The Class of ’46 stayed connected with a chain letter started 60 years ago.
Celebrate!

Make Your Plans To Join Us On February 24

President's Dinner Gala 2007

www.ulv.edu/ur/events/presidents_dinner
Times are changing, and so are we

I am frequently amazed at just how quickly time passes. Hours turn into days, days into weeks, and weeks and months grow into years at what often seems a dizzying pace.

While we may not always notice it, every day brings new changes to the University of La Verne. How we deal, direct and interact with change will ultimately determine how we, as an institution of higher education, will progress.

As we move forward with the Building on Excellence Campaign, I believe it is important to understand that the ultimate goal of this $42 million effort is to strengthen ULV’s programs and facilities to better serve both today’s and tomorrow’s students. By improving the university’s infrastructure, upgrading technology, encouraging research and supporting the development and enhancement of programs and curriculum, we will secure a vibrant and engaged institution.

At the same time, such progress will not be accomplished at the expense of the educational principals that La Verne has established over the past 115 years. The values this university has passed on to generations of students – personal, professional and societal values that create an understanding and concern for people and the planet – will continue to be at the heart of ULV’s educational mission. We will continue to promote community and diversity, support lifelong learning and confirm the importance of community service, all in the intimate and personalized atmosphere that has attracted so many to our campuses.

To remain competitive among all the many higher education options available, the University of La Verne must grow to meet the needs of its students.

To remain competitive among all the many higher education options available, the University of La Verne must grow to meet the needs of its students.

It is a certainty that time, whether we notice it or not, will continue to go by. But it is up to all of us to assure that, at La Verne, things change for the better.
These stories tell what it means to be ULV people

It was a busy spring and a busy summer and when we finally got around to putting together this issue of the Voice, it looked, at first glance, as though there wasn’t much to present to you.

Boy, was that a false notion.

In fact, cover to cover, I think the stories in this issue are the best we’ve ever had. They keep getting better from one issue to the next and no one is happier about that than me.

Where do we start? Well, as is often the case, we caught wind of a cute little story and decided to pursue it. Some of our alumni have had a chain letter going since their graduation in 1946. That’s seven decades, friends. We were fortunate enough to have Nila Priyambodo on board as an intern at the time and so we wasted no time putting her to work. Nila was editor in chief of the university’s Campus Times last fall and won all kinds of awards as a student journalist. Then she showed us why. When she handed in a fairly short first draft of the story about Mildred Davis, her 22 classmates and their chain letter, it was so good we spiked the first draft and sent her back with the directive, “Give us all you got on this story.” She did, and, as you’ll read, she’s got a wonderful touch with her writing.

Good story + good writing = Good reading.

This hearty group gave their trusty pens (that’s right, no e-mails) a break during Alumni Weekend when they got together for their 60-year class reunion.

There’s also the very touching story about two golf buddies, Bryan Bodine and Tim Roe, both ULV alumni. Tim was going to die of kidney failure if he didn’t get a transplant, so Bryan gave him one of his. Does it get any better than that?

Oh, here’s another one. ULV Sports Information Director Will Darity tells the story of Katie Ford, a ULV student-athlete who signed up for ULV’s Study Abroad program. She took a crash course in Spanish and spent four months in Spain, learning about their culture and lifestyle, and spreading her wings a little. She says she came back a different person. That’s why ULV has a Study Abroad program.

There’s also plenty of news and notes about the university and a major update on the largest capital campaign in its 115-year history, the “Building On Excellence Campaign.”

There’s a lot more good stuff, but I don’t want to give it all away. Remember to use the form on the back cover of this magazine to send us your Leo Line if it’s been a while. We’d love to hear from you.

Editor
News & Notes

George McGovern speaks on campus and President Steve Morgan helps California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger officiate the opening of the L.A. County Fair.

Pen Pals

Millie Davis and her friends from the Class of ’46 have stayed in touch over the years with a round-robin chain letter that’s still going.

Homecoming Weekend

The dedication of the Frank and Nadine Johnson Family Plaza is the highlight of Homecoming Weekend.

Moving Right Along

With a focus on the future and an opportunity to raise a few million dollars more, the university’s Campus Center Project kicks into a higher gear.

ULV Academy

Some of the university’s best and brightest are honored with membership in a very elite group.

Leo Lines

An update on where fellow Leos are and what they’re up to.

Friends for Life

Bryan Bodine would do anything for his buddy Tim Roe and he proved it by giving him one of his kidneys.

Athletics

ULV’s Study Abroad program allowed Katie Ford the chance to spread her wings living in Spain.

Student Profile

Landis Lead Scholar Nick Solis is so intent on getting more male students involved on campus, he’s even organizing a new fraternity.
LOCAL PREP SENIORS GET A TASTE OF COLLEGE AT STUDENT BUSINESS CAMP

For three weeks in July, a group of 25 students from the Pomona Unified School District were given an opportunity to learn more about business while also getting a first-hand taste of the collegiate experience during the REACH Student Business Camp.

Hosted by the College of Business & Public Management (CPBM), the camp provided attendees lessons in management, marketing, accounting, finance and the impact of environment on business. The students, who also received a review of college admission fundamentals, were housed in The Oaks Residence Hall.

“The purpose of the camp is to give students the opportunity to experience college,” said CBPM Dean Gordon Badovick. “Part of the college’s mission is to share our resources with the community. It would be great if they eventually attend ULV, but the program’s goal is to motivate these students to go to college. We want this to provide them a lasting benefit.”

DEAN DUNN HONORED FOR LEGAL WRITING

The Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section’s Centennial Committee has recognized ULV Libraries Dean Donald Dunn’s book, “Fundamentals of Legal Research,” as one of the most influential legal writings during the past 50 years.

Dunn, one of only two law librarians in United States history to serve as a law school dean, co-authored the work with Roy M. Mersky. Published in 2002 by Foundation Press, the 8th edition of ‘Fundamentals’ contains 821 pages and over 200 illustrations covering almost every aspect of legal research.

FORMER SENATOR GEORGE McGOVERN DISCUSSES LEADERSHIP, DECISION MAKING IN LECTURE AT ULV

Drawing on a perspective forged from decades of political involvement, George McGovern discussed United States leadership and decision making, past and present, during an April 20 lecture, “The Art of Diplomacy,” at the University of La Verne’s La Fetra Auditorium on April 20.

Former U.S. Senator George McGovern emphasizes a point during his lecture, “The Art of Diplomacy,” at the University of La Verne’s La Fetra Auditorium on April 20.

FOR LEGAL
UNIVERSITY SCORES HIGH IN NATIONAL RANKINGS

Two national publications released their rankings of the nation’s leading institutions of higher learning, and the University of La Verne earned high marks in both issues.

In its 2007 America’s Best Colleges issue, U.S. News & World Report magazine once again recognized ULV as one of the nation’s top 20 leaders in racial diversity.

Washington Monthly magazine issued its inaugural rankings. It listed ULV 163rd in its top 245 National University ratings, just behind the University of Tulsa and just ahead of the University of Nevada Las Vegas.

ULV STUDENTS ADDRESS PSYCH CONFERENCE

University of La Verne students contributed 14 presentations during the annual Western Psychology Association Conference April 27-30 in Palm Springs.


Undergraduate presenters included Gina N. Curasi, Adrian J. Ferrera, Wayne-Thomas M. La Pre and Veronica R. Macias.

FORENSICS TEAMS EXCEL AT DEBATE TOURNAMENT

A weekend filled with queries, comebacks and conclusions provided the perfect setting for members of the University of La Verne forensics team, which turned in an outstanding showing during the United States Universities National Open Debating Tournament at Occidental College.

Coach Ian Lising’s squad enjoyed tremendous success during the event, which drew 40 teams from California, Oregon and Alaska. Josh Martin and John Patrick, paired as La Verne A, won the championship, defeating Loyola Marymount A, Alaska-Anchorage A and Northern Arizona A in the final round.

In addition, Brenna Lampson and Rob Ruiz (La Verne B) advanced to the semifinals, while Tera Taylor and Michelle McPherson (La Verne C) tied for ninth. And ULV’s Johnny Botkin qualified as a semifinals adjudicator.

VOLLEYBALL COACH PUTS TWO MILESTONES BEHIND

When the ULV women’s volleyball team got off to an 18-0 start for the 2006 season, it also provided head coach Don Flora with two landmark victories.

The first came when the Leopards swept visiting Occidental 30-8, 30-13, 30-7 to open SCIAC play on Sept. 19. As his team successfully opened defense of their conference title, Flora collected the 100th SCIAC win in his coaching career. Just eight days later, the ULV alum earned his 200th coaching victory when La Verne rolled to a 30-5, 30-8, 30-10 win at Caltech.

In his ninth season guiding the women’s volleyball program, Flora has coached the Leopards to six conference championships, five West Region titles, four national semifinal appearances and the NCAA Division III championship in 2001. His teams also hold the SCIAC record with 56 consecutive victories in conference play, set from 2001-05.

ULV President Steve Morgan, left, shares a laugh with California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and children attending opening day of the 2006 L.A. County Fair.

ULV President Morgan, Schwarzenegger officiate opening day of L.A. COUNTY FAIR

Favored with a sunny day straight from a Hollywood script, ULV President Steve Morgan and California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger came together on Friday, Sept. 8, to oversee the official opening to the 2006 Los Angeles County Fair.

Morgan, who is also chair of the L.A. County Fair Association, introduced Schwarzenegger prior to the mid-morning ribbon cutting ceremony that signaled the start of the 84th annual festivities in Pomona.

The governor praised the fair for the fun and excitement it offers as well as the opportunity it provides urban L.A. to reconnect with its historic roots. He also lauded the revenue it will generate from an estimated 1.3 million visitors.

Following the opening ceremony, Schwarzenegger and Morgan toured the America’s Kids exhibition hall, with both interacting with visiting elementary school students and teachers along with other fairgoers.

L.A. County Fair photo

Summer/Fall 2006 VOICE 5
At the kitchen table of her La Verne home, Millie Davis works on a letter to keep in touch with her classmates, just as she has done for 60 years.
Pen Pals

ULV’s Class of 1946 has kept strong the bond forged in college with a chain letter for the ages

By Nila Priyambodo

With the growing technology for communication, like e-mails and cell phones, it’s hard to believe anyone still writes letters. But for the La Verne College’s class of ’46, it has become a custom to them.

Alumna Millie Davis has been corresponding with her classmates for 60 years now through a round-robin letter, a message passed on from person to person.

“We got to know each other so well that we wanted to stay in touch,” said Davis, the ’46 class representative. “We are a support group for each other. We talk about everything from families to jobs to babies to trips. Sometimes the letters would get so thick because we would even include pictures.”

It all started at their senior luncheon, when Marguerite Shamberger had a brilliant idea when she realized that they were not going to see each other on a daily basis after they graduate.

Shamberger had her own experience with a round-robin letter. Her grandmother started one that was continuously passed on in the family from one generation to the next. It was continued for the next 100 years and it is still going.

“I explained the idea behind the round robin letter and everyone loved it,” said Shamberger, who used to write about her marriage because she was the first in the group to get married. “We were not a sorority, but we are as close as sisters. I can tell them anything and they can tell me anything. The round-robin letter was perfect for us.”

Continued on 9
Plaza dedication highlights Homecoming

Circular hub of Campus Center Project is university's new outdoor gathering spot

By Nila Priyambodo

As one school year ends and another begins, the University of La Verne kept alive its longtime tradition of Alumni Weekend/Homecoming by bringing the past and the present together.

One of the events that emphasizes this idea is the formal dedication of the Frank and Nadine Johnson Family Plaza, a project that ties together the Campus Center and Pavilion plans, on Saturday, Oct. 14.

"I’m have looked forward to seeing the well-deserved recognition of the family and experiencing their enjoyment and their satisfaction," said Bob Earhart, University Relations associate vice president. "It was nice to see a new crowd of people celebrating this special event."

The project began a few years ago when Nadine Johnson made a personal gift of more than $1 million over five years. Because of her love for the outdoors, nature, plants and gardening, the Plaza was the perfect project for her.

Nadine and Frank Johnson have three sons, one of whom is city council member Steve Johnson.

"The Johnson family has had a long history of involvement with the University and the city," said Jean Bjerke, University Relations vice president. "There has been a family involvement of more than 50 years."

In addition to celebrating the Plaza dedication, the fun-filled weekend commemorated the reunion of the class of 1936, 1946, 1956, 1966, 1976, 1986 and 1996, and welcomed the new graduating class of 2006.

"It’s a time where we have everyone come back and see their old friends," said Alumni Relations Director Beth Elmore. "They also bring their family and friends to celebrate Alumni Weekend with them. It’s their day to celebrate."

This year's Alumni Weekend/Homecoming kicked off on Friday, October 13, with a college reunion of all classes and the All Alumni Dinner Dance. Student and club leaders were invited to attend the reception and dinner. The main

Continued on 9
event was to recognize and honor four distinguished alumni and two professors.

“It was a great opportunity for everyone to say hi to one another,” Elmore said. “It’s a great evening where people can spend time and mingle with everyone.”

One of last year’s most memorable moments was when Dwight Hanawalt led the crowd to the Hokey Pokey and the Chicken Dance.

Some of the events planned on the calendar for Saturday, Oct. 14 were the Alumni Street Fair and Picnic at 11:30 a.m., Saturday’s Homecoming football game and the Old Town La Verne Harvest Festival.

“Not everyone enjoys football, so the festival allows others to have fun too,” Elmore said.

On Sunday, the University was host to Recognition Day and Coffee at the La Verne Church of the Brethren, where ULV alumni, students and the La Verne Church of the Brethren choir gathered for a musical performance.

Continued from 7

The class of ’46 consisted of 22 two-year or four-year graduates, most of them women. Out of the 22, 17 participate in the round-robin letter.

“The men went off to the service, but we didn’t pay any attention to that,” Davis said. “The women just wanted to keep in touch with each other.”

Then five years ago at the 55th reunion, one of their male classmates wanted to join the author’s list.

“He heard us talking about it at the reunion and he was interested enough to participate,” Davis said. “It was then that we realized we have to be careful what we write so we don’t embarrass ourselves.”

Shamberger also remembers being asked by other classmates who wanted to be a part of the letter.

“We were not trying to keep anyone out of the round-robin,” Shamberger said. “It was great to see that more people were interested in it. In a way, it’s kind of funny because at the time we had no idea that it would get so popular. But like I always say, ‘the more the merrier’.”

Throughout the 60 years of the letter, five original writers passed on and the letter has only been lost or misplaced twice.

“In the case of a misplaced letter, that person would be responsible for starting the round-robin again,” Davis said.

There are currently 13 involved in the round-robin, all living in either California, Oregon or Washington. But for fellow round-robin writer, Wanda Miller, location is not a drawback.

“Even though we live far away from each other, we know what the other looks like through the pictures,” Miller said. “We also know what’s going on with each other’s lives. When we attend the reunion this year, we won’t be shocked by anything. We can just pick up from our last letters.”

With the growing number of participants in current commencement ceremonies, it may seem impossible to start a round robin letter themselves. But despite the difference in the number of participating graduates, Davis still advises them to start their own round robin letter.

“Because the graduating class is not 22 anymore, maybe one dormitory can start their own. Or maybe the women’s volleyball team can try one,” Davis said. “It’s a wonderful way to stay in touch and I enjoy sitting down and reading the letters.”

Davis added that many procrastinate writing their letter so they can savor and take it all in. As a result, it usually takes about a year for one round of the letter writing to reach all 13 members.

“The letters are slowing down like most of us, but they won’t stop,” Davis said.
With a focus on the future and an opportunity to raise even more funds, the Sara & Michael Abraham Campus Center approaches the construction phase.
A computer rendering created by Gonzalez|Goodale Architects shows the south side of the Sara and Michael Abraham Campus Center building. The Abrahams have offered to match donations up to $2.5 million to raise additional funds for the Campus Center Project.

The Campus Center Project is the central component of the construction efforts. The project is under way and moving forward. Continued on 12

Anyone who has ever experienced the start of a new academic year knows the buzz of activity that accompanies this annual occurrence. The rush of students — newcomers and returnees alike — introduces waves of excitement and expectation to an already vibrant atmosphere.

Yet this autumn there is an additional spark of anticipation in the air at the University of La Verne. With the opening phase of renovations to the Sports Science & Athletics Pavilion complete and the dedication of the Frank and Nadine Johnson Family Plaza taking place during Homecoming Weekend 2006, it is evident that the Campus Center Project is under way and moving forward.

The Campus Center Project is the central component to the university's long-range plan to enhance the educational experience. Continued on 12

"We need to match the quality of our fine educational product with a physical presence that is up to the standards set by our regional competitors."

— Roger Hardy, ULV Deputy Vice President of Campus Development
Addressing Success of Students and the Region

Young entrepreneurs learn from professors, professionals at summer session

Inland Southern California – which includes the rapidly growing Inland Empire and San Gabriel Valley – boasts a population of more than six million people. That’s roughly equivalent to the entire state of Indiana.

Finding ways to better serve that population is a primary goal of the ULV College of Business & Public Management (CBPM). It is also the keystone of the college’s Building on Excellence Campaign priorities.

“Our vision is to become the leading, independent business school of distinction that best serves the needs of our region,” said CBPM Dean Gordon Badovick. “We want to be seen as meeting the needs of the students and the professional community within the region. To do so, our campaign goals center around creating opportunities, including those supporting student initiatives.”

One central student initiative is the Skills for Success program, where students are provided the extra tools necessary to be successful. A series of yearlong workshops will cover basics such as proper business etiquette, networking and communications skills. A required internship will provide hands-on experience in a student’s area of interest. And a mentoring program will pair each student with a business community member or successful ULV alum. These three components will add value to our students by providing the skills, confidence and motivation to succeed.

Taking such assistance a step further, CBPM reached out to a group of young people last July with its inaugural REACH Summer Business Camp, helping high school students from disadvantaged backgrounds to better understand business and the value of education.

A group of 23 seniors from the Pomona Unified School District spent three weeks finding out about management, marketing, accounting, finance, and the impact of environment on business. They also reviewed college admission fundamentals, including the application process, scholarship availability and taking the SATs.

“We want to encourage at-risk students to go to college,” said Adham Chehab, associate professor of finance and REACH program director. “We also want to encourage students who would have been reluctant to apply because of financial needs or other reasons. The camp is designed so that these students are capable of success.”

Students, professors and business professionals gather on the first day of the REACH Summer Business Camp, sponsored by the College of Business & Public Management.

Campaign Components

- Dean’s Strategic Initiatives
- REACH Summer Business Camp
- Undergraduate Scholarship Awards

Continued from 11

of the university’s five-year, $42 million Building on Excellence Campaign. Hailed as a bold and progressive undertaking, the campaign will address more than just the university’s physical structure. It will enhance curriculum and expand accessibility as it permits ULV to preserve its established values and continue to offer rich educational opportunities.

“Throughout its history, the University of La Verne has never been about offering education in a sterile environment. We foster learning and nurture character,” said University President Steve Morgan. “The aim of the Building on Excellence Campaign is to create a way for us to invest in our future as a university so we can continue to prepare our students for their future.”

In order to achieve its objectives, the campaign will allocate resources for a variety of essential requirements throughout the university. Those needs include:

- Updating facilities and infrastructure
- Upgrading available technology
- Increasing and encouraging research
- Supporting the university’s commitment to diversity
- Providing students with essential financial assistance

Continued on 13
It’s a whole new ballgame in renovated Pavilion

Phase I brings significant change, including new weight room, cardio center

When the Super Tents opened on the ULV campus in 1974, the structure was a beacon of futuristic thinking and design.

But that future has come and gone. It’s 32 years later and the need for more classroom and office space, more floor space for training and team room facilities, and a general upgrade of the interior has been addressed. A $3 million renovation project has made the renamed Sports Science & Athletics Pavilion more usable, more energy efficient and better equipped to handle the needs of today’s students.

“I really think we’ve addressed a significant need of our community in a high-quality way,” ULV Athletic Director Christopher Ragsdale said. “I’m very pleased with the finished product. After last year, it’s just exciting to be able to practice and play in our own facility.”

Last year, the Pavilion was under construction. Crews started by replacing the insulation of the tent-like structure and tapping into the university’s new chilled water loop cooling system. Then, structural steel was brought in to build new classroom areas into some of the vast open space of the first floor. Locker rooms and training rooms were expanded and updated, and the upper level was fitted with new spectator seating and observation decks. New walls enclosed the basketball court, giving it more of a traditional gym feel. A new second-floor fitness area was stocked with $70,000 worth of cardio and weight training equipment.

This was the first phase of renovation. The second will add more office space, a computer lab, a kinesiology and biomechanics lab, athletic education lab and a small library, and three subsequent phases will focus on more equipment and facility upgrades.

But what a start.

“There’s a light at the end of the tunnel,” Ragsdale said. “It creates a lot of enthusiasm for what we’re going to have.

“The nice thing is that not all needs have been met. It still leaves some space undeveloped. So as needs change, we can adjust. We still have some flexibility within the facility.”

Campaign Components

- Sports Science & Athletics Pavilion
- General and Team Support

continued from 12

- Strengthening support of the school’s intercollegiate athletic program
- Encouraging business community’s participation with business curriculum
- Expanding the institution’s leadership and legacy in the field of Education
- Sustaining the growth and development of the ULV College of Law

Each of the university’s four colleges (Arts & Sciences, Business & Public Management, Education & Organizational Leadership and the College of Law) and the Athletic Department have been assigned the task of prioritizing their specific needs and determining the resources required to attain them.

Found throughout the goals of each group are numerous instances of university outreach to the community. Whether it is offering no-cost literacy tutoring to local youngsters and their parents, creating speaking opportunities where leaders from the business community interact with students, or allowing K-12 science classes to discover the capabilities of high-tech equipment, opportunities for expanded learning experiences abound.

With two years remaining, the Building on Excellence Campaign has already secured more than $30.2 million toward expanding and enriching the university’s educational resources.

continued on 14
Literacy Center off and reading in a new home

ULV facility’s work with children has brought great rewards to students, parents and the community

While the University of La Verne has long offered wonderful educational opportunities to generations of students, for the past five years the ULV Literacy Center has focused on an even more basic need: offering young people the basic tools they need to learn.

Founded in September 2001, the Literacy Center has already helped more than 400 students improve their reading and writing skills, both critical keys to effective learning. Using proven methods, personal attention, and the latest materials and equipment, the center is providing a place where young people who are struggling to read and write can come with their parents—no cost to them—for help. At the same time, the center affords ULV reading credential students valuable hands-on literacy training experience that they can employ with students in their own classrooms.

“We work with schools in 10 different Southern California districts, representing more than 100,000 children. Of the K-12 students being served by the center, 50 percent are economically underprivileged and 30 percent are English language learners,” said Janice Pilgreen, director of the ULV Literacy Center.

As part of the Building on Excellence Campaign, the College of Education and Organizational Leadership (CEOL) has made the ULV Literacy Center one of its top priorities. Past development efforts have allowed the center to move into a larger facility with enhanced state-of-the-art technology, thereby providing an increased number of students and their parents access to first-rate literacy education.

“Reading is the single most important key to effective learning,” said CEOL Dean Leonard Pellicer. “We are seeking additional funding to establish an endowment that will make it possible to continue to expand our services and reach the children who need them for many years to come. We particularly want to continue to assist children from economically disadvantaged homes to overcome their reading problems, at no cost to them or to their parents, because many times the children who most need our services come from families who can least afford them.”

A strong indication of the commitment of CEOL to the Building on Excellence Campaign is the fact that 100 percent of the college’s faculty and staff have made cash gifts, pledges or bequests to the campaign, a sum exceeding $264,000.

Rusty Evans photo
ULV Literacy Center student Spencer Gunn addresses the audience at the grand opening last spring.

Campaign Components

- Endowed Chair in Education
- Endowed Chair in Organizational Leadership
- Literacy Center Program & Endowment
- Institute for Teacher Leadership

Continued from 13

A New Challenge

As the final piece of the three-part Campus Center Project, the Sara & Michael Abraham Campus Center is intended to serve as the university’s “family room.” The 39,000-square foot multi-story structure will provide space for educational, recreational and communal endeavors. It is envisioned to be the place where members of the campus community and visitors alike can come together.

Gonzalez/Goodale Architects of Pasadena, the firm hired to design the Campus Center, has completed the design development phase for the building. As part of that phase, adjustments were made to the initial concept of the structure itself as well as to plans involving the immediate vicinity of the facility. To accommodate those changes, the scope of the Campus Center Project has been expanded and the fund raising goal increased to $26.1 million.

Trustee Michael Abraham and his wife, Sara, have once again stepped forward to help realize the project. It was their historic $4 million pledge, part of a $16 million challenge that was successfully met in November 2005, which provided momentum to the project. The Campus Center’s lead donors have now announced a new matching challenge that is intended to assure completion of this premier project.

“Sara and I decided that, in addition to our earlier pledge, we will match new Campus Center gifts dollar for dollar up to $2.5 million,” Abraham said. “We hope others will join us and respond to our offer.”

ULV Board of Trustees Chair Ben Harris called the Abrahams’ matching gift offer “inspired” and believes it will have a decisive effect in helping make the project a reality.

“Mike’s earlier challenge led to the largest cash commitments from individuals in the university’s history. It had an unparalleled influence on the campaign,” Harris said. “New donors – as well as those of us who have already contributed – now have the opportunity to double the impact of their gifts because each will be matched by Sara and Mike Abraham.”

The Abrahams have set a completion date of June 30, 2007, for this latest matching challenge. All gifts and commitments must be received and confirmed by that date to qualify for the match.

Continued on 15
Seeking City Approval

Another key step in the progress of the Campus Center Project involves the university gaining approval for its latest facilities master plan. Construction of the new Campus Center building as well as future plans for ULV facilities within the City of La Verne are dependent upon gaining the city’s approval for the university’s Campus Master Plan.

The purpose of the Campus Master Plan is to provide an outline of the university’s direction. Through extensive research, numerous discussions and dedicated planning sessions, the university has created this latest plan to serve as an overview of the institution’s anticipated development. It is designed to emphasize improvement of the quality of the campus rather than the expansion of capacity and is meant to encompass the needs of La Verne’s Lordsburg neighborhood as well as those of ULV.

“The master plan represents our effort to identify our immediate future needs while planning for future phases of campus development,” said Morgan. “It attempts to meld the common interest of the residents and merchants of the Lordsburg area with the university’s need to gain recognition and stature in the marketplace.”

The city has accepted the university’s application for review of the master plan, which incorporates significant development and expansion of ULV. The university must wait for city approval of the master plan before it can make significant campus improvements. Such change will serve to bring the campus up to the standards of other colleges and universities in the region.

“It is critical that we provide the kind of facilities that students expect,” said Roger Hardy, deputy vice president for campus development and a former higher education consultant for KPMG Consulting. “We need to match the quality of our fine educational product with a physical presence that is up to the standards set by our regional competitors.”

Initial public hearings have concluded and a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) is available for public review. The next step in the process, a public hearing before the La Verne City Planning Committee involving the DEIR and the master plan, is scheduled for early November.

The updated version of the ULV Master Plan is available for viewing on the university’s Web site at www.ulv.edu/masterplan.

Continued from 14

Magnetic instrument has attracted attention

Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectrometer puts ULV Science Department among the nation’s elite

For her senior project, Adriana Artega is analyzing a natural product extracted from Cotoneaster racemiflorus, a member of the rose family more commonly referred to as Redbead Cotoneaster. Meanwhile, photochemistry-energy transfer is the chosen subject of Ricardo Negron’s senior project.

What makes these students’ efforts noteworthy is that their senior projects will be the first to utilize the University of La Verne’s new Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Spectrometer in the recently completed W.M. Keck Foundation NMR Facility. Students and faculty alike have started working with this sophisticated piece of equipment, made possible by private foundation grants and donor gifts.

The effort to create the NMR Facility at La Verne stems from commitments by the College of Arts & Sciences (CAS) and the university to augment and enhance ULV’s facilities and technology.

“The NMR Spectrometer gives us a much-needed analytical tool and provides research opportunities in chemistry, biology and physics previously unavailable on campus,” said ULV Natural Science Division Chair Robert Neher. “This is an affirmation of the quality and expertise of our faculty and will enable us to better prepare our students to be leaders in our rapidly changing, highly technical society.”

In focusing on his college’s priorities for the Building on Excellence Campaign, CAS Dean Fred Yaffe specifically targeted upgrades to facilities, equipment and student scholarships. Establishment of the NMR Facility, for example, required more than $811,000 in funding, most coming from grants received from private foundations. Researching, identifying and qualifying for such grants, as well as seeking out other funding sources, are part of his college’s campaign commitment.

Campaign Components

- Upgrade Labs and Equipment
- Fine Arts Facilities and Equipment
- Undergraduate Scholarship Awards
- Initiatives in Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences & Natural Sciences

“No matter which area of study our students choose — chemistry, psychology, history, communications or whichever of our 41 majors in 17 departments they select — we intend to provide them with the best possible educational experience. That means the highest quality curriculum, teaching and resources available,” said Yaffe. “We want to help ready our students for the challenges they’ll face as they enter the work force or advance to graduate school.”
Endowing A New Era of Legal Education

Gaining ABA accreditation likely to have major impact on enrollment, retention

When the ULV College of Law received provisional accreditation from the American Bar Association last February, it ushered in a new era for both the institution and the region. While joining 19 other ABA schools in the state, it became the only ABA-accredited college of law in Inland Southern California.

Yet while attaining accreditation was a landmark event, it is not the end of the story but rather the beginning of a period of discovery and growth. As more students discover what the ULV College of Law offers, recognition and interest will grow, locally and nationally.

So in identifying priorities for the Building on Excellence Campaign, ULV College of Law Dean Donald Dunn immediately focused on a key factor in attracting the type of students needed to take his college to the next level: scholarships.

Law school tuitions are rising throughout the nation, putting financial aid high on nearly every prospective student's list. By making the establishment of endowed scholarships a major initiative, the College of Law is doing more than just trying to increase educational opportunities. It is seeking to attract a student body that boasts outstanding academic credentials as well as diversity that is representative of the region.

"Scholarships are important components for our success. Not only do they help recruit and improved student body, they help us retain students who do well after their first year of law studies and are considering transferring to another institution," said Dunn. "Even with expanded loan opportunities, law school education is out of reach for many deserving students unless additional monies are available to them."

Endowed name scholarships require a $25,000 donation (which can be spread over a five-year span). The scholarships can be directed to aid specific groups, such as anticipated high achievers, single parents, minority applicants, older adults, first-generation graduate

Campaign Components

- Center For Excellence in Advocacy
- Research & Live Client Clinics
- Dean's Discretionary Funds
- Society for Justice Scholarships for Law Students

The ULV College of Law will focus much of its Building On Excellence Campaign resources on student scholarships, both to attract and to retain students.

Award-Winning Campaign

In August, the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) notified the university that it has been selected to receive a Gold Medal in the organization’s Fund Raising Awards category. The medal recognizes the wide range of efforts involved in the Abraham Challenge Campaign, which successfully culminated in November 2005.

According to ULV Vice President Jean Bjerke, the gold medal is the result of the outstanding creativity, dedication and performance of everyone involved with the campaign.

"The impact of the Abraham Challenge Campaign for the Campus Center Project was profound. The Abraham Challenge jump-started the five-year campaign much faster than anyone had imagined. It proved to the entire university constituency that La Verne could successfully attract much larger gifts than nearly anyone had thought possible," said Bjerke. "To receive such recognition from CASE is a proud honor for our university."

Continued from 15

Continued on 17
or more than half a century, the Lewis name has been synonymous with community development throughout the Western United States. So the Lewis Family’s decision to support the University of La Verne in its effort to develop a new “heart” for its 115-year old central campus seems a natural fit.

Spearheaded by Richard Lewis, a member of the ULV Board of Trustees since 2000, the Lewis Family has pledged $500,000 to the university’s Campus Center Project. In formally announcing the contribution, President Steve Morgan praised the Lewises for their compassion and continuing dedication to La Verne’s educational mission.

“The generosity of the Lewises with this substantial gift is greatly appreciated and demonstrates the commitment and affection they have for the University of La Verne,” Morgan said. “Whether serving as a member of the Board of Trustees or establishing student scholarships, Richard Lewis has stepped forward time and again to serve the university with his time and resources. We are proud to call the Lewises esteemed members of the ULV family.”

Lewis, California Division President for the Lewis Group of Companies, previously established two four-year, $40,000 scholarships at ULV for students who have participated in the STUDENTS RUN LA Program. The two students, Eddie Greenan and Jonathan Aceves, graduated in May 2006 after completing four years of study at La Verne.

A licensed general building contractor and real estate broker, Lewis was named Builder of the Year by Builder and Developer magazine and the Building Industry Association of Southern California and was inducted into the California Building Industry Association Hall of Fame. He has been with the Lewis group since 1965 and has been involved in the development of more than 50,000 homes, 8,000 apartments and 4,000,000 square feet of retail and office space.

The Lewis Family has taken great pride in giving back to the community since Ralph and Goldy Lewis founded their Claremont-based home building firm in 1955. The Lewises’ philanthropy stretches across the region, including Lewis Park in Claremont, Ralph M. Lewis Park in Rancho Cucamonga, Lewis Family Park in Las Vegas, Nev., the Ralph M. Lewis Sports Complex in Fontana, the Ralph & Goldy Lewis Library at Colony High School in Ontario, the Lewis Family Playhouse in Rancho Cucamonga, the Goldy S. Lewis Community Center in Rancho Cucamonga, the Ralph & Goldy Lewis Hall at USC, and the Ralph & Goldy Lewis Center for Regional Policy at UCLA.

Completion of the entire Campus Center Project at the University of La Verne will enhance the collegiate experience for students and present a focal point for the campus community. Once completed, the three-

Continued from 16

CASE is the nation’s leading professional organization in alumni relations, fundraising, communications and marketing. Through its Circle of Excellence Awards Program, CASE recognizes professional commitment to institutional advancement and identifies models for other member institutions to follow. This year more than 3,100 entries were received in 40 categories. Just 315 entries were judges worthy of receiving awards, with only six gold medals total presented in the six different fund-raising program categories.

Ron Stephany, interim director of public relations and communications for the University of Redlands and former chair of CASE District VII, added that winning a gold medal represents a significant achievement by ULV.

“What makes the Academy Awards so meaningful to those fortunate enough to take home an Oscar is that their work is judged by peers. The same holds true for a college or university receiving an award from CASE,” said Stephany. “Our work is judged by our peers, and often those colleagues are among the best in the business. And when it is a gold medal that is bestowed, it speaks volumes.”

To find out how you can be part of “Building on Excellence: The University of La Verne Campaign,” contact the ULV University Relations Office at (909) 392-2740 or e-mail giving@ulv.edu.
A Dedication to RESEARCH

The new ULV Academy is an elite corps of professors who have excelled in scholarship and epitomize the university’s renewed commitment to scholarship.

By Rusty Evans

From left, John Linarelli, Kenneth H. Marcus, Andrea Graubart Labinger, Jeffrey P. Kahan, Thomas R. Harvey, Iraj Parchamazad and Johnathan L. Reed, the inaugural members of the ULV Academy, were introduced at a Faculty & Staff Recognition Ceremony on April 28.
Among its faculty, the University of La Verne counts dozens of professors who are recognized both nationally and internationally as experts in their field.

That makes the inaugural seven members of the ULV Academy an elite group indeed.

On April 28, 2006, the Faculty Research Committee introduced this who’s who of scholars, all “Dedicated to Collegial Leadership in Research & Scholarship”: Dr. Harvey, Jeffrey P. Kahan, Andrea Graubart Labinger, John Linarelli, Kenneth H. Marcus, Iraj Parchamazad and Jonathan L. Reed.

Born of a mandate to develop a Researcher of the Year award, the ULV Academy is the product of years of discussion and careful consideration. The two distinguishing characteristics of members of the ULV Academy are demonstrated quality research (or creative work in art, music, photography, theatre, or other creative arts) and commitment to the University of La Verne.

“When I came to this university about 20 years ago, research was not an important component of this university,” said Parchamazad, a professor of science at ULV who is also co-chair of the Faculty Research Committee. “Now we are very happy to tell you that at this university, the majority of the faculty are involved heavily in their research.

“More important, this university must have a better image, a better name, in order to bring in outside funding. When you have a better name, you have better students and more students. Little by little, maybe in the next 10 years, if we go this route the university will be healthier and more prosperous.”

The ULV Academy encompasses a wide spectrum of academic interest. From literature and language to science and history to business and law. The Faculty Research Committee, which in addition to Parchamazad is composed of Kathy Lamkin, Jay Jones, Kahan, Jack Meek, Jan Pilgreen, and Rita Thakur, spent months poring over research and published materials to determine the members of the inaugural Academy.

Harvey, who has been at La Verne since 1976, has published articles focused on business, management and organizational practices for 34 years.

Kahan is a leading authority on Shakespearean literature and poetry.

Labinger, also the Honors Program director at ULV, has made her mark as a translator of Latin American literature.

Linarelli, a professor of law at the ULV College of Law in Ontario, is a noted author and editor of law review articles.

Marcus is an expert in the field of social and cultural history, with an emphasis on music history in Los Angeles in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Parchamazad is recognized internationally in the science community as a chemist who holds several patents for fuel cell technology.

Reed is one of the leading authorities, worldwide, on first century religion and archaeology.

While the ULV Academy is something new and somewhat formative, its charter members agree that it’s a concept long in coming and high in potential.

“Other universities have things that they do to promote scholarship, like ‘Researcher of the Year’ award and things like that, and funding and so on,” Linarelli said. “I think what’s unique about this is that it’s an attempt to create an institution to deal with it. I’m sure a lot of universities have something similar. This kind of initiative is going to become a body, and that in itself is a very positive step.”

Marcus said he likes the idea of interacting with other departments.

“It’s exciting that you’re not alone in a corner and that others are appreciative of what you’re doing both in your own field and the wider group at large,” Marcus said. “It’s certainly rewarding to get kind comments from my colleagues, like, ‘I saw that item,’ or ‘I read this,’ and so on. I think excitement will very much be a part of that first meeting, that it’s time to launch something new and make it as constructive and supportive an institution as we can. Interdisciplinary is the name of the game, so something like this can serve a good purpose.”

The goal of the Academy is to add one or two members per year as voted on by members. Its formation will impact not only current faculty members but prospective ones as well.

“I would hope that it will inspire new faculty members to come here,” Labinger said. “One of the first questions people ask is, ‘Will I be able to do research here? Will I be supported?’ And I think we should be able to tell them honestly, ‘Yes, you will.’ ”

Please see pages 20-21 for more profiles of ULV Academy members.
Dr. Kahan’s work has established him as an authority on the writings of William Shakespeare, Texas writer R.E. Howard and Elizabethan poetry and theater.

“It’s a great distinction to be part of the Academy,” Kahan said. “It’s always a great thing when your colleagues recognize you and give you an award and associate you with other colleagues at the university who have a great and meritorious publication record.”

In July 2004, Kahan finished a three-volume set titled, Shakespeare Imitations, Parodies and Forgeries, 1710-1820, which comprises 24 plays over 750 pages, plus another 500 pages of introductory materials, notes and collations.

Later that year, Kahan had his edition of The Poetry of W.H. Ireland published.

Earlier this year, Kahan published an edition of Southey’s Epic Poetry with University of Gloucester, and also collaborated with UC Riverside professor Stanley Stewart on Caped Crusaders: Why Comic Books Can Save Us From Illiteracy.

Dr. Kahan has several editing projects lined up for the next two years and is a member of the editorial board for Shakespeare Yearbook and The Dark Man, the latter dedicated to the writing of Howard. Kahan is also co-editor of the CORD project, which has as its focus Elizabethan theater, actors, poets and playwrights, and will serve as a General Editor for the Shakespeare For Children Series.

Dr. Kahan’s articles, reviews and notes have appeared in 17 different publications.

Dr. Labinger holds a degree in Spanish from Hunter College and received a M.A. and Ph.D. in Latin American Literature from Harvard.

She is a noted translator of such works as Bubbeh by Mexican novelist Sabina Berman; Musicians and Watchmakers by Argentine writer Alicia Steinberg; To Die in Berlin by Chilean author Carlos Cerda; and Clara by Luisa Valenzuela. Her translation of Steinberg’s Cuando digo Magdalena earned Honorable Mention in the PEN International-California competition. Her translation of Cerda’s Una casa vacia (An Empty House) was published in 2003.

Future projects for Labinger include translations of Steinberg’s The Rainforest, and Casablanca by Edgar Brau, to be published in a volume titled Casablanca and Other Stories.

Dr. Labinger said she’s encouraged by her selection as a ULV Academy member and that the Academy is the kind of thing that can give the University of La Verne a boost.

“I would like to see La Verne get more public attention because we’re a small school and we tend not to be all that visible on the larger screen,” Labinger said. “I would hope something like this would make us more visible, give us the recognition I think we deserve, as an institution, so that people outside the university would look at the name La Verne and immediately associate the university with important intellectual growth, not as just a nice, comfortable neighborhood institution, but as an institution where significant academic research is taking place.”

Dr. Linarelli is one who sees great things ahead for faculty now that the ULV academy is in place.

“I think the impact of the ULV Academy comes in at several different levels,” Linarelli said. “First, I think there’s a kind of tangible aspect to what the ULV Academy can do, in terms of putting in place various kinds of infrastructures that will facilitate research and give people incentives to do it as well. It will also make it easier for them to do.

“Secondly, I think then it can also be involved in stimulating discussion: lecture series or just talks in how to get published in particular disciplines.

“Thirdly, I would hope that it might produce some what I’ll call interdisciplinarity between the disciplines because all of us are kind of reductionists. We live in this kind of reductionist world where we only do what we do and we don’t think about what other people are doing. For example, law, philosophy and humanities and social sciences have a lot to say to each other. So do the natural sciences now, with law and science. So speaking to each other is important because it can break down those barriers.”

Dr. Linarelli, a professor at the ULV College of Law, joined the faculty in 2002. He has taught law in England and the U.S., practiced law for several years in Washington D.C., and has published more than 20 law review articles and book chapters.
Kenneth H. MARCUS

As an expert in social and cultural history, Dr. Marcus has studied events that have effected great change. The creation of the ULV Academy may very well serve as one of these events academically, at the university level.

"I think it's a real honor and a step in the right direction for encouraging research and publication at the university," Marcus said. "I think that's the wave of the future at the university, so this is something that really points toward that.

"It's hard to say what the immediate impact will be, but I think it will be that people are serious about recognizing scholarship. In terms of results, I think that will be more long-term, and people perhaps taking a let's-see attitude of what the Academy can do for the university and how much the members of the Academy themselves are supportive of research for others and how much they can support research as a group. The exciting thing, of course, is that we can get together and share ideas, so that we're not buried in our own little holes and ideally, feed off of each other's ideas, contributions and so create a community of researchers."

Dr. Marcus' publications of books, articles and recordings include Musical Metropolis: Los Angeles and the Creation of a Music Culture, 1880-1940, which was nominated for the Donald Pfluger Local History Award by the Historical Society of Southern California.

Jonathan L. REED

Dr. Reed is one of the world's foremost authorities on First Century religions and archaeology, and is a Bible scholar who teaches religion at the University of La Verne.

Dr. Reed is in high demand by National Geographic and The History Channel to provide expert commentary for televised documentaries that focus on Jesus and First Century life.

Dr. Reed has published numerous articles and reviews, including the monograph Archaeology and the Gaillean Jesus. But his most highly acclaimed works have been a pair of books co-authored with Bible scholar John Dominic Crossan Excavating Jesus and In Search of Paul, which were translated into Spanish, German, Portuguese, Hungarian and Korean. Both books relied heavily on Reed's work in archaeology, which have been done on digs in the Middle East at sites such as Sepphoris and Capernaum, during summer break and January interterm.

"I think it should be a goal for someone when they come here," Reed said of Academy membership. "As they approach tenure and they have a track record and get out a book or two books and several refereed journal, and you get recognized in your field beyond the University of La Verne, at a national or international level, we'd like you to join."

Iraj PARCHAMAZAD

As a driving force in the creation of the ULV Academy, Dr. Parchamazad is one of its most staunch proponents.

"I believe (the Academy) will bring ULV more research and professional activities," Parchamazad said. "Research in different fields is different. Research in science is different from art. We want all the schools at ULV to get involved, as the College of Law is now getting involved. I'm really impressed with the number of publications that John (Linarelli) has. So through the Academy, we believe we can encourage people and we can show them how they can publish, and why research is really important even for their life."

Dr. Parchamazad received bachelor's and master's degrees of science in chemistry at Tehran University in Iran, and his Diplome d'Etudes Superieures Techniques and Ph.D. from Aix-Marseille University in France.

"We decided to create this academy for the University of La Verne, covering every area, from art to humanities to sciences. There are many people at the university right now who deserve to be in that work. But in the beginning, we tried to put some of the people who are respected by the other people."

While at ULV, Dr. Parchamazad developed a progressive program focused on hydrogen fuel cell technology and has brought more research dollars to the university than anyone else in its 115-year history. He also holds patents for the hydrogen fuel cell's reformer, purifier and output.
1940s

Dora Louise Larson '46 became a great-grandmother for the first time. It is her son's first grandchild.

1950s

Carol Reich '54 recently spent the week of April 9-15th (Palm Sunday to Easter) on a Gulf Coast Work Team from the United Methodist Church of Santa Monica, landscaping the Bethany United Methodist Church.

Paul Mahoney '57 is teaching 9 hours a week at Riverside Community College (Norco campus). He teaches an advanced first aid, CPR, and Automatic Defibrillation class. February 2007 will be the beginning of his 50th year in the classroom and counseling. From 1996 to October 2004 he was the Chairman of all track and field officials for USA Track and Field-Southern California. He officiates about 40 meets a year around the U.S. including La Verne. Nancy, his wife, is now retired from teaching third grade and is successfully battling her third bout of breast cancer. He has two daughters. One of which is a medical social worker at Riverside County Regional Medical Center. His other daughter is a Radiologist at the University of Indiana, Indianapolis.

1960s

Doris Hopwood Dunham '60 & '92 is currently serving as the Director of the Center for Brethren Studies for the Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren (California and Arizona). She is also a licensed minister continuing her studies in the Training In Ministry (TrIM) program for the Church of the Brethren.

Linda (Carroll) Patrick '62 is retiring from Vacaville Unified School District after 31 years teaching mostly kindergarten. Her and her husband, Tom, have a blended family of 8 children & 13 grandchildren. The first thing they will do is travel the United States!

Pamela (Clarke) '68 & Don Redman '60 just celebrated their daughter Paige's graduation from Mira Costa High School in Manhattan Beach, CA. Paige will be a freshman at Cal Lutheran this fall. Their daughter Piper will be a junior in high school and recently performed at Carnegie Hall with the Mira Costa Symphony Orchestra. She plays the double bass. Their daughter Rose Clarke Ahrens is a kindergarten teacher in Manhattan Beach and just presented Don and Pamela with their 12th grandchild. Their daughter Megan Harr Dawson and her family live in Plymouth, MA. Megan is the only one of their eight children who does not live in Southern California. Don is still working at Redman Equipment and Manufacturing in Torrance. Pamela is active at the high school and on the youth board at the Manhattan Beach Community Church. The Redmans enjoy working with the youth group at the church. They have been living in Manhattan Beach since 1988.

Sandra (Kelso) Groves '63 will be returning as Director of Graduate Studies at Illinois State University in July 2007.

Karen (Johansen) Hamilton '66 & '76 is celebrating her 30th year practicing family law in Hollister, CA. She has always been the only full-time attorney who does only family law and still very much enjoys all the interesting people she meets. She put all three of her children through college and has seen them turn into really wonderful people. She has two grandchildren, one boy and one girl, from her only daughter, Kathleen. She would love to hear from any of her classmates to learn about their lives!

Richard Castro '69 is happy to announce his retirement July 31, 2006 after working 35 years at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Rich has been the Director of Intramural since 1973 and received his master's degree from Colorado in 1973. He established the woman's intercollegiate cross country and track program at Colorado in 1976. The 1977 women's cross country team finished third in the national championships. He was inducted in the ULV Hall of Fame in 1996. His wife, Patti, is a registered nurse. His two sons, Antonio & Gregory both are graduates of University of Colorado, Boulder. Rich will continue his work in the running world, as his club the Boulder Road Runners will host the US National Cross Championship in February 2007. He will also continue working with the Boulder Boulder 10k, the third largest road race in America.

1970s

Charlie Mae (Ralph) Randolph '71 has been honored by the San Dimas City Council for volunteer tutoring the youth of San Dimas. Charlie Mae recently received an award from Claremont Unified School District for completing 35 years of service. She lives in San Dimas with her husband Paul. Their son Traveck is in the U.S. Navy and has been deployed to Iraq. Keep our troops in your prayers.

John Bateman '76 joined Cruise Lines International Association as a regional trainer. Cruise Lines International Assoc. is the marketing and training organization of 20

Continued on 23
Don Carter ’76 & ’96 is the district superintendent for Kern High School District in Kern, CA. Prior to becoming superintendent, he was assistant superintendent of instruction from 1999-2004. In his few months on the job he persuaded voters to pass a $219 million bond to help build new schools.

Helen Demetrion ’78 was recently awarded the following: Volunteer of the Year, Madison Elementary School; Riverside Unified School District PTA Council, Honorary Service Award; & Twenty-Third District PTA, Riverside County, 2006 Volunteer of the Year. Helen is currently the PTA President for Madison Elementary School in Riverside.

1980s

Bruce A. Smith ’84 just published a book through iUniverse titled “The Path of Reason: A Philosophy of Non-Belief”. The book outlines a philosophy that is controversial due to the fact that it is atheistic, yet the resulting philosophy is life-affirming and grants a newfound appreciation for what it is to be human.

Roger Jewell (a.k.a. L.A. Roger) ’84 would like to congratulate the Law School for its recent ABA accreditation. He has written his third book to be published by The Graduate Group titled “Careers in Sports: How to reach your goals”. The publisher’s website is www.graduategroup.com.

Robert V. Jerkovich ’86, and his wife Mary, recently moved to Fairfield Glade, Tennessee, on the outskirts of Crossville. Bob is retired. He is currently landscaping his backyard into a bird and hummingbird garden on his leisure time. When Bob is not gardening, he is on the Internet researching his family tree. He is developing material to write his family history. Bob is also into Civil War Reenactments and is gathering information for a book on Civil War re-enactors. In his spare time, he freelances as a photographer. His main subject is his 8 month-old grandson.

Lorna (Corpus) Sullivan ’87 recently joined the editorial staff of Bon Appetit magazine as research editor, in charge of the research department. Her prior duties were managing editor/copy chief at Tu Cuidad magazine. She is married to Jerry Sullivan, editor/publisher of the Los Angeles Garment & Citizen, a weekly community newspaper based in Downtown L.A. Lorna extends a warm “hello” to her fellow alums!

Robert Von Kaenel ’87 Special Agent—DEA just completed a three-year assignment in Peru. While in Peru Rob was responsible for mutilation seizures of cocaine, precursor chemicals, destruction of clandestine laboratories in the Andean jungles and eradication of almost one million opium poppies. Rob also established a nation wide anti-drug hotline, which provides monetary compensation for information regarding illicit drugs. Rob received awards for his work investigating international drug traffickers and has been recognized by the Peruvian National Police for his dedication and contributions to the war on drugs.

Mary Lou Willoughby ’88 is proud to announce her retirement from Chapman University in Orange, CA. She retired in 2004. She and her husband, John, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this year.

Will Helmlinger ’88 was recently named Senior Human Resources Director for Saber Software in March 2006. Saber Software is a premiere provider of software solutions to the public sector. Saber employs nearly 700 employees domestically and over seas. The headquarters are in Portland, OR.

Monica (Romero) Matthews ’89 and Heidi (Schmidt) Strash ’91 recently returned from a spring trip to Charleston, South Carolina hosted by fellow alum Denise (Matthews) Nielson ’89. Although each lives in a different state (Michigan, California and Georgia), these alums make it a priority to get together every two years to catch up on each other’s busy lives. Next stop, Mackinac Island, Mich.

1990s

Timothy Cotledge ’91 is director of Business Development for GeneCare Medical Genetics Center in Chapel Hill, NC. He and wife, Kayu, have two kids, 9-year-old Jonathan and 2-year-old Tiffany.

Erin Johnson ’91 decided after many years as an athletic trainer, to attend culinary school. After two years of school and several years in the kitchen, she can proudly say that she was recently named the Culinary Partner of P.F. Chang’s China Bistro in Houston, Texas. This is the 5th location in the Houston area. She still maintains her certification and license for the occasional “I need help” call, but her passion is truly in the restaurant. Any of you fellow Leo Alumni in the Houston area, come by and ask for Chef Erin!

Christy Lombardo ’92 was awarded a Master of Science degree in Historic Preservation by the University of Pennsylvania School of Design on May 15, 2006. Her focus was on Architectural Conservation. It was the 250th Commencement for that university. Christy and husband Dave Stankoski (’92) have appreciated living in historic Philadelphia these past two years. After a brief visit to Southern California to see friends and family, they plan to move to New York City where Dave is Network Control Center Engineer for ABC in Manhattan. Christy is the daughter of Frank and Carol (Arnold) Lombardo (’61) of Palmer, Alaska.

John Kelley ’94 recently left his job with Edison International after 25 years. He managed media relations in California, Washington D.C., Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines. On May 1, 2006, John was named Director of Corporate Communications for Corinthian Colleges, Inc. in Santa Ana, CA. The company operates career colleges in the U.S. and Canada.

Amy Davison Neil ’94 is the Project Coordinator for eCollege in Denver, Colorado. She is the proud mother of a 16-month-old girl and has been married for nearly 11 years! She is currently working on her first novel and does freelance writing in her spare time.

Christel Schoenfelder ’94 & ’03 is currently the President of the ULV College of Law Alumni Association. She was also named secretary of the Greater Inland Empire Applicant’s Attorneys Association.

Raul Ramirez ’94 graduated in May 2006 with an MBA from Franklin Pierce College. He has been living in Keene, NH for three years.

Dwayne Bueno ’94 is proud to announce that he was awarded the Outstanding Filipino Young Leader Award in the state of Hawaii by the Kalayaan Filipinos-Hawaii International organization for his involvement in various community organizations as an activist for community work, as a Christian Steward and for humanitarian contributions in Hawaii and in the Philippines during their Kalayaan Filipino Centennial Celebration Huwaran 2006.

Gena (Conacher) Fowlkes ’95 started a new job as a firefighter/paramedic in San Bernardino in July 2005. She married her husband Mitch in December 2001. Her stepdaughter is now a freshman at ULV, playing volleyball, and is studying to be a primary school teacher. They are excited to enjoy ULV life from the stands
now, and are surprised by all the great new additions to the main campus!

Maria (Alarcon) Elizalde ’95 & ’99 and her husband Dean, are proud to announce the arrival of their son, Samuel, on May 11, 2006. He joins his big brother Gabriel, who is 3 years old. Maria has been teaching for the past 10 years in the Covina Valley Unified School District.

Hilary Johnson ’99, ’01 received a Doctorate of Education this summer of 2006 from the University of California Santa Barbara. This Sigma Kappa girl will be moving to San Diego to pursue a career in the field of education and is looking forward to all that the future has to offer.

Stephanie Lesniak ’99 has managed to design for some of the most successful animated television shows and comic books to date. She recently created her own comic book publishing company called Scrap Pictures and will be debuting her first publication titled: “Blazin’ Brandy”, at the Los Angeles Comic Book and Sci-fi convention. She is currently employed by Cartoon Network where she oversees and coordinates the design department for their latest hit show “Squirrel Boy.”

2000s

Amy Arellano ’01 married Brian Carver Williams on May 28th, 2006 on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. The couple married in the backyard of their home with views of the Strait of Georgia and the mountains on the mainland, surrounded by 60 guests. The newlyweds honeymooned on an Alaskan Cruise.

Maryam Davodi-Far ’01 founded the Cancer Coping Center in 2005. The Cancer Coping Center constitutes a group of professionals who volunteer their time and expertise in order to relieve the suffering of those afflicted with cancer by providing coping strategies for cancer patients, their family members and caregivers. The Mission: To enhance and improve the quality of life for cancer patients, family members and caregivers through creativity, www.cancercopingcenter.com. She was recently awarded The 10 News Leadership Award, which is a project of LEAD San Diego, 10 News and Sempra Energy. This award honors those who provide “leadership in making San Diego a better place to live, especially by standing up for those who need help, to improve their quality of life.”

Thomas Stowe ’01 and his wife, Nicole, recently opened their own real estate and title research company in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.

Melissa (Eickenberry) Horvath ’02 married Michael L. Horvath II of Carrabelle, FL on June 17, 2006 in a nondenominational ceremony held at the Essick House in Sierra Madre, CA. Both husband and wife are employed by Specialists in Long Term Care Insurance Services, Inc. and currently reside in Monrovia, CA.

James Claude Summers III ’02 recently moved to Maryland from Florida to work for the White House Communications Agency as the Presidential Acquisition Manager.

Nick Baca ’03 covered the Millard and Sawtooth wildfires on CNN’s Anderson Cooper 360 in July 2006. Nick has been a news reporter for KESQ-TV since July 2005.

Andrew Kim ’03 was captain of the La Verne Debate team for two years and has always had great relationships and support from all ULV professors. It is largely due to that support, that he is pleased to announce his admission for graduate studies at Columbia University. He is both pleased and excited to continue his formal education. Most importantly, however, he is thankful to all of the professors who were, and continue to be, most helpful to him along his journey. To name a few, Ian Lising, Dr. Jason Niedleman, Dr. Jonathan Reed, Dr. Stephen Sayles, and Dr. Kamol Somvichian. He has also received great support from people in administration, such as Bailey Smith. Thanks to all of you. He looks forward to honoring and upholding all of his professors and the educational ideals that they, and ULV, stand for.

Nadia De Leon ’03 & ’05 completed her first year as a 2nd grade teacher at Red Rock Elementary School in Las Vegas, NV. The School Improvement Planning Committee selected her as Red Rock’s New Teacher of the Year. She will begin the 2006-2007 school year as a 3rd grade teacher at Culey Empowerment School, which is one of the CCSD Superintendent’s four empowerment schools. Empowerment Schools are unique and innovatively designed school programs that will serve as a pilot where school staff will experience greater independence and decision-making authority with fewer restraints from contracts and central control.

Michele (Taft) Menzies ’93 and her husband, Robert, are excited to announce the birth of their first child, Emily Claire, who was born on March 27, 2006 and weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces.

Martha (Molina) Jackson ’01 and her husband Glenn Jackson are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Martha, born April 8, 2006 in Riverside. She was a healthy 6 pounds, 11 ounces and 18 inches long. She is welcomed and loved by her older sisters Krystine (18) and Teresa (16) and her older brother Marques.
(12). Martha Sr. is a public health educator assistant and Glenn is an owner-operator in the transportation field.

In Memoriam

Alleyne (Starling) Luckensmeyer ’23 passed away peacefully in her sleep September 5, 2006. Alleyne was 100 years old. She spent a year and half at La Verne College before leaving and becoming a wife to Elmer Luckensmeyer September 20th, 1925.


Norlyn Sanger Dull ’37 passed away on December 20, 2005. After graduating from LVC, Norlyn taught for one year while pursuing graduate studies in Claremont. He lived at Hillcrest and was a long-time member of the Church of the Brethren. He is survived by sister Maxine Dull, sons Gary & Ron, daughter Jan Eller and 4 grandchildren & 6 great-grandchildren.

Willard B. McDaniel ’39 passed away January 3, 2005 at the age of 86. Willard’s first teaching position was in Idyllwild, CA. He also served as pastor to the Chowchilla Church of the Brethren from 1947-1950. He then served as pastor to other Brethren churches in North Dakota. He is survived by his wife Jewel, his children Grace Lohmann, Lorene Williams, Elizabeth McDaniel, Merlin & Ted McDaniel. He also leaves 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Frances Mildred Grober Welch ’39 passed away at the age of 88. Frances spent most of her life in Fullerton and was one of the first special education teachers in California. She was an active member of the Church of the Brethren and resided at Hillcrest.

Marie (Sarafian) Beloian ’40 passed away August 1, 2006. After graduating from ULV, Marie completed her graduate work at USC. She dedicated her career to education, teaching in public schools of Tulare, Whittier, Long Beach, and Pomona. She permanently retired from teaching in 1981. She was the daughter of Dr. Kevork A. Sarafian and the sister of late former president of ULV, Dr. Armen Sarafian.

Guy Warren Richards ’40 regretfully announces the death of his wife Charlotte. Guy had been keeping busy caring for her until late 2005. She passed away February 22, 2006. La Verne is in his thoughts for everything it did for him and his beloved wife.

Robin Jimenez ’77 has passed away.

Frank E. Brouillette ’82 passed away May 7, 2005.

Alice Chahinian ’93 passed away on Sept. 19, 2006, in San Diego from injuries suffered in an automobile accident. A Cerritos resident, Chahinian was a member of the women’s soccer team at ULV.

Kathleen Cole ’95 passed away February 2, 2002 at the age of 53. She succumbed to ovarian cancer. Kathleen was a proud University of La Verne graduate, class of 1995.

Cpl. Bernard Corpusz ’03 died on June 11, 2006, when his convoy came under attack in Ghanzi, Afghanistan.

A 1995 graduate of Palma High School in Salinas, Corpusz transferred to the University of La Verne from Hartnell College. He was involved in a number of student activities at ULV, including one year on the men’s track & field team, and graduated in 2003 with a bachelor’s degree in Political Science.

Corpusz, who joined the Army in July 2004, graduated from the Defense Language Institute in Monterey in April 2005. His unit, the 303rd Military Intelligence Battalion, 504th Military Intelligence Brigade from Fort Hood, Texas, was assigned to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He was posthumously awarded several medals including the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and the Combat Action Badge.

In a statement issued following Corpusz death, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger said, “Maria and I, along with all Californians, are saddened by the loss of Cpl. Corpusz. Bernard faithfully served his nation with true valor and pride. We extend our sympathies to Bernard’s family, friends and fellow soldiers and mourn the loss of a brave individual.”

Corpusz is survived by his parents, Bernard and Peggy Corpusz, of Watsonville.

Jan Snow passed away September 28, 2006, in Vancouver, Wash., after a yearlong battle with cancer. Snow came to ULV in 1982 as a CAPA advisor. For 18 years she was active in campus committee efforts and worked tirelessly to bridge off-campus needs and concerns with the on-campus community. Snow retired as Assistant Dean of SCE in 2000 and was awarded Administrator Emerita status. She is survived by her husband, Rick, her son, Eric, her daughter, Judy, and grandchildren Ben and Sarah. The Jan Snow Scholarship Fund was established at ULV to provide financial assistance to a deserving student from La Verne’s non-traditional aged enrollment who is studying to become a teacher. Direct donations to the Office of the President, University of La Verne, 1950 Third St., La Verne, CA 91750, attn: Jan Snow Scholarship Fund.
Tim Roe was upbeat and jovial throughout most of the lunchtime conversation with three other ULV alumni. But...

They celebrated the successful procedure with a golf trip to Pebble Beach.

Rusty Evans photo

By Rusty Evans

A Friend Indeed

When Tim Roe suffered kidney failure, his pal Bryan Bodine gave him one of his kidneys.

Tim Roe was upbeat and jovial throughout most of the lunchtime conversation with three other ULV alumni. But when he started talking about how his two young sons were going to have their dad around for a long time thanks to the kidney he received in a transplant from his best friend, Bryan Bodine, well, he broke down a little.

“My 7-year-old son Tim couldn’t comprehend it at first,” said Roe, a 1982 graduate of ULV. “He said, 'How come you have three kidneys and Uncle Bryan has only one. But he understands now. He tells people, 'My Uncle Bryan saved my dad’s life.' (Chokes up). Sorry, it’s hard to talk about.”

Roe and his wife, Geneva, put off having children when Roe was diagnosed with a rare kidney disorder just two years after he graduated from La Verne in 1985. Roe was enjoying a budding career as a Farmers Insurance representative, and it was at a company function in San Diego that he suddenly collapsed.

“I didn’t think much of it, just thought I was sick or whatever,” said Roe, a lifelong athlete who played for four years on the La Verne basketball team. “You know, you’re 25 years old and you think you’re made of steel and nothing’s going to happen to you, plus I was starting a new career and all that. Subsequently, I had to do some testing and it was determined that I had high levels of protein in my body, which is usually a sign that there’s something wrong with your kidneys.”

Roe was diagnosed with IgA nephropathy, a kidney disorder caused by deposits of the protein immunoglobulin A (IgA) inside the glomeruli (filters) within the kidney. These glomeruli normally filter wastes and excess water from the blood and send them to the bladder as urine. The IgA protein prevents this filtering process. He was told by doctors that his kidneys would most likely give out within 20 years, so the clock was ticking.

“From 1986 on, for about 18 years, I was at the doctor at least every three months, dealing with blood work, going to the hospital when my potassium level got too high because [otherwise] it would stop my heart,” said Roe, 46. “Just on-and-off things, but I was fortunate because I never had to go on dialysis. It got to the point where I was on a lot of pretty heavy medication. A lot of it was to try to arrest or slow down the failure of my kidney. My neck went from a size 16 to a 20. I couldn’t sleep. I was just trying to function. I was physically exhausted.”

Roe was told that when his kidneys reached a certain level of dysfunction, he could apply to be placed on a donor list. If he could find a donor on his own, he wouldn’t have to wait in line. Little did he or anyone else know that his donor had been by his side all along.

“Bryan saved my life,” Roe said.
Bodine, also 46 and a ULV alumnus, became friends with Roe their freshman year. While Roe played basketball, Bodine was a member of the Leopards’ golf team. Both lived in Brandt Hall, and the friendship only grew stronger after their graduation.

After a biopsy in 1985 confirmed the diagnosis, Roe decided he would try to find the best care he could. He found a research doctor at UCLA named Sharon Adler, who specialized in kidney disorders and was not a practicing physician. When Roe’s donor search began, Bodine immediately stepped forward.

“The funny part is that I never even really thought about it,” Bodine said. “I just assumed that’s what you did. I just went and did it, kind of assuming that it was going to work, which was really kind of ignorant on my part. I met Tim one day and we drove out to UCLA and we got tested, no big deal. About a week later, this coordinator called and said, ‘I’ve got good news for you: You guys match.’ And I

“At one point, they did a kidney scan and found a spot on one of my kidneys. It turned out to be a calcium spot, and they said it may or may not be a problem. If it’s a calcium spot, then that kidney might be susceptible to stones, which could be fatal. It turned out to be just a kidney spot, but that took another month to eliminate that.

“When, it was my blood sugar, because they worry about diabetes, and my blood sugar level was right below perfect. It was fine, but they’d say, ‘If you get diabetes with one kidney, it could accelerate the process, because you have only one kidney and you can’t fight it off. So I had to go through that whole scenario.”

“My dad had died from leukemia, so that was another issue. But he got it environmentally — he grew up on a farm — so they eliminated that after another whole series of tests. So it just dragged on, and meantime, they would never tell Tim anything. “There were times where I thought they were just going to say no. Yet as far as he knew, we were psyched up and it was going to happen. That process became really difficult.”

Roe, while naturally delighted at the thought of receiving a functioning kidney and being able to get on with his life, tried to suppress his anticipation.

“I don’t want to say I was ignorant to the fact that he had some more testing to do, but I was excited that maybe, just maybe, we were coming to a point where I was actually going to have it,” Roe said. “It was the one thing in my life that was completely beyond my control.”

The waiting was difficult, but in May 2004, Bodine was cleared to become Roe’s donor and the surgery was scheduled for the following month.

And then came one final test that Bodine said nearly made him snap.

“We had to go in for one last physical, and this is where I almost completely lost it,” Bodine said. “We went in and everything was fine and we went to pre-op and they do an EKG and they came back and they told me there were some abnormalities on my EKG. The doctor said it looked as though I was under a lot of stress. I said, ‘YA THINK?’”

Eventually, Bodine was cleared and the procedure was a success. Roe said he began to feel better almost immediately. Bodine was up and around a day after the surgery and said he felt no different except a little pain from the incisions on his abdomen. They celebrated by taking a golf trip to Pebble Beach, though not right away. Bodine is a near-scratch golfer, so he gave Roe a few months to get his swing back and to sharpen up his short game.

It’s been more than two years since the transplant and both men are healthy and happy, and certainly closer than ever. Bodine gave his friend the ultimate gift — life — and Roe says he’s still trying to put it in perspective.

“My feelings were guilt,” Roe said. “How do you repay somebody for saving your life? I don’t know that you can. To that end, to this day, you realize what a substantial gift it is and it’s not repayable.

“But our friendship is deep and we’ve known each other longer than we haven’t known each other, since college; and that’s a long time. I had to be able to let go of that guilt and realize that this is just a friend stepping up. And I don’t expect him to give me anything in my life; I’ve never lived my life that way. Even though he’s my best friend, the guy says he’s going to give me a kidney, how do you say thanks? I still deal with that.”

Ironically, Bodine says donating one of his

Kidneys was something he did for himself as much as for his friend.

“I didn’t do this to do anything more than ensure continuation,” Bodine said. “There are a lot of selfish reasons I did it. Primarily, this is a guy for whom I was the best man at his wedding; you know, buddies. You don’t replace something like that, so there’s a certain amount of selfishness to why you do it. When you’re friends, family, you just can’t take that for granted.”

“I was best man at his wedding; you know, buddies. You don’t replace something like that. There’s a certain amount of selfishness to why you do it. When you’re friends, family, you can’t take that for granted.”

— Bryan Bodine

said, ‘OK, when’s the surgery?’ She kind of chuckled and said, ‘Well, it’s a process now.’

What awaited Bodine were endless fitness tests, months of checkups, blood samples, urine samples, and early morning pre-rush hour trips to UCLA during the week for more tests. And there was considerable anxiety on Bodine’s end — not from the impending procedure, but from all the fits and starts, the apparent setbacks, and the uncertainties held by both men.

“Once I got tested, they wouldn’t tell Tim anything, because of privacy laws,” Bodine said. “So they couldn’t, but they told me, ‘Well, you can tell him if you want,’ and being kind of ignorant, I said, ‘OK’ and so I told him.

“Every step, their whole mindset is that they’re not going to touch you unless you’re perfectly healthy. I was grading at about 95 percent on every test, in a very small range of tolerance, so every test I was right on the edge.

“My feelings were guilt. How do you repay somebody for saving your life? I don’t know that you can. To that end, to this day, you realize what a substantial gift it is and it’s not repayable.”

— Tim Roe

Summer/Fall 2006 VOICE
the saying "no pain, no gain" is a common term used in athletics. It can also apply to overseas study as true as it does to any other strenuous exercise.

Foreign contact leaves no student unchanged or unchallenged. When students pack to go, little do they know they might be toting some heavy extra baggage on the return trip – love of a new language and culture, new friendships, revised academic ambitions and re-defined career goals, a new world outlook and a heightened self-awareness.

In the case of ULV senior Katie Ford, the experience was an unqualified success and much more of a gain than any pain involved. Ford and ULV soccer teammate Amber Lejay arrived in Spain and embarked on a semester-long adventure in which she said she not only survived, but thrived.

“My semester abroad was perhaps the most important experience during my college career,” Ford said. “My semester changed me in so many ways and it’s hard to believe it all happened in just over four months.”

Ford became serious about the prospect of a study abroad program during her sophomore year when a former study abroad student came to one of her classes and shared...
The University of La Verne softball program always has high expectations, especially after its run of success during the past decade.

And no player on the 2006 team wanted to succeed more than Kelley Silagyi.

For four years, Silagyi was an instrumental figure in the Leopard softball program. In both 2004 and in 2006 she was named SCIAC Player of the Year and was selected as First Team All-America by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA). In 2006, she topped ULV and the SCIAC Conference in home runs with a ULV school record of 14. She also paced the SCIAC in hits (73), RBIs (63) and doubles (18).

For her efforts, Silagyi was named the Jesse Iles Scalfani Female Athlete of the Year recipient as the top female athlete at the University of La Verne.

Though she collected several individual honors, Silagyi said she owed her achievements to her teammates.

“My performance comes down to the team,” Silagyi said. “They always found a way to make me feel positive and comfortable.”

One of four team captains, the senior third baseman who started every game carried enough passion — and superstition — for the entire squad. The only way Silagyi came to relax was through what some considered to be an unorthodox routine around gametime. Eating a peanut butter and banana tortilla roll-up with some yogurt. Making sure bats and helmets were in the correct spots. Warming up with teammates the same way. Every game followed the same routine, and the La Verne softball team kept winning.

Then, after the team won its 10th consecutive game, Silagyi points out, her parents had changed the meal routine between games, and that was the end of the winning streak.

The 2006 squad looked up to “Coach Kelley,” as some teammates called her, because of her passion and what the game means to her.

“Softball means happiness, struggle and accomplishments,” she said. “I dedicate my life to softball.”

Silagyi committed much of her time outside of practice to scouting opponents and extra time in the gym.

“We wanted to be one step ahead of the other team,” she said. “The best feeling ever was winning the SCIAC title in 2004.”

As the “team voice,” Silagyi spoke with coaches on a constant basis dealing with practices, meetings, and strategy.

“I could speak my mind with the coaches and learned better approaches to the game,” Silagyi said.

Silagyi graduated last spring with a degree in Education but has not left softball far behind. As she pursues a Masters degree in Education at La Verne, she will become part of the coaching staff for next spring as a graduate assistant, making her nickname a reality.

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She’s been a big hit

"Coach Kelley" Silagyi wraps up a stellar career on softball field

By Will Darity
ULV Sports Information Director

Senior third baseman Kelley Silagyi was SCIAC Player of the Year after belting a school-record 14 home runs.

Continued from 28

her experiences.

“I was interested in doing it ever since I arrived at ULV, but the presentation she gave made me very intent on making it happen,” Ford said. “She talked about how it helped her grow and allowed her to experience a different culture. After her presentation ended, I felt like it was something I didn’t want to pass up.

“I got serious about it during my sophomore year and began to do a lot of research. My biggest concern was getting comparable coursework and credit toward graduation.”

That proved to be a minor issue as Ford, a criminology major and University of La Verne Scholar-Athlete, was able to organize her curriculum to keep her on track to graduate with her class in Spring 2007.

Prior to beginning her normal curriculum, Ford took part in a two-week, intensive Spanish class to get acclimated to Spanish-only lectures.

“I spent much of the early part of the trip using the Spanish-to-English dictionary but gradually I began to familiarize myself with the language,” she said.

Ford took Spanish, geography (which consisted of the topography of Spain, climate and political systems) along with a Spanish cinema course, which she refers to as her favorite. Ford said the cinema course was a synopsis of symbols and meanings from a Spanish point of view.

“You could see from their films that their outlook on life is different than in America,” she said. “In Spanish films, the message and stories are in the forefront, where in Hollywood, special effects and other elements seem to carry the movie.”

An All-SCIAC midfielder with the Leopards, Ford says her soccer game also

Continued on 30
Carvitto, Silagy earn ULV's top athlete awards

By Will Darity
ULV Sports Information Director

Dual-sport athlete Jared Carvitto and softball standout Kelley Silagy were honored as the 2006 Scalfani Male and Female Award winners at the annual ULV Senior Blanket Awards Ceremony on May 18.

Carvitto was named the Anthony P. Scalfani Male Athlete of the Year after earning All-American honors in both swimming and water polo. He finished in fifth place with a ULV school-record time of 2:04.28 in the 200-yard breaststroke at the NCAA Division III national championships in March to become the first male and individual swimmer to be named an All-American in the school’s history.

Carvitto was also named SCIAC Male Swimmer of the Year after winning three events (100 breaststroke, 200 breaststroke and 400 individual medley) at the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletics Conference championships in February.

In water polo, he was named 2005 Division III Second Team All-America by the American Water Polo Coaches Association in addition to earning First Team All-SCIAC honors after scoring 30 goals for the Leopards. A four-year starter and two-year captain, Carvitto helped lead ULV to a 17-11 overall record and a 6-4 mark in SCIAC play, along with a Top 5 national ranking for much of the ’05 campaign.

Silagy, the Jesse Iles Scalfani Female Athlete of the Year recipient, was named the 2006 SCIAC Player of the Year in softball after leading the conference in multiple categories. She topped the SCIAC in home runs (14, ULV school record), hits (73), RBIs (63) and doubles (18). She holds the ULV school record for home runs in a career with 37, and also holds the single-season slugging percentage record of .947 set in 2004. In addition, she earned First Team All-SCIAC honors by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) and is a three-time All-West Region selection.

Named the conference’s top player as a sophomore in 2004, Silagy is one of three Leopard softball players to have won multiple SCIAC Player of the Year honors, joining Laura Redick (1987, 1988) and Gina Meza (2001, 2003).

She helped lead La Verne to a SCIAC title in 2004 in addition to two postseason berths in 2004 and 2006.

Basketball’s Jason Greenlee and softball’s Jessica DeGiacomo were selected as La Verne’s Male and Female Scholar-Athletes for the 2005-06 season. Greenlee, a three-time All-SCIAC First Team selection and a Second Team Academic All-American, maintained a 3.89 grade point average as an accounting major at La Verne. DeGiacomo was also a three-time All-SCIAC performer as a shortstop for the Leopards, earning a 3.90 GPA in biology.

Continued from 29

benefited from her time overseas.
“We would routinely play pick-up soccer games,” Ford said. “People from all different countries and backgrounds would get together and play. It was a very high quality of soccer. I learned so much given the space confinement of the field. Footwork and moves were more advanced than I was accustomed to. It definitely made me a better soccer player.”

Ford got to travel to the southern part of Spain and said the climate was easy to get used to because of its similarity to California – more temperate in the northern section and a little warmer in the South.

When asked if one particular moment stood out during her trip she replied that it was a “combination of great moments” that made her experience memorable, but she was grateful to her host family who made her feel at ease right from the beginning.

“They really made me feel like I was a real member of their family,” Ford said. “I was accepted into a different culture that wasn’t mine. It’s an opportunity to learn so much about yourself in having to adjust and adapt. You may have a different outlook that changes your perspective.”

Entering her senior year and reflecting on the trip, Ford is sold on the study abroad program.

“I would definitely recommend it to anyone,” she said. “It opens up new worlds and new ways of thinking and interacting with people of different backgrounds. I learned to put things that are important over things that are urgent. I learned to have patience with myself, and I learned how important it is to respect the people around you.”
As valedictorian for the Class of 2006, Derek May was front and center during the University of La Verne College of Law Commencement Ceremony on May 21. Seated with fellow classmates in the front row, he took an active part in the program, taking the stage to address those in attendance on the western lawn at the college’s Ontario campus.

Although he shared the spotlight with a number of speakers, including the clerk of the United States Supreme Court Maj. Gen. William Suter, May alone will hold a special place in institutional history. As the candidates came forward to be hooded and presented their certificates, May was the first to be awarded an ABA-accredited degree.

“I didn’t realize it until someone mentioned it to me,” said May. “It’s a really nice feeling. I’m glad my dad was here to see it, but I never really gave much thought to mine being the first accredited degree.”

May came to ULV from his hometown of Warrenton, Va., having earned a bachelor’s degree from nearby George Mason University. His initial desire was to attend law school in his home state, but he also knew his search had to be flexible.

“I applied to schools in Virginia, California and Florida. I thought those were my best options,” said May. “I remember getting an e-mail solicitation from La Verne and deciding to apply.”

Unsuccessful in Virginia, May was accepted by several institutions including ULV. And while a generous financial package helped in his decision process, a spring visit to the campus really sealed the deal.

“The campus was great, the weather was wonderful and the people were all very nice,” said May. “Looking back, I know I made the right choice.”

Following graduation, May was clerking in a local law office while preparing to take the state bar exam in July. So despite earning an ABA-accredited degree that doesn’t restrict him to this state, May has decided that California really is the place he’s meant to be.

“I think my mother would like me closer to home, but my dad understands,” said May. “It’s nice to have that option should I decide to move later on. But for now, I’ve really come to like it here.”

— Charles Bentley
When a leading news magazine which covers the world as well as the U.S. looked into gender imbalance at America’s colleges, its reporter sought out Nick Solis.

Solis, a junior at the University of La Verne, is somewhat of an expert on the subject. While females tip the scales at a 65/35 ratio overall at ULV, the scarcity of males in student leadership positions is even more acute. Solis is out to change that.

“It’s important to get the guys involved on campus,” said Solis, one of four males among the school’s 15 Landis Lead Scholars. “In the United Hermanos, our goal is to increase the male involvement on campus, just because we’re so small. In the Campus Activities Board (CAB), we’re a staff of 13 and I’m the only guy. So it’s me and 12 women. We went on a retreat and l’m here, like, ‘Here I am, the token guy.’ But there’s no problem with that at all. No one says, ‘Oh, you’re the only guy.’ I’m still here. I’m still putting in my guy’s opinion. I am the vice president of CAB and I do have my say in things.”

Solis helped found United Hermanos to provide a support network for Latino males on campus. All this while pulling a full load in the classroom and serving as vice president of the Campus Activities Board.

“He and some colleagues, some friends, started United Hermanos, and that was a wonderful addition and has taken off,” said Raymond “Chip” West, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs and Director of Student Life at La Verne. “I think he’s trying to create opportunities for men. Nick is a Landis Leadership Scholar. We have 15 of those and four are male. Last year, only one was a male. With Orientation Week Leaders, Nick was one of the eight men, with 32 women. So I think he always sees the demographic. We know that it’s 60/40, women, but when you get into leadership roles on campus — once you exclude athletics — you don’t really see a lot of males stepping forward.”

Solis is also working to establish the university’s third fraternity on campus. After examining what the existing two fraternities had to offer, Solis sensed that there was a segment of the student body that, like he, was looking for something more.

“That choice was pretty black-and-white, and we didn’t want to have to choose one or the other; we wanted to have that third choice, that third option,” Solis said. “Unfortunately, some organizations have stereotypes and a lot of us felt like it wasn’t a good fit. It is a business, it’s politics. When we had our first meeting, Chip came in and spoke for about 10 minutes and he said, ‘Your guys are ridiculously diverse.’ And we are. We’ve got freshmen, upperclassmen, guys who are very active on campus and others who are not. We’re just a real good mix of different guys.”

When Solis approached West with the proposal, West was impressed.

“He came to me with a list of about 25 guys who were interested in starting their own organization, and the thing that impressed me is that it was 25 and not five,” West said. “They wanted a group that not only espoused the ideals of leadership and service and scholarship, but they wanted to have one that proved it. They wanted to go out on a limb, on their own.

“So he came in, sat down with me and had done his homework. He had researched, and gotten online and looked at a variety. There are 48 national fraternities in the United States, and we have two of them on campus, so he had gone through the other 46 and had called several people and talked to them. He came in with a short list of five or six groups.”

To get more of the guys involved in campus activities and leadership, Solis is staging a grass roots campaign. As an Orientation Week Leader, he observed an uncommonly high energy level among incoming freshman males.

“At the first movie of the year, ‘Pirates of the Caribbean’ we had a bigger turnout than we had at any event last year, and the majority of them were freshmen,” Solis said. “A lot of the freshmen are getting involved this year and a lot of them are guys, and we’re really, really liking that. So, it goes back to the fraternity. We want to hit up the freshmen and get them to join, if not our organization, then another organization to increase that male activity.”

As a member of the Campus Activities Board, Solis discovered that it’s possible to get a lot of work done and have a lot of fun doing it. This is what changed his direction from theater to student life. While the activities are still enjoyed mostly by the ladies, Solis’ efforts are effecting change.

“I think that he brings people together really well,” West said. “I think that is the role that he plays in a lot of different groups that I’ve seen him in. He is kind of the glue and he bridges different groups. Nick is, at his heart, a connector, one who connects people on campus and other people and connects students with resources or their passion.”

Nick Solis reclines in one of the irresistible, oversized bean bag chairs in the Campus Activities Board office, his home away from home.

Rusty Evans photo

Nick Solis is on a mission to get more male students involved on campus
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● Secure An Immediate Income Tax Deduction
● Provide a Future Benefit to ULV

Where your charitable intentions and our commitment to students come together for the benefit of all
Hey Alumni, Drop us a Leo Line!

We know you’re busy traveling, changing the world, living the dream! So leave it to us to help you keep in touch with other ULV graduates. Send your information (and a photo if you wish) to: The Voice, University Relations, University of La Verne, 1950 Third Street, La Verne, CA 91750. Then, look for it in the Winter/Spring ’07 issue of The Voice. Thanks!

Name________________________ Class of: _____     Major: _______________________________________
Spouse: ______________________ Class of: _____     Major: _______________________________________
Address: __________________________________  New Address: __________________________________
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