance of unity. His mission at HACU has been to persuade Hispanic students to pursue higher education.

Wartelle spoke of the challenge of returning to college after several years away. The mother of two was supported by her family, friends, students and faculty.

“Looking at the number of students who participated, we’re looking at maybe two ceremonies next January,” Davies said. “It was such a positive experience. Sometimes students become detached after they finish their degree and they don’t walk in the May ceremony.”
Dawn of a New Day

The crossroads of ULV’s future is embodied in the Campus Center Project

By Rusty Evans
The Campus Center Project is simply the most ambitious capital project in the history of the school. During the next five to seven years, the Super Tents will be renovated, a brand-new Campus Center building will be erected and a new, multi-level, outdoor Plaza will be constructed to tie everything together and serve as the new crossroads of the campus.

A fundraising campaign has already raised more than half of the $20 million goal through private donations. When the initial phase of renovation is complete, the Super Tents will be called the Sports Science & Athletics Pavilion and serve the needs of the sports science department, intercollegiate athletics and the university’s student-athletes. Student services that previously operated in the Super Tents, such as an alternative dining option, mail delivery and recreation, will temporarily relocate elsewhere on campus until they can move into the new Campus Center building.

Following months of preparation and discussion, the project was set in motion in March. Under the plan coordinated by Brian Worley, University of La Verne’s Director of Facilities Management, work on the Super Tents is first on the list. Athletic equipment, organizations and their office contents, and food service would be moved to allow work to begin.

As he watches the Campus Center Project take wing, University of La Verne President Steve Morgan makes no attempt to contain his excitement. “Over the history of the university there have been a number of occasions where new buildings have transformed the campus and brought it to a new level,” said Morgan, now in his 20th year as president. “I think of the construction of the Hoover Building back in the ‘50s; I think of Davenport Dining Hall. I think of the Super Tents in the 70s and the Landis Academic Center and Wilson Library in the 90s. Now, I think we have another opportunity to take the campus to a new level and truly transform it to better meet the needs of our current student body.”
With renovation plans created by Mark von Wodtke of Claremont Environmental Design Group and structural steel provided through Mike Brown, the Super Tents will get new office and classroom space, new fitness facilities, seating expansion for the gymnasium, improved access with an elevator, and eventually a third level. The new Pavilion will also utilize day lighting, solar heating and natural ventilation to become a more energy-efficient facility.

The first phase of work on the Pavilion is scheduled to be complete by September of this year, and initial shaping of the three-level Plaza’s circular pads will take place concurrently. By the year’s end, the campus hub will look substantially different.

The physical education building adjacent to the Old Gym will then be razed — its personnel and contents moved to the renovated Pavilion — to make room for construction of the Campus Center building.

It is the latter that will be noticed across not only the campus community, but across the nation as well. The Pasadena-based firm Gonzalez|Goodale Architects was recently awarded the design contract, and Armando Gonzalez and David Goodale have promised a showpiece of grand scale that will serve as a “mixing place” for students.

The Sara and Michael Abraham Campus Center will be built with that purpose in mind.

Larry Rinehart, also a member of the Board of Trustees, and President of PFF Bank & Trust, said he was initially skeptical of the pressing need for the Campus Center. Then he took a hard look at the case from the student’s perspective.

“To give ULV more of a bonding-type of experience for the students is critical,” Rinehart...
What Will The Campus Center Look Like?

These examples from Gonzalez|Goodale Architects, which will design the University of La Verne Campus Center building, show some of the spatial elements likely to be incorporated:

A food court not only provides sustenance to the students, but serves as a gathering place and inspires interaction. It also gives the building a sparkling new look.

Designs for long, narrow hallways, low ceilings and extensive brickwork of campus center buildings of the past have given way to the open and airy feel facilitated by vast spaces with high ceilings. The Abraham Campus Center building is likely to incorporate these elements to make a strong first impression and give the new structure a grand scale.

The architects have expressed a desire to maximize the Abraham Campus Center building’s northern exposure, specifically the view of the San Gabriel Mountains. This will be accomplished by the use of glass to create window-walls that invite natural daylight in and create the indoor-outdoor feel that, because of favorable weather is reflective of the Southern California lifestyle.
The Architects

Claremont Environmental Design Group
Plaza, Sports Science and Athletics Pavilion

Mark von Wodtke has built his architectural career on a keen understanding of and sensitivity to the needs of his clients. The successful integration of architecture with nature is Claremont Environmental Design Group’s raison d’être, a vision that has carried von Wodtke and design partner, Brooks Cavin III, through from design educators to one of the West Coast’s foremost environmental design firms.

In August 1978, they combined their private practices under the name Environmental Design Group. They began working together providing architectural, landscape architectural and land planning services. They each have extensive educational and professional backgrounds as well as broad travel experiences.

In 1980-81, von Wodtke and Cavin designed and developed their own office building called Sycamore Plaza, located in the Claremont Village. Sycamore Plaza provides a pleasant work and pedestrian environment. It also expresses important concepts such as natural daylighting and natural cooling.

Since then, the firm has won numerous awards for innovative designs that are energy-efficient and environmentally friendly.

In January 1983, von Wodtke and Cavin incorporated the firm as Claremont Environmental Design Group, Inc. (CEDG). This organization provides integrated architectural, landscape architectural and planning services. Drawing upon their expertise, CEDG is able to provide teams that are uniquely adapted to the projects at hand.

Gonzalez | Goodale Architects
Sara and Michael Abraham Campus Center

Gonzalez|Goodale Architects, formerly CHCG Architects, was established in 1979 on the principle of improving the public environment through design excellence and sensitive client service.

On its 22nd anniversary, the firm is led in partnership by Armando Gonzalez, FAIA, its founding partner; by David Goodale, AIA, its design principal for 13 years; and by John Ferguson, AIA, principal and director of production and quality assurance. Jim Smith, AIA, joins in the management and leadership of the firm as a principal, with 25 years of service.

Today, with a staff of 40, the firm maintains a unique, team-based working culture and a commitment to the positive impact that architecture can have on society.

Located in Old Pasadena, Gonzalez|Goodale Architects occupies a building of its own design. Through its integration into Pasadena’s pedestrian alleyways, its usable urban landscaping, public art, and daylit studios, the building reflects the firm’s philosophy of design for the enrichment of public life.

Since its founding, Gonzalez|Goodale Architects has served diverse public, non-profit, and institutional clients with an interactive, creative design process. As a result, the firm has received numerous design awards and maintains an extensive list of built quality projects across a wide range of building types.

The unique nature of each of these projects is a direct outcome of the unique nature of the client, their site, and their community.

Armando Gonzalez and David Goodale of Gonzalez|Goodale Architects will draw up plans for the Campus Center building.
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said. "It was pointed out to me that when the kids come to campus for the first time, and they come with their parents, the parents look around and say, 'What's the quality of the professors here? What's the quality of the education my child will receive?' The kids look around and they say, 'Where am I going to get together with the other kids?' That is so important to the college experience, the bonding and the friendships you develop.

"If you can't attract these kids from Day 1, to come to La Verne, you've lost the battle. They will go to other college campuses that do have centralized meeting places for the kids to get together."

In November of 2003, the Board of Trustees approved a working goal of $16 million for the Campus Center Project, an amount that was subsequently increased to $20 million. At the February 2004 Board of Trustees meeting The Abrahams made their historic, $4 million pledge with the condition the amount be matched by the rest of the Board and an additional $8 million raised from other private donors. Board Chair Benjamin Harris and his wife, Barbara, followed with a $1 million pledge of their own and the Campaign was off and running.

"Trustees, alumni, parents, community members, faculty and staff are responding enthusiastically to an opportunity to be part of such a historic project," said Jean Bjerke, vice president for university relations. "It is absolutely unprecedented for La Verne to have secured more than $10 million in pledges in barely more than a year. I think people are inspired and motivated by the compelling need for the project, and by the vision for how it will lead to other needed campus improvements. I am confident the remaining funds will be secured to meet the Abrahams’ challenge by the November 4th deadline."

On April 12, a grand celebration near the Super Tents officially kicked off the construction phase of the project as work began on renovation of the massive structure. The Plaza will soon follow, and students, faculty and visitors alike will see the Campus Center Project really begin to take shape.

Abraham says it is then that the excitement surrounding the transformation of the campus will really begin to take off. Then, there's no looking back. It will be a new University of La Verne.

"When it's done, it's going to totally change the future of the school, I think," Abraham said. "It will attract students. I'm not going to say better students. But you're going to be able to compete for students who liked the school but maybe they didn't like the facilities. That's the reason we're doing this."

For more information on the Campus Center Project, log on to www.ulv.edu/ur/campuscenter.

Sara and Michael Abraham

For Sara and Michael Abraham, there was something about the University of La Verne that tugged at their hearts. A highly successful Newport Beach businessman, Michael Abraham found something at La Verne that made him nostalgic for his own college days of the 1950s at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Neither of the Abrahams is an alumnus of ULV, nor do they have family members who are. But when Michael Abrahams' friend, Richard Landis, asked him to join the Board of Trustees in 2001, he accepted.

Two years later, when the Board approved plans to privately raise $16 million for the Campus Center Project, Abraham stepped up and made a pledge of $4 million on the condition that the rest of the board match that amount and that an additional $8 million be raised within a reasonable period of time.

"From the day I joined the board, I sensed that there was not a student union/campus center," Abraham said. "So I thought that that was something that was going to be very necessary. My wife and I, in our family trust, have set aside a very significant gift, but that would only occur at our deaths. So I decided rather than to wait until we had passed on that we'd make a commitment or make the gift to really spur the development of that center."

"I'd agreed to give a million dollars, but the whole purpose of the challenge was to get this done sooner than later and I hope that is what happens. I'm 68. I didn't want this to go on for 10 or 15 years. I wanted to hopefully see it while I was alive. That was the purpose of the challenge and also to spur the other members of the board to perhaps be more generous than maybe what they had thought they would give."

The Abrahams' pledge gave ULV president Steve Morgan something to work with right away.

"Michael and Sara Abraham's gift to the campaign is a president's dream come true," Morgan said. "To have people step up with a $4 million challenge in a campaign such as this is the kind of prime that every pump needs. It's really set the pace for the campaign and it's taken the university to a new fund raising level."

"I think Mike and Sara really believe in the type of students we serve at La Verne. Mike really sees the importance of leveling the playing field and making sure all of the cultures of California have an opportunity for higher education. He sees the University of La Verne as the kind of institution that will provide that opportunity for a variety of students, and I think that's why he stepped out with this kind of support."

DONOR PROFILE

It’s ULV students such as ASF president Dana McJunkin, center, who have inspired Sara and Michael Abraham to invest their time and resources into the future of the university. The Campus Center will be named after the Abrahams.
An update on where ULV alumni are and what they're up to

Send us your Leo Lines for the next edition of the Voice!
See the back cover of this issue.

1950s
Marilyn (Waters) '55 and Lloyd Lapp '59 - This is our “Golden Summer” celebration. We fell in love fifty years ago on one of Orr’s High Sierra Hikes. Our son has treated us to a trip to Denmark, and visits to family in Indiana and Pennsylvania and parts west. We are having a ball! My traveling email is mariloy55@hotmail.com.

1960s
Alice Hall ’60 – Her sixth book, “Echoes of Eden,” was released July 17 at an author’s party at the Community Church of Devore. This release is autobiographical, explaining why, in glitzy Southern California, someone would choose to live such a rustic lifestyle in which heating both home and water with wood, milking goats, and making cheese are commonplace.

Lloyd J. Thomas, Ph.D. ’65 – is the author of Total Life Coaching: 50+ Life Lessons, Skills, and Techniques to Enhance Your Practice... and Your Life is available now from W.W. Norton & Company, 800 Keystone Industrial Park, Dunmore, PA 18512. 1-800-233-4830.

Roger Hall ’66 – was appointed by Governor Murkowski as a Commissioner for the Alaska Public Offices Commission. Roger continues to practice law and teach for the School of Business and Public Affairs, University of Alaska.

1970s
Nan (Lovelady) Copsey ’79 MEd ’93 and her husband Steven, have two beautiful and wonderful twin daughters, Megan and Bonnie. Megan has been on the Principal’s Honor Roll since 2000 and is currently on the National Honor Roll 2003-2004. She plays the piano and trumpet and is a participant with the Granada Hills Charter High School Highlander Marching Band. She loves to draw and paints in watercolor. Bonnie, nicknamed “T-Bone”, plays the trombone plus 5 other instruments and loves to oil paint. Both girls are very active. They love picnics and BBQs and love all sports especially snowboarding. They can’t wait to hit the slopes! Both Megan and Bonnie are past state officers for C.S.S.C.A.R. (Children of the American Revolution) and engage in a variety of community service projects, which also includes assisting with the local VA.

1980s
John Dovey ’80 – moved to the Sacramento area in July after being appointed by the Governor in April to the position of Chief Deputy Director – Field Operations. In his new position, he is responsible for the operation of the 32 state prisons and associated camps, Parole and Community Services and Healthcare.

Jon Neher M.D. ’80 is Assistant Director for Curriculum Development at Valley Family Medicine. He recently received a promotion to Clinical Professor at the University of Washington – the highest level of instruction a teacher can reach.

Rocci Hildum ’83 was recently awarded the first annual Wenatchee Valley Civil Rights and Social Justice Award in conjunction with Martin Luther King Jr. Day observances. Rocci has lived in Wenatchee for the past 12 years with his wife, Alice (Schoenfeld) ’83 and their daughter, Rebecca. Rocci is a Social Worker with the State Department of Child Welfare and is currently recovering from throat cancer — even though he never smoked or used any tobacco products! He got someone else’s cancer.

Elizabeth Germaine ‘85 is currently residing in Roseville, Calif. For almost two years she has been operating her own business, Germaine Fitness at the Roseville Health and Wellness Center. “We provide private fitness training, sports specific training as well as fitness and wellness educational programs and workshops.” Germaine Fitness is preparing to open a second location at the new Folsom Health and Wellness Center this January 2005. Elizabeth wants to congratulate her niece, Lauren Dillon, as she begins her freshman year this fall at ULV – “Go Leos!”

James Kababick ’87 — In the fall of 2004, James Kababick, Director of Flora Research Laborato-
Steve Samaniego

Steve Samaniego decided early in his days at ULV that being a struggling, starving college student wasn’t for him. The young business major was willing to work hard for his education, so he figured why not make his education work for him as well?

So, in between classes, he earned money as a tutor.

“I posted fliers and thought I’d tutor some kids around the neighborhood,” Samaniego said.

But his business quickly took off. Samaniego received more clients than he could handle, causing him to refer callers to friends.

While his new little venture helped pay the bills, Samaniego dreamed of a career with a professional sports organization. After serving an internship with the Los Angeles Clippers of the National Basketball Association while at ULV, Samaniego was offered and accepted a position as an account executive with the team.

Meanwhile, he kept his tutoring business running on the side. After three years, his entrepreneurial spirit got the best of him and he decided to bench his job with the Clippers and move forward with his tutoring service.

“I just saw the potential as it started to grow quickly and I have always been intrigued by business,” Samaniego said. “I saw a huge market and a huge opportunity to make a business out of this.”

Eight years later, Achieving Curricular Excellence (A.C.E.) Tutoring has taken off, as more and more clients are referring his services. This is expected to be the company’s best year thus far.

“La Verne helped me tremendously,” he said. “I built relationships with faculty that I still have today.”

Janis Dietz, Ahmed Ispahani, Rita Thakur and Claudia Munoz are some of the faculty Samaniego calls for guidance.

Networking played a key role in his success as alumnus Chris Byer helped get Samaniego’s foot in the door with the Clippers.

“He has mentored me all the way,” he said.

In appreciation of the university, Samaniego employs students from ULV and is a member of Corporate Associates, allowing him to continue to network.

“Never burn a bridge,” he said. “Really nurture your relationships because you never know how you can help them or they can help you.”

— Ambrosia Sarabia
was tremendous! Taking courses at work was convenient and safe, since I didn’t have to struggle to find parking in a dark and the course schedule was easy to follow! Everything in my life seemed to fall into place after that. I soon met my future husband, Winston, we married in 2002 and we had a beautiful baby girl, Danielle, in 2003. As new parents, we realize how much we instill in our children through examples. They mimic what we say and what we do. I feel confident she will grow to be an accomplished citizen and we’ll stress to her the importance of education.”

2001
Amy Perkins ‘01 MEd ’04 and Garren Injian ’01 were married August 17, 2004, aboard the Destiny in Newport Harbor. Amy is a health science and P.E. teacher at Ramona Middle School in La Verne and Garren is a territory salesman with Pepsi. The newlyweds are living in La Verne.

Joni Moody ’01 — has moved from Claremont to Needham, Mass., in 2002. On May 15, 2004 Joni received her J.D. degree from Roger Williams University Law School in Bristol, R.I.

2002
Navy Seaman Deja C. Collier ’02 – recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes Ill. During her eight-week program, Collier completed a variety of training, which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

2003
Elizabeth (Liz) Lucsko ’03 — Since graduation she has completed her master’s degree in photography from S.I. Newhouse School of Communications in Syracuse, N.Y. Liz lives in London, pursuing a fashion photography career and working for the Syracuse University, London campus, as a teaching assistant in photography.

Jimmy Garcia ’03 married Sheila Mac Corpuz on September 19, 2004 at the La Sierra Seventh-Day Adventist Church in Riverside, Calif. Jimmy sells humidifiers in Riverside. The couple will make their home in Riverside.

Weddings
Nicollette Michelle Castro, a political science major at ULV, will marry Angelo Frankie Alvarado of Phelan, Calif., who is studying public administration at ULV, in July at Descanso Gardens in La Canada/Flintridge, Calif. The couple plan to attend graduate school in New York.

Little Leos
George ’77 and Jeanette (Schulz) Keeler proudly announce the birth of daughter Rebecca Lynne Keeler, born October 2, 2003, in Glendora, Calif.

Larry ’85 and Kari ’93 (Pucci) Redman are proud to announce the birth of their third child, Karly Louise, on July 24, 2004. Karly joins her brother Kurtis, 6, and sister Kalista, 4 1/2. Proud Aunt Donna (Redman) Nasmyth ’88 assisted with the delivery.

Margaret Ramirez ’91 is pleased to announce the birth of her son, Jack Antonio, on December 1, 2003.

John ’90 and Lynn ’94 (Gilbert) Kusleika married in August of 2000 at the La Verne Church of the Brethren. The Kusleikas are announcing the birth of their daughter Analise Noel Kusleika, who was born on December 17, 2002. Lynn has taught at Ruth Musser Middle School for the past 9 years. John coaches football at Alma Loma High School. The Kusleikas live in Upland.

Yaneth Bonilla ’02 — is proud to announce the birth of her TWINs! Daughter Niobe and son Madison were born on May 7, 2004 in San Dimas. Jon Brower ’95 and his wife, Melinda, are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Kate Nicole Brower, who was born September 1, 2004, she weighed 6 pounds, 7 ounces. Jon is the personal assistant for Keith Prager, esq., Melinda is a spokesmodel for U Haul.

Cris (Rinehart) Romero ’96 and former Leo J.D. Romero are proud to announce the arrival of their third daughter Leityn (pronounced LAY-ton) Marie on April 7, 2004. Leityn joins big sister Madison (5) and Jaccelyn (2). The Romeros live in Waterford, Calif., and celebrated their seventh year of marriage in March.

Patricia (Kipp) Holland ’91 (Pt. Mugu) ’96 MBA (Ventura) is married to Jay Holland from Santa Barbara. They have two children, Val (17 months old) and daughter Kealani (6 months old) who are 11 1/2 months apart. The Hollands live in Longmont (Boulder) Colorado.

In Memoriam
Reverend Willard McDaniel ’39 passed away on January 3, 2005. Willard was pastor of Church of the Brethren in Surrey, N.D., from 1960 to 1977, and also served as science and math teacher and superintendent of Surrey School from 1961 to 1978.

Irene E. Henry ’34 passed away on April 7, 2004.

Helen Brownsberger-Ebersole “Brownie” ’38 passed away on November 14, 2004. She was a teacher for 27 years. Helen was a member of the La Verne Church of the Brethren and a Class Representative for ULV.

A love for sweets must run in the Klein family. Roxanne Klein was following in the footsteps of her father, David, who created Jelly Belly candies, when she came up with the idea for crafty candy during her senior year at Glendora High School.

The wheels inside her head started turning and she made a connection between business and one of her favorite pastimes as a child.

“I loved sand art when I was young, and now you can eat it,” Klein said.

From that simple idea, her father’s company, “Can You Imagine That! Inc.” began producing Sandy Candy in 1996. Klein worked long hours at the Covina plant while continuing her education at the University of La Verne.

“I’ve always believed in receiving a college education and it is a good experience,” Klein said.

Despite her hectic schedule, Klein dove into such campus activities as Iota Delta sorority, Orientation Week Leaders, and served as a Residential Assistant.

“At ULV I was able to receive a lot of personal attention,” said Klein.

“I was able to talk to professors and got to know them.”

After graduating with her Bachelor of Arts degree in Business in 2000, Klein has integrated the knowledge she retained from her studies at ULV into her business. She has successfully created and distributed her company’s products.

Since then, Klein has been instrumental in marketing her products as she travels to trade shows and schools. The company currently distributes 30 flavors of Sandy Candy: Candy Pebbles, Bible Candy and Sour Spanks.

Her advice for all those heading into the business world is straightforward and timeless.

“Take things one step at a time, always have a backup, and learn as much as you can,” she said. “It’ll help you with what you do.”

— Ambrosia Sarabia

Roxanne Klein, ’00, has buckets of fun making her Sandy Candy.
Tanya Coker, '04, discovers early at the Dinner/Dance that her leopard wrap helps attract the coolest cats around.

ULV women's volleyball coach Don Flora and his family enjoy an end zone-view of Saturday's football game.
A Spot of Fun

Three days of fall festivities and fellowship helped to make Homecoming 2005 a memorable one indeed.

Story by Ambrosia Sarabia
Photos by Nancy Newman

It was the grandest sight a ULV alum could imagine. Bankers, lawyers, university administrators and captains of industry, adorned in their finest Brooks Brothers suits or their Ann Taylor gowns—out on the dance floor doing the Hokey Pokey, led by the most notorious dance leader in school history, Dwight Hanawalt. Even ULV Alumni Director Beth Elmore was amazed.

"How many times can you get a roomful of people on their feet to do the Hokey Pokey?" she said of the Alumni Dinner/Dance that kicked off Alumni Weekend 2004. "What was great was that alumni who didn’t attend class on the main campus came and got out on the dance floor."

How many La Verne romances were kindled in one of Hanawalt’s dance classes back in the 1940s? Some may have started just like this.

The "Something For Everyone" theme for Alumni Weekend ’04 took on a global scale, as Drinda (’64) and Richard (’65) Luckensmeyer flew in from Australia to meet up with old friends, to tingle at the reading of more Bob Dyer poetry, to once more dance the Hokey Pokey.

The three-day, "Something For Everyone" reunion drew alumni from eight decades. Former Board of Trustees member Bob Walker earned the seniority award as the lone representative of the class of ’34. Walker said he comes to all of the reunions and football games during the fall.

The Friday night dinner-dance was highlighted by the reunion of the formal chorale, directed by Tom Schultz (’59).

"That was the brainchild of Jerry Pence (’49) and Leroy Lapp (’53)," Elmore said.

Saturday’s Street Fair was held in conjunction with the Old Town La Verne Harvest Festival.

"The combination of the Old Town Harvest Festival and the Street Fair really enhances the day," Elmore said. "There are so many things for families to do. All the seats were full at the picnic and it was a gorgeous day, so people could sit and chat or walk around before heading over to the football game."

Alas, in that game, Occidental College beat the Leopards, 43-27.

But Sunday morning brought ULV Recognition Day & Coffee at the La Verne Church of the Brethren, followed by decade reunions at various locations around the city. A Theatre School performance of "A Midsummer Night’s Dream" brought the weekend to a grand finish.
More than 700 turn out to honor ULV graduate and KABC-TV sports anchor

Late in the evening at the President’s Dinner Gala 2005, Rob Fukuzaki hopped up on the stage, took hold of a hot microphone and belted out “The Way You Look Tonight” with a swagger approaching Frank Sinatra in his prime.

Fukuzaki, the guest of honor at the event and recipient of the prestigious President’s Award, probably never thought he’d be singing for his supper, but it was that kind of evening.

Accompanied by the band “The Answer,” Fukuzaki stunned some of those in attendance who were only familiar with him as the pleasant, smiling sports anchor on KABC-TV’s Eyewitness News in Los Angeles. But as he has proven since his days as a student at the University of La Verne he’s got a certain magic behind the mic.

Fukuzaki, who attended La Verne from 1984-88, has it made. The only ULV Communications student to earn the department’s “Broadcaster of the Year” award three years in a row, Fukuzaki’s success as a top sportscaster in the nation’s No. 2 television market made him a worthy honoree for the Gala.

In his acceptance speech, Fukuzaki recalled his days at the University of La Verne when big-time success was still a dream. With college roommate Johnny Doskow — the master of ceremonies for the evening — standing nearby, Fukuzaki regaled the audience of more than 700 at the Ontario Convention Center ballroom with tales of Doskow mooching pizza from strangers, of ULV radio-TV guru Mike Laponis telling Fukuzaki he was “puking” into the microphone, and of his first encounter with then-Los Angeles Dodgers manager Tom Lasorda.

Lasorda even appeared onscreen in a video prepared for the event by Bill Neill. The audience roared with laughter.
is a ULV success story

Continued from 22

as Lasorda feigned ignorance of who Fukuzaki was, looked into the camera and asked, “What, are they running out of people to honor?”

The 10th annual event raised nearly $225,000 for the university’s Student Scholarship Fund. That brought the event’s all-time total to more than $1,250,000.

Board of Trustees member Larry Rinehart also made a special tribute to ULV president Steve Morgan, and his wife, Ann, for 20 years of exemplary leadership.

The event previously honored Sam Maloof (2004); Michael and Jeanette Bidart (2003); Benjamin C. Harris (2002); City of Ontario (2001); Beth and Richard Landis (2000); Neil O’Dwyer (1999); Richard Romero (1998); Herbert Hafif (1997) and Larry Rinehart (1996).

This year’s event was attended by a number of Fukuzaki’s friends and family members, including his parents, Ann and Will Fukuzaki.

Top right photo, Rob Fukuzaki grabs a microphone near the evening’s end and sings “The Way You Look Tonight.” Middle photo, student speaker Wendy Schwartz, the first ULV student to study abroad at Oxford University in England, addresses the audience. Right photo, President’s Dinner Gala Committee Chairman Larry Rinehart (far right) and Benjamin C. Harris, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, (far left) pay special tribute to ULV president Steve Morgan and his wife, Dr. Ann Morgan.
somewhere on a shelf in Jonathan Reed’s office, down at the north end of Miller Hall, you half expect to see a fedora, a bullwhip and a leather jacket.

Like the Indiana Jones character of Hollywood, Reed is young, handsome and a leading scholar and archaeologist. He is a professor of religion at the University of La Verne, but he spends his summers in the middle east, down in the dirt, working archaeological digs — just like the character Harrison Ford brought to life on film.

Reed laughs at the comparison.

“He’s got the hat, the whip, the gun and the pretty girl,” Reed says. “Well, I’ve got one of those.”

But Reed has something else going for him, something Indiana Jones might have envied. Reed is co-author of two authoritative non-fiction books that have space reserved on the shelves of bookstores across the United States. Reed teamed with John Dominic Crossan to write “Excavating Jesus,” followed by the 2004 book “In Search of Paul.”

While some aspects of the book tours, speaking engagements, interviews with reporters and guest expert shots on The History Channel and National Geographic are exciting at times, Reed says that’s about where the romance of the Indiana Jones life ends.

“Unfortunately, most of archaeology is painstaking, difficult work in the field that you work at,” Reed said. “It’s not running around and finding one single thing. It’s digging up thousands of things and being almost overwhelmed by how much material you have and trying to make some kind of sense of the coins and small pieces that you’re analyzing. That’s very time-consuming and sometimes very tedious work as well.”

Ah, but other times, a discovery can take your breath away. At a site called Sepphoris in northern Israel, Reed was excavating the domestic quarters of a house that was destroyed, probably by the Romans, in 70 A.D. There, he found a cistern that had been sealed for 2000 years. After opening it, Reed descended a rope ladder about 20 feet into the...
cistern to find the remains of pots, coins and other things that had fallen into it.

“It was just a fascinating moment, the first person in 2000 years to see what was down there,” Reed said. “And it wasn’t so much that what I found was beautiful, just a lot of common household wares. But I had this sort of sense of immediacy, of intruding into the lives of other people and be the first in 2000 years. It was absolutely exciting.

“It was also exciting because I was the only person down there and I was yelling back up to the others and telling them what I was seeing, what I was finding and, after photographing them, slowly sending them up with the rope. It’s something you can’t totally describe.”

That’s why Reed urges students interested in archaeology to actually get in on the digs. Only through the long days of piecing together seemingly insignificant bits of history into a bigger, clearer picture can they get a full grasp of its meaning.

As co-author with Crossan, Reed is responsible for providing historical facts, based on archaeology. Reed literally reconstructs the world Jesus and Paul walked in through substantiated archaeological discoveries of others and through his own digs. He’s walked the streets of Thessaloniki, sailed the Sea of Galilee, and studied Roman monuments in Ephesus in the search for facts. Crossan and Reed build a rock-solid baseline for their books, based on irrefutable physical evidence.

“What archaeology does is help set the context, sort of shape the world in which early Christianity or early Judaism or paganism in the Roman world flourished,” Reed said. “And you can’t really understand Christianity, Judaism or paganism without understanding the context, and that context has to be recreated by archaeology. That’s why archaeology, to me, is so important.”

It has also changed Reed’s views in a highly personal manner. He says his work in the field has demystified religion and placed it in a practical frame of reference.

“I think, like most people, I used to think that religion was personal and private and it’s something that happens in someone’s mind, and it’s something that’s between themselves, personally, and their belief in their god,” Reed said. “But when you do archaeology and you look at the whole world, how people lived, their patterns of behavior, the political structures they created, religion is intricately related to all those aspects of life. It shapes the way in which they live, how they eat, how they bury people, how they have social relationships with one another, how they view their political leadership. It’s absolutely pervasive.”

Reed says he never thought he’d be a professor of religion, but a History of Christianity class he took in college turned out to be his favorite. Now that he’s teaching the class, he’s fascinated further by the interaction of students.

“I think religion is provocative because everyone considers himself an expert,” Reed said. “It’s one of the few fields where a professor can walk into the classroom and most people will assume they really know what religion is about or what true religion is. So I have to, as a professor, walk into the classroom and spend a considerable bit of time, sort of conversing and dialoguing with people to get them to realize that the study of religion is rigorous and it’s important.

“I think a lot of students come into my class thinking, ‘I know about this and it should be an easy A.’ Then when they start to do the readings and some of the readings are hard, and they start to take the exams and some of those are actually hard, they really get challenged. They sort of wake up to understand how religion functions in society and how it functions in terms of politics, economics and culture and other things.”

With that in mind, it’s plain to see why Reed’s classes are interesting and lively and how religion is as relevant today as it was 2000 years ago. The discussions focus on the enduring questions, ones man has asked for as long as he’s walked the earth.

When not teaching or digging, Reed follows his beloved Arizona Cardinals during the NFL season. He’s also taken on a new hobby: sculpting marble using authentic, Greek hand tools. He says chiseling out a statue one stroke at a time not only gives him a better appreciation for some of the pieces he unearths, but has been a wonderful way to quiet his mind.

“It’s therapeutic,” he said. “Once you get into the process, you stop thinking and you just feel the sculpture taking shape. I try to do it by hand, just the way the artisans did thousands of years ago. But there are times when a band saw comes in handy.”
Women’s volleyball team earns a third-place finish at NCAA championships

By Will Darity
ULV Sports Information Director

The ULV women’s volleyball team completed its 2004 season with a third-place finish at the NCAA Championships, held Nov. 26-27 in Rochester, Minn.

The squad also won its fifth consecutive Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SCIAC) championship, the 18th in school history. The 2004 campaign marked La Verne’s third Top 3 national finish in the past four seasons. The Leopards also extended its record-setting win streak in conference play to 50 consecutive matches. Seniors Amy Kratochvil and Tricia Schary each were selected to the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) All-America teams for NCAA Division II women’s volleyball. Kratochvil, the SCIAC Player of the Year, was placed on the First Team while Schary was a Second Team selection. In addition, both Amanda Thomas and Mandy Sedia were named Honorable Mention All-America.

The La Verne football squad completed the 2004 season with a 4-5 overall mark along with a .500 finish in conference play (3-3) to claim a tie for third place in the SCIAC. The four victories in 2004 is the most by a La Verne squad since ‘99. La Verne notched its three league wins over Pomona-Pitzer, Claremont-Mudd-Scripps and Whittier, while also topping non-league rival Chapman.

Quarterback Brian Guerrero, wide receiver Roger Logan, lineman Jacob Round and place-kicker Doug Rinderknecht were selected All-SCIAC First Team on offense, while defensive tackle Nate Mendoza and safety Gabe Segovia made First Team on defense.

In men’s water polo, La Verne junior Will Broer was named First Team All-SCIAC.
It was a full house at the Super Tents on November 20, when La Verne defeated Wittenberg College to advance to the NCAA Championships.

Amy Kratochvil, left, was a dominant offensive player for the La Verne women’s volleyball team, earning All-American honors, along with teammate Tricia Schary.

In men’s soccer, sophomore forward Steven Lane, right, had a stellar season for the La Verne men’s soccer team, even scoring the game-winner in the final minute of a 3-2 victory over Whittier. Lane and freshman midfielder Ruben Trujillo were both voted onto the All-SCIAC Team.
Six former Leopard greats spanning three decades and 10 sports were inducted into the University of La Verne Athletic Hall of Fame in March. The newest members are former student-athletes Anthony Rice ('97), Tim Hartnett ('72), Jacqui (Zwissler) Campuzano ('97), Leslee Rogers ('96) and Laura Redick ('88), along with former coach Owen Wright.

Rice, a standout in football and track and field, is ULV’s all-time co-leading rusher with 2,661 yards. He was the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference’s Offensive Player of the Year in 1996, and was a three-time First Team All-SCIAC selection. In his three seasons with the Leopards, Rice amassed 3,951 combined rushing and receiving yards and scored 46 touchdowns. His 36 rushing TD’s ranks first in La Verne football history. In addition, Rice earned All-American honors in track and field, placing third in both the 100 and 200 meters at the 1996 NCAA Championships while also leading the Leopards to a national title in the 4 x 100 meter relay in ’96 and a second-place finish in 1997. He collected six SCIAC titles in track and field. He holds the ULV record in the 100 meters at 10.73.

Hartnett excelled in both football and wrestling. A team captain and a First Team All-SCIAC selection in football in 1971 and 1972, Hartnett earned All-District honors both seasons as well. After graduation, Hartnett became a legendary high school football coach in Central California, winning several league championships. In 1997, he won the Lee Eison Distinguished Service Award for his continued support to the University of La Verne.

Wright coached the ULV baseball team to the NCAA Division III title in 1995 and was named National Coach of the Year. In his 15 seasons as ULV baseball coach, Wright compiled 348 wins and guided the Leopards to six SCIAC championships. He notched his 600th career victory in his final season with the Leopards, 1998. Wright also coached La Verne to its only conference soccer titles in 1987 and 1988.

Campuzano was a three-time First Team All-SCIAC and All-West Region selection (1994, 1995, 1996) in soccer, and was SCIAC Player of the Year in 1996. She also was a two-time All-American in track and field, and helped the women’s team capture its first SCIAC title. In her only year competing in volleyball, she was a starter and helped the Leopards win the SCIAC championship in 1997.

Rogers was ULV’s first All-American in women’s basketball as a 1996 Kodak All-America selection. A two-time First Team All-SCIAC pick in 1995 and 1996, Rogers tallied 192 career 3-point goals and ranks second all-time on the NCAA Division III charts in career three-point goals per game average (3.76). After graduation, Rogers played professional basketball in Denmark one year and helped lead the team to the divisional championship, averaging 29.6 points per game.

Redick, a softball player, was a Division III All-American and SCIAC Player of the Year in both 1987 and 1988. In addition, she was a four-time All-SCIAC selection (1985, 1986, 1987, 1988) and an All-West Region pick during the 1986, 1987 and 1988 seasons. She also earned the Jesse Iles Scafani Award as the school’s top senior female athlete in 1988.

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It was 10 years ago that the La Verne baseball team won the NCAA Division III national championship with a 39-9 record, including a 21-0 mark in conference play. But those numbers tell only a part of the story behind one of La Verne's greatest teams.

Once in a great while, the clouds of chance overshadow the course of nature. Such was the case for the University of La Verne baseball team in 1995, and there were several ironies that led to foundation of that team.

The dazzling, three-man starting rotation of J.D. Romero, Greg Vargas and Jeff Doen that spearheaded the '95 championship was virtually non-existent the year before. Romero, the ace of the staff, was not even on the 1994 Leopard baseball roster. Vargas didn’t pitch a single inning the year before, though he was a position player. And Doen, the left-hander who had a team-best 2.53 and earned a spot on the All-College World Series Tournament Team, was primarily a relief pitcher during the 1994 campaign.

Still the biggest irony may have involved eventual World Series MVP Jeff Polinsky.

The 6-foot-4 Polinsky was originally recruited by La Verne as a basketball player. But as fate would have it, things did not work out for Polinsky on the hardwood. That led to his decision to play baseball at ULV, and Polinsky instead slam-dunked opposing pitching on his way to a team- and league-best .441 batting average that season.

“I guess the basketball team’s loss was our gain,” said Owen Wright, coach of the 1995 Leopards.

Added to the mix were steady infielders Brock Whobrey and Mike Smith along with solid outfielders in Jeff Ecker, Dave Madrid and Seth Marrs. The Leopards also got strong contributions that season from Pat Murray and Ryan Jourdain, the latter the team’s Rookie of the Year.

“We had the ingredients to be a fine ball club,” said Wright, who entered the ULV Athletic Hall of Fame this year. “I knew we were going to be good but didn’t know we would finish the way we did.”

ULV’s season did not start on a promising note. The Leopards lost two of their first three games to NAIA foes Azusa Pacific and Cal Baptist — by a combined score of 33-9.

But the team’s sense of togetherness in the early going was not lost on one of the opposing coaches.

“We were a pretty good team in our own right and we took it to them pretty good,” said current La Verne baseball coach Scott Winterburn, who was an assistant coach at Azusa Pacific in 1995. “One of the things I did notice from their team was lots of emotion and a sense of pride in what they were doing. You got a sense that they had something going along with great chemistry.”

The season’s turning point would come in an early-season showdown with three-time defending league champion Cal Lutheran.

“They were pretty much the standard by which the rest of the league measured itself,” said Marrs, who earned All-West Region honors in ’95.

Indeed, the Kingsmen had dominated the SCIAC since joining in 1992, losing just three conference games prior to the ’95 campaign. But the Leopards swept CLU in the three-game set, a sweep punctuated by a three-run, pinch-hit homer by Romero to win the final game, 8-7.

From there, the Leopards found their confidence and sense of purpose. Along the way were some dramatic finishes and come-from-behind wins to complete the SCIAC season at 21-0. In fact, the Leopards won an additional eight games against league opponents in non-league games to complete 1995 with a 29-0 record against SCIAC opponents.

“Once we were between the lines everyone was focused,” said Marrs. “We lost nine ball games that year, but we always won the games we knew we had to win.”

The Leopards carried the momentum of a three-game sweep of Cal Lutheran in the West Regionals into the Division III College World Series in Salem, Va. They beat William Patterson (N.J.), Marietta (Ga.), and Methodist (N.C.), then lost one game to Wisconsin-Oshkosh. In the Championship game, La Verne took a 5-0 lead over Methodist into the ninth inning and held on for a 5-3 victory, the Leopards’ second national baseball championship and first at the Division III level.

“It was a magical season,” Wright said. “It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience with a great group of young men.”

— Will Darity

ULV Sports Information Director
By Jaclyn Roco

Each building, wall, tree and green space at the University of La Verne holds a story waiting to be told. They have survived the passage of time and the inevitable campus changes. History has transformed a turn of the century hotel academy into today’s accredited comprehensive university.

The Original Grounds: Lordsburg Hotel

The Lordsburg Hotel was a palatial, 96-feet high structure that boasted an electric bell in every room. Constructed of wood in 1887, the hotel followed the architecture of its time with cupolas, balconies and domed rooftops connected to towers that cascaded to the sky. Although the hotel was situated adjacent to the Santa Fe railroads for incoming travelers, the hotel never had a single paying guest step onto its porch.

Dr. Alfred Clark, ULV associate vice president of academic affairs, who has assembled a historic “walk” of the campus, explains that the Lordsburg Hotel was a part of the “Americanization” process of California. The hotel, built to attract travelers to the town I.W. Lord named after himself, was tied to the railroad transportation link that nurtured cities like Lordsburg (La Verne), Mud Springs (San Dimas) and most of Southern California, Clark says.

“The hotel sat in this block [where the Wilson Library is now] facing south toward the railroad station, which was where the dorms, The Oaks, are now,” says Dr. Marlin Heckman, University Librarian and author of “The Gem of Lordsburg.” “It could be seen all over the Pomona Valley. There were 10 transcontinental railroads that stopped in Lordsburg, and mail trains came six times a day.”

Nevertheless, the hotel’s failure to generate any money pushed I.W. Lord to put his grand hotel up for sale. A group of German Baptist Brethren took the option of buying the building in 1889 with the mandate of opening an academy. The humble academy they envisioned was on its way to becoming today’s acclaimed University.

Expansion: Miller Hall & Founders Hall

From 1891 to 1917, the old Lordsburg Hotel served its students and faculty, fulfilling requirements for office, residential and classroom space. Then, in 1917, during the start of America’s involvement in World War I, the pressing need for a women’s dorm facility prompted ground breaking for the Samuel J. Miller Hall, dedicated in October 1919 and named after one of the University’s presidents.

Another auspicious event occurred in 1917: The town’s name, a contentious issue for townsfolk, who rankled under area teasing and name calling of “Jesuville” and “Godsville,” changed, following the March death of town founder I.W. Lord. Lordsburg citizens cheerfully submitted names for consideration on the 30th anniversary of the town’s founding. On Sept. 20, 1917, a celebratory mock wedding, held in the old college hotel building auditorium, allowed “Mr. La Verne” and “Miss Lordsburg” to join, and the happy union with two male stand-ins officially changed the city’s name to La Verne. Serving as a bridesmaid at the ceremony was Lois (Miller) Thomas, ULV President Steve Morgan’s aunt (ULV class of 1927).

The new, three-story Miller Hall consisted

What ULV Keeps Behind Its Walls

The roots of an evolution of more than a century are still evident today

By Jaclyn Roco
What ULV Keeps Behind Its Walls

where you can get interesting insights into Clark said. “There are lots of things around architecturally. But that doesn’t diminish its founders. Founders Hall is not a significant edifice, the valley because they say 600 people could Orchestra that played in 1929 for the benefit auditorium, including the Women’s Symphony number of prestigious events took place in its original hotel academy, which was torn down replaced what was essentially needed from the administrative and classroom purposes. It stood vacant classroom space, the building stood vacant 13 years. In 1990, Miller Hall was finally renovated to meet earthquake standards and even had an elevator and outside stairwell installed. Unlike Miller Hall, Ivy-League looking founders, built in 1926, has always served local activists intervened at City Hall and blocked demolition plans. The “stately building with four sets of double columns, strong horizontal lines, finely detailed cornices and crisply drawn moldings” was saved, writes Dr. Herbert Hogan in his book, “The University of La Verne, A Centennial History: 1891-1991.” The preservationists won, but before Miller Hall was put to its current use for office and classroom space, the building stood vacant for 13 years. In 1990, Miller Hall was finally renovated to meet earthquake standards and even had an elevator and outside stairwell installed. At the time, founders Hall was one of the more imposing buildings in the city. A number of prestigious events took place in its auditorium, including the Women’s Symphony Orchestra that played in 1929 for the benefit of the school’s newly acquired grand piano.

“we probably just got rid of that 70-year-old piano,” Heckman said with a laugh. “But founders Hall was a major cultural venue for the valley because they say 600 people could fit in the auditorium. I don’t know where else you’d have an auditorium that could seat 600 people in this end of the San Gabriel Valley. Though spacious for the time period, founders Hall is not a significant edifice, architecturally. But that doesn’t diminish its historic value.”

“Founders Hall is not a terribly exciting building, but it has things that we use,” Clark said. “there are lots of things around where you can get interesting insights into the architecture just by reading what they say. They’re time capsules of statements.”

One of Clark’s favorite time capsules is the plaque etched into the Founders Hall entrance wall that reads, “Dedicated to the cause of Christian education.” In founders Hall, he said, an emphasis on Christianity, an emphasis on the Church of the Brethren, emphasis on those individuals who personally conquered the West to build these things can be seen.

“If you read into what it says, you can see a whole bunch of information. The nice things about these buildings, especially the older ones in particular, is that if you look at them carefully, they have signs that answer and give you insight to what the people were thinking.” Another interesting fact about founders, Clark adds, are the names that founders Hall was dedicated to: neher, blickenstaff, studebaker, hanawalt-names familiar today and indicative that there is a continuing relationship with families still supportive of this institution from the first 50 to 75 years of its existence.

The Odd Building: Woody Hall

Across Third Street from founders Hall, woody Hall doesn’t quite fit in with the other buildings on campus. Its bright red tile roof reflects California’s Spanish heritage, and its entry doors far outnumber those of any neighboring structures. It opened in 1948 as the first men’s dormitory, the only building to be named after someone other than a former president or contributor.

Built during the presidential terms of C. Ernest Davis — who financed woody Hall — and Harold D. Fasnacht, woody Hall is unusual because it was named after a classified employee. Isaac J. woody Hall was named as tribute to the director of buildings and grounds who worked for the college from 1927 to 1957. As a classified employee who served for more than 25 years, woody was also known for donating financial aid to students during the period of depression, wrote hogan in his centennial history book.

woody Hall differs in many ways from its sister dormitory, Miller Hall, which was erected nearly 20 years before. The five entranceways suggest that the men had more freedom than the women, whose dorm did not have doors leading to many of the rooms, Clark said. “everybody in Miller Hall had to check in at certain times at night,” Clark said. “Of course, no men were allowed. Compare that to the men’s dorm. It’s so strange that all of the rooms had their own entranceways. The men could come in and out whenever they wanted, while the women were locked in.”

“Men in the earlier days never had specific hours,” said Heckman, who lived in woody Hall in the late 1950s, “But when parents sent their kids away to school, the school substituted as parents, and that’s just the way life was then. I don’t remember woody Hall ever being locked. We maybe had a key to our own rooms. The Roland Ortmayers were our dorm parents in woody, and he was the coach. You could go talk to them about any problem that would come up.”

Vera Hoover said female students had to sign in with their “dorm parents” every time they went out. Each day, a different curfew time was established. The latest a female could stay out was 2 a.m., a day that was considered rather special, she said.

“We didn’t have any keys,” Hoover said. “We had a dorm mother. From Sunday through Friday, we had to be in by 10 p.m., while on Saturday we came in by midnight. If we came in late, we would get in trouble. It was a neat experience.”

Heckman points out that it was just a different time. Technological advances that today’s students take for granted were luxuries then, out of reach altogether for some; but then, some of today’s students may long for the intimacy and camaraderie that students of the past shared.

“You shared (a room) with brothers or sisters, and so it wasn’t different to come to college,” Heckman said. “There were three people in a room. They were small rooms that had a bunk bed and a single bed and not much space in between.”

“Nowadays, students don’t want a roommate or want to share their room with anyone, but, hey, it’s time to wake up.”

Heckman said students of his generation were involved more with the college, largely because few could afford cars or any of today’s “necessary” gadgets.

“There was a telegraph and telephone two blocks from campus,” he said. “I think about that when I see all the cell phones going off all the time in the library. In those days, if you wanted to telegraph or phone you had to go to the train station. If you got a long distance call, it was an emergency. I remember the television was a 12-inch screen. It had to be in the dark to see it. We didn’t grow up with television so you did things here. Most of us couldn’t go home weekends. It was a residential college, and I think students who don’t participate are losing a lot.”

Jaclyn Roco is a University of La Verne student who received a “Best Writer, West Coast” Award from the Society of Professional Journalists. This piece is excerpted from the Spring 2003 issue of La Verne Magazine, and can be read in its entirety at: http://www.ulv.edu/comms/lvm/sp03/ulv.htm
Wendy Schwartz sets her goals and achieves them, and she does it in the nicest way

By Rusty Evans

Steve Morgan recalls the day Wendy Schwartz showed up in his office to talk — student to university president. Apparently, this college sophomore wished to study abroad at Oxford University in England, the University of La Verne had no program in place for this, and that just wouldn’t do.

“She was very professional through all of this,” Morgan said. “Determined, and professional. Not pushy in any way, but she wanted to get the job done and she was going to do what she had to do to get the job done. I was very proud of Wendy and the way that she handled that and I was pleased that she got the result she wanted.”

Schwartz did study abroad at Oxford, one of the first ULV students to do so.

“It was wonderful,” said Schwartz, a senior Social Science major. “Just studying abroad is a good experience, as far as learning. You have to learn how to live in a different country and deal with issues that come up and different people. I didn’t know anybody. I just went and gave it a shot.”

Well, the process was a bit more complicated than that. To go to Oxford, Schwartz said, she would have to relinquish the precious scholarships, loans and grants that were enabling her to attend the University of La Verne. Then, when she returned, she’d have to re-enroll at ULV. There were definitely some sacrifices to be made.

“We had applied for the Landis Leadership Scholars, and she was selected to be one of the 15 chosen each year,” said Brian Armstrong, ULV’s Leadership Development and Transition Program Director. “And she came back to me and declined one of those 15 spots that she had been awarded because she had been pursuing an opportunity to study abroad at Oxford. What struck me was she’d declined a leadership scholarship a very prestigious one given to just 15 students per year. In so doing, in some ways she’d set herself into an even more elite position, becoming the first La Verne student to study at Oxford.”

The big challenge in doing so was to present her case before a ULV committee that would approve or decline her request to initiate the elite program. That meant drafting a proposal outlining the emotional benefits and the growth and development opportunities inherent in such an endeavor.

“I told her if she prepared her case well the committee would probably accept her proposal,” Morgan said. “I didn’t know Wendy very well at that time, and I didn’t need to tell her to prepare her case well. She would have done that anyway.”

“Grade-wise, she truly excelled,” said Armstrong, who has worked extensively with Schwartz in a leadership capacity during Orientation Week for incoming students. “Many of our students who go abroad do well, but the grading systems are very different. They come back with grades that are not always reflective of their academic abilities as we measure them. Wendy came back with stellar grades.”

“She came back with a critical eye as much as wide-eyed wonder. She was very dismayed with their orientation program. It was sort of, ‘Well, just show up.’ ”

Schwartz, a senior Social Science major, is a classic example of achieving success through hard work and an uncompromising will. While at La Verne, she has earned the highest academic honors and won the most prestigious scholarships. Through her involvement during Orientation Week, she has also reached the pinnacle of student leadership. With her gift for getting others on board to her way of thinking, it’s no wonder she has her sights set on a career in major event planning.

“Many times during Orientation, there were occasions when she would challenge me on assumptions that I was making or decisions that I might make, as director of Orientation,” Armstrong said. “There were some instances where we had to recognize that it might involve university policy. But other times, because of where I’m at professionally, I might say, ‘Well, I’d like to move in this direction.’ She’d ask, ‘Well, how come?’ I’d say, ‘Well, I really like this design.’ Then she’d say, ‘Why don’t we keep looking.’ ”

But she would do it with this tact, that made it seem as though we were working together toward those obstacles. There was never any type of power struggle nor did it ever look as though we were butting heads.”

Armstrong, who stayed in touch with Schwartz via e-mail during her months in England, said the most difficult thing for her will be deciding what she wants to do. “I think if I had to pick a student who embodies what La Verne is about and the kind of students that we want to see graduating, Wendy Schwartz is one of them,” Armstrong said. “Part of the university’s mission statement involves lifelong learning. Wendy has incorporated and is a living example of that mission, adding her own twists, flavor and personality. You can definitely see the imprint La Verne has made on her, and for those of us working here, we can certainly see the imprint she has made on us.”
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