LAW IN ORDER
College of Law reaches pinnacle with ABA accreditation

Peggy Redman • Homecoming • Building on Excellence Campaign
New Month, 
Same Great Tournament!

The 14th Annual ULV Golf Tournament will be played at Eagle Glen Golf Club, one of Southern California’s premier upscale courses, on May 15. Get your foursome together and reserve your tee time soon!

For information, please contact Noemi Ortega at (909) 593-3511, ext. 4696 or nortega2@ulv.edu

Come on out and join us

MAY 15!

at Eagle Glen Golf Club in Corona

Read about Eagle Glen at www.ulv.edu/ur/events/golf_tournament
Vision, dedication lead to great achievement

While it has long been said that good things come to those who wait, in my experience it is those with vision and dedication who achieve great things. The University of La Verne has received some momentous news over the past several months. Such occasions serve to energize the university community and the extended ULV family. As we celebrate, it is important for us to recognize everyone involved in helping realize such exceptional achievements.

In February, the ULV College of Law received accreditation from the American Bar Association, becoming the only ABA-accredited law school in the Inland Southern California area. This long-sought national recognition creates tremendous opportunities for our law students, allowing them upon graduation to take bar exams and potentially practice law in almost every state. In addition, it bestows added prestige to the entire university and the surrounding region. We are now one of only 194 colleges and universities across the country with ABA approval.

Gaining ABA accreditation is the result of a dedicated group effort. Dean Donald Dunn and the entire ULV College of Law, including founding Dean Paul Egly and former Deans Charles Doskow and Kenneth Held, as well as the university’s Board of Trustees, are to be commended for working together to attain this success.

A $2 million contribution by Anthony La Fetra has established the La Fetra Family Endowed Chair for Excellence in Teaching and Service. This magnificent legacy gift comes from a family commitment started by Mary Elizabeth La Fetra – Anthony’s mother and former Chair of the ULV Board of Trustees – who as a member of the Glendora School Board, first became aware of the quality of La Verne graduates by watching those who were teaching in the Glendora School District.

President’s Dinner Gala 2006 saw the first public announcement of the university’s $42 million Building on Excellence Campaign. This five-year comprehensive campaign, which has already secured more than $27 million during the 2½-year “quiet” phase, will help keep ULV dynamic and competitive for the future.

Such tremendous achievements serve as proof that vision and commitment produce results and results generate support. It is through the support and generosity of the extended La Verne family that this university will continue to achieve great things for many years to come.
Settle in and read about all the good news at La Verne

It has been extremely gratifying to see the response to the Voice since we switched to a real magazine format nearly two years ago.

As always, our goal is to showcase the excellence of the university and this medium allows us to do it big and bold, with lots of color and excitement. It's fun to plan it, fun to put it together, and fun to anticipate your reaction.

Once again, we've got lots of wonderful things to report involving what's happening at the University of La Verne. The College of Law accreditation is the biggest news at ULV in a long time. It not only raises the law school to a new level of prestige, but also opens the door for some exciting growth. Read about it on page 6.

Speaking of growth, the $42 million Building on Excellence Campaign announced by University President Steve Morgan at the President's Dinner Gala in January will bring unprecedented expansion to the university. You can see how, starting on page 8.

Those close to La Verne know Peggy Redman as one of the most beloved figures in the history of the university. Her efforts as director of teacher education have yielded results in an independent survey that place La Verne head and shoulders above some very prestigious private universities in California. Redman has devoted her life to education and recently had an honor bestowed upon her that is truly awe-inspiring. Her story starts on page 12.

We've got plenty of Leo Lines, so look for the names of fellow alumni that you know. If you haven't sent us a Leo Line in a while, there's a form on the back cover you can use.

We've also been fortunate to have four interns working in the Public Relations office this semester, and we wasted no time in putting them right to work. In addition to various tasks around the University Relations office, we turned them loose on the Voice. Jamie Mahoney and Hugo Castillo did some writing, Emmah Obradovich shot some photos and Julie Sanchez-Alvarez helped design a couple of layouts. Their work has been impressive and appreciated.

Please enjoy this issue of the Voice. If you have suggestions or observations, please write or call. We'd love to hear from you.

Editor
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PLANNING RETREAT IS A WINDOW TO ULV FUTURE

Seeking input to help draft a new strategic plan, the university invited a wide selection of its extended family to take part in a daylong retreat March 15. Part time and full time employees from the main campus and regional campuses joined with students, alumni and trustees to contribute through a series of breakout sessions.

Morning sessions saw participants discuss university strengths and limitations and strategic goals. In the afternoon, groups reviewed proposed goals. Additional late afternoon and evening sessions were held for those unable to participate earlier. Off-campus locations also conducted classroom discussions prior to the main retreat, and an online survey collected 466 responses.

Data from the project will be compiled and used to form a new strategic plan, a vital component in the university’s accreditation review process by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

SPECIAL FORUM LOOKS AT PEACE, WORLD CONFLICT

A group of internationally recognized peace advocates and representatives of peace-minded organizations gathered in La Fetra Auditorium on March 24 for a public forum looking at reconciliation, humanitarian aid and nonviolent action in the war zones around the world. The event, "Practicing Nonviolence Amidst War and Conflict," was held in conjunction with the Global Village Foundation’s 2006 Bridge of Peace Awards banquet, which took place the following evening in Los Angeles.

Panelists included Le Ly Haslip, author and founder of the Global Village Foundation; Michael Nagler, prominent peace scholar, author and founder of the Peace and Conflict Studies Program at the University of California, Berkeley; Sarah Holewinski, director of Campaign for Civilian Victims in Conflict (CIVIC) Worldwide; Anshin Thomas, Vietnam War veteran, author and ordained monk; Dr. Waqr Al-Kubaisy, professor of Epidemiology and vice president of the Iraqi Community & Public Health Society; and representatives of Peace Boat Japan/USA.

ULV alumnus and adjunct faculty member Randy Miller has recently been selected to serve on the Global Village Foundation’s Board of Directors.

TIME MAGAZINE HONORS ULV ALUMNUS DR. LEON NGOMA M. KINTAUDI AS A GLOBAL HEALTH HERO

Dr. Leon Ngoma M. Kintaudi ’74, medical director for three far-reaching nonprofit health care organizations and projects in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), has been recognized by Time Magazine as a global health hero.

As director of the Department of Medical Services of the Protestant Church of Congo, Dr. Kintaudi provides leadership for the church’s 80 hospitals and more than 400 health centers throughout the DRC. He is also director of Sante Rurale (SANRU), a rural health program serving millions.

Profiled in the Nov. 7, 2005 issue of TIME, Dr. Kintaudi was also honored at the TIME Global Health Summit in New York City. During his acceptance speech, he credited all those working to improve living conditions and medical care in his native country.

“I am but one man standing before you here today to be recognized as a global hero. But I turn around and see thousands of Congolese heroes behind me, linking arms, linking hands with a vast network of partners around the globe that are caring for Congo,” said Dr. Kintaudi. “For myself and those thousands of heroes working without recognition, I say thank you. Above all, I would like to give thanks to my Lord and continue seeking His guidance for all that we are planning for the future.”

Dr. Kintaudi earned his bachelor’s degree from La Verne in 1974. Last May he served as commencement speaker during the 2005 Spring Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony and was presented with an honorary doctorate.

TIME MAGAZINE HONORS ULV ALUMNUS DR. LEON NGOMA M. KINTAUDI AS A GLOBAL HEALTH HERO

Dr. Kintaudi speaks at ULV’s 2005 Spring Undergraduate Commencement.
FLETCHER JONES GRANT FINALIZES NMR FUNDING

Thanks to a $236,000 grant from The Fletcher Jones Foundation, the university’s Natural Science Division has realized its vision of establishing a Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) facility on campus. Combined with previously received funding, the grant completes the $811,000 needed for the facility, which will permit students and faculty to conduct research without having to leave campus.

“We’re very grateful to The Fletcher Jones Foundation for partnering with the university to bring our students this crucial technology,” said provost and Natural Science Division chair Robert Neher. “The NMR facility gives us a much-needed analytical tool and provides a wide range of new research opportunities in chemistry, biology and physics.”

KABC-TV’S MARC BROWN SPEAKS AT COM. DAY

Marc Brown, an award-winning news anchor for KABC-TV/Channel 7 in Los Angeles, provided the keynote address during the annual ULV Communications Day on October 28. Brown spoke about his educational and professional experiences.

High school and community college students from throughout Southern California discussed current topics and career options. Hosted by the Communications Department, the event featured seminars for students and advisers as well as providing the chance to tour the university.

“This is our gift to aspiring communicators,” said professor and department chair George Keeler. “We try to inspire students and showcase the wide variety of opportunities available to them in the field.”

STUDENTS PLACE SECOND AT MARKETING EVENT

A team of ULV students earned second place for their presentation at the Western Collegiate Food Marketing Competition on March 22 in Pasadena. The event featured participants from eight 4-year universities, two 2-year schools and a pair of international schools.

Led by senior Clive Brennan, La Verne’s group was composed of students from professor Janis Dietz’ fall Marketing Management course. Other team members included Rocio Hernandez, Heather Bloomsness, Michelle Baccus, Catherine Cornejo, Krista Davis, Kenta Hosoma, Brandon Holder and Kristi Rounsfell. Miljana Backovic, who contributed to the entry, graduated in January.

WORKSHOP PROVIDES VENTURE CAPITAL INFO

Meeting the challenge to link investment sources with emerging opportunities in fertile new markets, the ULV Center for Strategic Thinking provided information and assistance to area business leaders and entrepreneurs during its Venture Capital Conference on January 31.

“Learning About Venture Capital” offered attendees a chance to learn more about venture capital prospects. It also invited companies throughout Southern California to submit proposals, with five selected for presentation during the conference. Support for the conference was provided by Tech Coast Venture Network, Tech Coast Angels, the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership, Momentum Venture Management LLC, Plenum Revenue Group LLC and Manat, Phelps & Phillips LLP.
ULV College of Law Becomes Inland Region’s First ABA-Accredited Institution

By Charles Bentley

The State of California experienced a significant shift in legal education on February 13, 2006, when the University of La Verne College of Law was granted provisional accreditation by the American Bar Association.

Prior to that day, California was home to 19 law schools accredited by the ABA and 19 by the State Bar of California, La Verne belonging to the latter group. But following a long and intense review process, the ULV College of Law earned the ABA’s highly coveted seal of approval, noticeably altering the state's balance.

The decisive vote came during the ABA’s national meeting in Chicago, making the ULV College of Law just the 193rd in the country to earn ABA accreditation. The designation lifts La Verne into a select group of institutions recognized for their legal education standards.

“We’re now in the big leagues,” said ULV College of Law Dean Donald Dunn. “It feels really, really good.”

First established as the La Verne College Law Center in 1970, in 36 years the school has grown from serving 84 night students to a respected College of Law with more than 250 students. In 2001 it moved to a state-of-the-art facility on seven acres adjacent to the Ontario Civic Center.

Still, the 10-miles separating it from the main campus in La Verne doesn’t lessen the impact of ABA accreditation on the entire university.

“This is a landmark event in our history. ABA accreditation puts La Verne into a new category of prestigious institutions,” said ULV President Steve Morgan. “This is a very proud moment for all members of the extended university community.”

With Cal-Bar accreditation, ULV College of Law graduates had been allowed to take the California Bar Exam, considered the toughest in the nation. Those who passed could then practice law, but only in California. ABA accreditation means ULV College of Law graduates can sit for bar exams in nearly every state and, should they pass, practice law in that state.

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“Great expectation has led to great achievement,” said Dunn. “ULV has always provided an exceptional legal education, as evidenced by the 35 College of Law alumni currently on the bench. Provisional accreditation will allow us to offer our graduates the same rights and privileges other high-caliber students receive from ABA-accredited institutions.”

During the accreditation process, the ULV College of Law underwent intensive assessment of its educational program, administration, faculty, physical facilities, library and informational resources, admissions, student services and finances. Receiving accreditation signifies the college adheres to the ABA’s Standards of Legal Education, reflecting the competence, equality, responsibility and integrity required by the national organization that endeavors to insure a standard of quality in legal education and practice throughout the country.

All ABA approved schools are initially granted “provisional” accreditation. The ABA, having recognized the institution’s quality and methods, provides a list of requirements. The situation will be reviewed within 2-5 years, at which time full accreditation can be attained.

“It’s not over yet, but I have no doubt we’ll get (full approval),” said Dunn.

Beyond the status and recognition, ABA accreditation marks a significant achievement for the university. Years of diligence and dedication have led to a successful result.

“This is something I have been looking forward to for quite a while,” added Morgan. “It has taken the dedication and hard work of a talented group of individuals. Current dean Donald Dunn, former deans Paul Egly, Charles Doskow and Kenneth Held, as well as the entire faculty and staff at the College of Law, came together to make this happen. And the university’s Board of Trustees deserves a lot of credit for their vision and support of this very important accomplishment.”

For the students, accreditation means more opportunities. Now students from around the country can enroll here, earn degrees, then return home (or go just about anywhere in the United States) to begin their legal careers.

Wherever they choose to practice, graduates will also find more doors open to them. Some law firms only hire those who have attended ABA-accredited schools. And surveys show graduates of ABA-accredited institutions receive higher starting salaries.

“It’s a victory for the students,” said Dan Messner, a third-year student at ULV College of Law. “Accreditation opens up a whole new world of opportunity.”

The impact throughout the San Bernardino and Riverside counties area – still recognized as one of the nation’s fastest growing regions – will be felt on numerous levels.

In terms of legal representation, the ULV College of Law will help the population by providing local options. Recent statistics put Inland Southern California’s resident-to-attorney ratio at 840 to 1, far above that of neighboring San Diego (232:1), Orange (223:1) and Los Angeles (217:1) counties. An influx of qualified lawyers into the region will mean fewer individuals will be forced to travel great distances for representation.

“The courts are excited about having an ABA law school in the Inland Empire that produces the caliber of quality legal representation important to this region,” said Riverside Superior Court Judge Jean Leonard. “It will allow the legal community to retain individuals committed to serving the needs of this area.”

Economically, additional students attracted by an ABA-accredited law school will benefit Ontario and surrounding communities. Conservative estimates put the economic impact at between $10,000 and $14,000 per student each year, which covers a wide range of services and products purchased including housing, groceries and entertainment. That works out to more than $2.5 million annually, with that figure expected to increase with an anticipated upswing in enrollment.

And considering 65 percent of current graduates remain in the region, that could mean an important influx of educated individuals added to the local work force.

“Building a high-end economy is one of Inland Southern California’s regional goals,” said John Husing, recognized as a leading authority on city and county economies in Southern California. “Top-notch professional schools are vital to meeting that goal.”

Accreditation by the American Bar Association is expected to have a marked impact on enrollment at ULV’s College of Law, as well as an economic impact to Ontario and surrounding communities of more than $10,000 per student per year.
$42 Million Building on Excellence Campaign Will Expand and Enrich ULV’s Educational Legacy

By Charles Bentley

The Sara & Michael Abraham Campus Center lies at the heart of the Campus Center Project, in which the Sports Science & Athletics Pavilion was renovated and the Frank & Nadine Johnson Family Plaza was built.
For 115 years, the University of La Verne has provided outstanding educational opportunities relating to both the academic and personal development of its students. A true testament to the university’s success can be found in its more than 40,000 graduates and their achievements around the world.

Yet while there is a tremendous sense of satisfaction attached to such a legacy, now is not the time to be satisfied with the status quo. Higher education faces many challenges in the 21st century. From the incessant demand of new technology to the dizzying growth of knowledge, the need to keep pace and remain competitive poses one of the toughest tests imaginable.

Relying on the solid foundation established more than a century ago and strengthened by generations of exceptional alumni, ULV has set its sights on expanding and enriching its educational legacy through its $42 million Building on Excellence Campaign.

“Ours is a faster moving, more complex society than ever before. Life today is much more multi-dimensional. That’s what the Building on Excellence Campaign is all about,” said University President Steve Morgan. “It’s about investing in our future to ensure we can continue over the next century to do what we’ve done so well for the past 115 years.”

It is estimated that computer speed doubles every 18 months. Each increase creates a new set of conditions. As the quantity of available information escalates, it leads to new theories, increased research and, ultimately, expanded knowledge. Even the newest textbook can’t reflect the latest data. And the effort to keep pace consumes both human and financial assets.

The Building on Excellence Campaign is intended to expand and enrich the university’s educational resources. It will allocate $23 million for facilities and equipment, $7 million for teaching, research, library services, academic and athletic programs, $5.5 million to support, establish and endow scholarships, and $6.5 million in gifts of future interest through trusts, annuities and insurance.

The official public announcement of the campaign came during the 2006 President’s Dinner Gala in January. It also marked the midway point in the five-year effort, with more than $27 million already secured during the initial 2½-year “quiet” phase, including the $17.8 million raised toward the $21 million Campus Center Project.

With the success of the $16 million Abraham Challenge targeting construction of the Sara & Michael Abraham Campus Center, the overall Campus Center Project – including renovation of the Sports Science & Athletics Pavilion and creation of the Frank & Nadine Johnson Family Plaza – will provide the university’s...
main campus with a new crossroads and a nexus of activities for years to come.

“It will be a wonderful asset to the entire campus,” said Jean Bjerke, vice president of university relations. “Four thousand people per week come here to work or attend class. The Campus Center is designed to serve all of them.”

The Building on Excellence Campaign will go beyond enhancing facilities and infrastructure. This bold and progressive undertaking will provide resources and allow the university to continue offering both the education opportunities and the values that help students become upstanding, productive society members.

Through such broad-based development, the Building on Excellence Campaign will allow ULV to preserve its established values. It will also permit students – including traditional undergraduates and graduates, adult learners, regional campus attendees and online enrollees – to prepare to excel in their chosen fields and make a difference in their communities.

“We live in a time where the winds of opportunity are always blowing. It is up to us to raise the sails,” said President Morgan. “The Building on Excellence Campaign will serve to strengthen, broaden and engage this university as it strives to meet the needs of coming generations.”

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.
For nearly three decades Dr. Marvin Snell was more than just a familiar face around the La Verne campus. He was a part of the college community, serving as both director of student health services and as team physician for the intercollegiate athletic program.

During his tenure at La Verne, both Dr. Snell and his wife, Marie, forged strong relationships with the university. His association with the institution, however, began years before as a student.

“I had one year here in 1942-43, then World War II came along,” said Dr. Snell. “When I was done with my service, I wound up going to Manchester College (Ind.) to finish up.”

Dr. Snell joined the La Verne staff in 1958, also opening his own private practice in the community. Yet despite all the demands on her husband’s attention, Marie was selfless when it came to sharing her time with him.

“Oh, yes, very much so,” said Dr. Snell with a chuckle. “She was always understanding, always gracious. She has the same warm feelings for La Verne that I do.”

Since his retirement in 1985, the Snells have enjoyed being able to spend more time together. They’ve also maintained their relationship with ULV through a series of generous contributions, including the donation of their medical building at 2035 Bonita Avenue to the university in 1996.

To honor their philanthropic giving and their place in La Verne history, the university has chosen to rename the current home of University Relations as the “Dr. Marvin and Marie Snell Building.”

“Our association with La Verne has been wonderful. I think what I remember best is the warm, family feeling you always got when you came to campus. Even with as much as it’s grown, that feeling is still there,” Dr. Snell said. “Talking with students, what attracted them to the college was the opportunity to have their professors see them as people, to have those personal relationships. That hasn’t changed.

While it may not be unique, it’s still an important characteristic of La Verne.”

— Charles Bentley
For the past 14 years, Peggy Redman has been ULV’s director of teacher education, building a program that now ranks among the elite in the state of California. She was honored as the first to occupy the Anthony La Fetra Endowed Chair for Excellence in Teaching and Service.
Office number 6 in the University of La Verne’s Barkley Building is busy.

There are walls of books, stacks of books, piles of papers, rows of binders, a small computer and two chairs. It is the latter that may be most significant: one chair is for aspiring teachers, the other is for Peggy Redman.

Redman’s office in ULV’s College of Education is the birthplace of teachers. Not just teachers with a diploma and a lesson planner, but exceptionally well-trained teachers who care about their students and are also in high demand.

It is there that the road to teaching begins, on a single sheet of paper with the heading “Personal Characteristics Necessary For Teaching.” The seven characteristics listed include such phrases as “responding constructively to criticism,” “give students positive attention,” “sense of humor.” Both advisor and teacher candidate agree that these personal characteristics will guide the prospective teacher, and both sign it.

It’s just one of many tools Redman has developed to engage, nurture and educate students to be University of La Verne-trained teachers. This kind of personal attention and warmth has endeared Redman to hundreds of students and won her the respect of her peers statewide.

“Peggy Redman is one of the most extraordinary people I’ve ever met,” said Leonard Pellicer, who as Dean of the College of Education and Organizational Leadership is Redman’s boss. “I’ve been in education for more than 35 years and I know a lot of top-flight professionals, and there are certainly a lot of people out there who have the technical expertise that Peggy has. But with her, it’s so much more than that. It’s a commitment that goes beyond what most people even recognize as a commitment. She has an energy, a passion for teaching and wanting to share what she knows about teaching.

“She’ll come here at 7:30 in the morning and meet with students constantly, sitting down and advising all those in our multiple-subject programs. They’ll wear out the carpet between her office and the front door. Then she will put aside all that stuff and go into the classroom and teach from 4 to 7 or 4 to 10, depending on the night.

Seat of Learning

Peggy Redman, ULV’s longtime Director of Teacher Education, is honored with the university’s first endowed chair in Education.

By Rusty Evans

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Come Friday evening, she’ll get in her car and drive all the way to Bakersfield, she’ll teach Friday night, she’ll teach Saturday and Sunday, and come back and start all over again the next week, and you never see her energy flag. I don’t know how she does it.”

Redman has a simple explanation: She absolutely loves her job.

“Somebody once said teaching is one of the few jobs where you get paid twice,” Redman said. “You get a paycheck, but then you get that paycheck that comes down the line, when you watch one of your students go on to be successful or be a productive citizen and you realize that you had a part in that child’s development. It’s really fun. I love the environment of the classroom. I absolutely love teaching. I love teaching college students, preparing people who are going to be teachers. It’s fun. It’s hard work, but it’s fun.

“I think the joy comes from knowing you’ve made a difference. Sometimes you don’t know that for a long time. I still have students who reconnect with me and share their experiences and tell me, ‘Oh, yeah, this really meant something to me. It was important.’”

Redman’s program received a crowning honor in a recent report by the Institute for Education Reform. In it, the results of a survey of first-year teachers who graduated from private universities in California and their supervisors revealed that ULV-trained teachers were far better prepared to enter live teaching than their counterparts. The teachers, one year out of college, were asked to rate the truth of such statements as:

“The program had a sequence of courses and school experiences that addressed the complexities of teaching gradually over time.”

“I taught in at least one school that was a good environment for practice teaching and for reflecting on how I was teaching students.”

“During supervised teaching, my university-based supervisor and cooperating teacher communicated effectively with each other.”

To these and six other statements, La Verne graduates and their supervisors responded an average of 12 percent more favorably than graduates of nine other prestigious private universities.

“It was wonderful,” Redman said. “It’s been such a validation for us because it actually interviews teachers in the field that are recent grads and their principals or supervisors, so we get the data from two different perspectives: how the teacher feels and then how the person that’s evaluating that person feels. We just did spectacularly well.”

The average positive response rate for ULV-trained teachers was 93.55 percent, compared to the 81.77 percent registered by those from the other private universities, which all have reputations as very good teacher training programs. The difference, Pellicer says, is Peggy Redman.

“The teachers at La Verne are recognized throughout this region as superior,” Pellicer said. “I don’t know how many superintendents I’ve had ask me, ‘How can we get more La Verne teachers?’ Once you get a La Verne teacher, you don’t have to worry about them; they know how to teach.

“Not only that, there’s something special about La Verne teachers. That something special is a commitment to do what they do because they want to make a difference in people’s lives. Our people are comfortable in diverse classroom settings, they appreciate different cultures, they respect it, they celebrate it. This culture that Peggy Redman has built at this university while she’s been here is very rare and very unique. She sets such a high standard that all the other people try to emulate her in terms of how they do what they do. She leads by example. Nobody ever wants to let Peggy down and she obviously never lets anybody down.”

The roots of Redman’s devotion to her work, her school and her community are deep. Her earliest childhood memories take her back to homecoming at La Verne College in the early 1940s. It was sort of a love at first sight.

“I’ve been connected with La Verne my entire life,” said Redman, who was born Margaret Deal, but picked up Peggy as a nickname, and Redman from her marriage to fellow La Verne graduate Don Redman. “Both my parents graduated from La Verne. My earliest memories are of being at homecoming and watching various older cousins who were students here. It was a place where I always wanted to go.”

Young Peggy grew up in La Verne and attended high school in Pomona, where she was an outstanding student and had the opportunity to attend Stanford University.

“When I was in high school, the dean convinced me to apply to Stanford and I did and I was accepted,” she said. “It was quite a dilemma because I felt a ton of pressure from people at my school to accept that, but in my heart I always wanted to go to La Verne. I think I’ve never been disappointed that I made that decision. I think it set a standard for my life that I’ve been happy with.”

Her parents were both teachers and Peggy, a history major and math minor,
graduated from La Verne College and began teaching both subjects. She took a few years off from teaching when her children, Jerry, Larry and Donna, were young. Then she eased back into education as a substitute teacher.

Soon, the Bonita Unified School District called and wanted her to design a gifted-child program, which she implemented at seven schools. When Proposition 13 stopped the funding for the program, Redman became a primary school teacher. “That was something I never thought I’d do, and I loved it,” she said.

After 17 years of teaching she came to ULV as Director of Alumni Relations. Nine years later, she decided to return to the classroom as a student and get her doctorate. When the Director of Teacher Education position at ULV came open in 1992, Redman applied and got the job. At that time, Redman recalls, there were only 30 students in the teaching program. During the next 14 years, that number has swelled to 380.

The teacher education program at ULV has attained elite status in education circles, largely because of the guidance of Redman.

So when the Anthony La Fetra Endowed Chair For Excellence In Teaching and Service was established near the end of 2005, it was decided that Peggy Redman would have the honor of being the first to occupy the chair.

“Typically, chair professorships are about research and scholarship,” Pellicer said. “I said, ‘You know, La Verne is a teaching university. Let’s give a chair that focuses on what we do best and what we think is most important. La Verne is all about teaching. This chair, unlike all the other chairs that you’ll see, is about excellence in teaching. That’s why Peggy is so perfect, because she is excellent and she teaches other people to be excellent.

“Teaching should be at least as honored as research and service and everything else that we do, because we are a teaching university and we are the best of the best. Peggy is the best of the best of the best.”

Redman said that at first she didn’t fully comprehend the magnitude of such an honor. But an outpouring of congratulations and best wishes from friends and colleagues helped her put the chair in perspective.

“It’s a huge honor, to be recognized in this position,” she said. “It’s usually saved for outside people that they want to attract to a university, so it’s truly an honor to be the first person named to that chair.”

While Redman’s tireless dedication to teaching future teachers keeps her moving at a fast pace, she says she does find time to relax and unwind.

“I like golf, but that takes a big piece of time, so I don’t do that as much as I like,” she said. “I thoroughly enjoy handwork. A lot of times when I go home I read. I read everything. I’m an inveterate reader. Sometimes when I get home at night, after teaching, I’ll just turn on something kind of mindless on TV and knit or stitch or do something like that to get my clock back in order. Then, I always read before I go to bed.

“I think I derive my energy from other people. I really enjoy people. That’s what I like about teaching: you learn from the people you teach.”

Though Pellicer insists the La Fetra Chair is not a rocking chair, he does hope to pare down Redman’s teaching hours a bit to allow her to be an ambassador to lower education schools in the community.

“Peggy can stay in this chair as long as she wants to and we’ll get her a cushion for her feet. We’ll do everything we can because we’d like to share Peggy with the widest audience we possibly can,” Pellicer said.

“By giving her a situation where she has to release time to be this ambassador to school districts, we hope it will extend her career.”

But Redman shows no signs of slowing down. She believes she was born to be a teacher, and the joy of teaching others to teach will keep her office door open and a chair available for the next candidate ready to learn to teach the ULV way.

“We want to make sure that this sense of humanness is always a part of our program. We don’t want to lose that,” Redman said. “I think that’s what sets our people apart.

“I remember when I was in high school and I made the decision to go to La Verne. I was talking to the dean of women and she said, ‘You know, I can understand why you made that choice, because there are La Verne graduates in this area that I know and there is something very special about them.’ What I always say is — and I really and truly believe this — we prepare teachers that care about their students because we care about them.”

Though she loves golf and has played in ULV fundraiser events, Redman says the sport takes such a big piece of time that she doesn’t get out and play as much as she would like.
The University of La Verne’s President’s Dinner Gala enhanced its reputation as the Inland Empire’s premier black tie event Saturday, attracting a record 833 guests to the Ontario Convention Center’s Mayoral Ballroom.

Friends and supporters of the university and their invited guests turned out to honor noted scholar, author and teacher Dr. Terrence Deal, a 1961 graduate of La Verne College.

The formal event, which serves as the university’s principal fundraiser for student scholarships, was attended by dozens of members of the Deal family, as well as Congressman Joe Baca and several other local and civic leaders.

The 2006 President’s Dinner Gala drew a record turnout of 833.

During the event, ULV president Steve Morgan publicly announced the university’s $42 million Building On Excellence Campaign. The five-year campaign, which has already raised more than $27 million during the initial 2-year “quiet” phase, is aimed at expanding and enriching the university’s 114-year educational legacy.

Part of the funds already secured during the campaign includes the more than $17.8 million raised as part of the $21 million Campus Center Project. Intended to establish a new crossroads for the university, the Campus Center Project features construction of the Sara & Michael Abraham Campus Center, creation of the Frank & Nadine Johnson Family Plaza, and renovation of the Sports Science & Athletics Pavilion (formerly known as the “Super Tents”).

To illustrate the far-reaching impact of the Building on Excellence Campaign, as part of the evening’s scheduled program the university announced establishment of the La Fetra Family Endowed Chair for Excellence in Teaching and Service. Created by a recent $2 million contribution by Anthony La Fetra, the chair fully funds a faculty position in the university’s College of Education & Organizational Leadership.

Margaret “Peggy” Redman, ULV professor and director of teacher education—and the cousin of Terry Deal—will be the first to fill the La Fetra Family Chair. The honor recognizes Redman’s role in helping the university establish its teacher education program as one of the best in the state.

Deal, an internationally recognized expert on leadership, organizational theory & behavior and symbolism, earned a bachelor’s degree from La Verne in 1961, a master’s from Cal State Los Angeles in 1966 and a doctorate in Educational Administration/Sociology from Stanford in 1970. Deal has authored or co-authored more than 30 books. An acclaimed educator/administrator who has served on the faculty at Stanford, Harvard, Vanderbilt and USC, he is also a highly sought-after consultant and a popular speaker.

Several past President’s Dinner Gala honorees attended the event, including Rob Fukuzaki (2005), Sam Maloof (2004), Benjamin Harris (2002), Neil O’Dwyer (1999) and Larry Rinehart (1996).
1920s
Lola (Ramsey) Davis, ’28, is happy to announce she will soon be celebrating her 100th birthday.

1960s
Bill Thomason ’64 & Ann are excited to start their retirement. Ann is retired from stained glass, loves & cares for her grandkids, reads, and travels. Bill retired from teaching. He still coaches volleyball and substitute teaches. He also drives an Alpine Motorhome and manages rentals.

1970s
Dave Tennant ’76 recently bought a new airplane (Glo-64 Swift) and flew it from Paris, Texas to Lompoc, Calif. He retired from the department of Justice (Management) in 1996 at the age of 49.

Frank Taylor ’78 is a National Educational Consultant and would love to have ULV-trained educators to join him. E-mail: franktaylor@mn.rr.com.

Sherry Takacs ’79 sends her best wishes her fellow classmates. Sherry just attended her 30-year high school reunion this past October 29th. She currently resides in the Bay area of Northern California.

1980s
Kevin E. Rogers ’80 retired in January 2000 as a senior portfolio manager co-managing approximately $4 billion in mutual fund assets. Kevin and his wife spent the following five years traveling around the country so he could race his car at a variety of tracks. In May 2005, he returned to the asset management business and now works for Fixed Income Securities, in Monument, Colo. He is the chief portfolio manager for the firm’s privately managed money for institutions and high net worth individuals.

Mary Flowers (Boyce) ’81 is the head writer for the nationally syndicated radio program “The Tom Joyner Morning Show,” has co-written a book about Joyner entitled “I’m Just a D.J. but...” It’s published by Warner Books.

Stacey A. Hilton ’81 & ’05, completed her Doctor of Public Administration degree at ULV in 2005. She has been working at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center for 22 years as a manager of cardiology, neurology, and vascular lab.

Lisa Crane ’86 & Herb Crane ’86. After working for the same company for 16 years (literally since graduating from ULV), both Herb and Lisa decided to “branch out.” Herb obtained a position with Nobel Biocare, a dental implant manufacturer located in Yorba Linda. He is the Director of Regulatory Affairs and is responsible for obtaining FDA approvals for the company’s products. Lisa is just about to finish an MLIS degree with an emphasis in Archival Studies from San Jose State University. She spends a lot of time volunteering at the Upland Public Library in their local history collection and at the Museum of History and Art, Ontario, where Lisa is considered to be an “unpaid staff member!” The Cranes have lived in Upland since February 2000.

Melvin Stark ’88. After starting as an intern in 1987, Mel was recently promoted to Manager of Maintenance & Inspection (M&I) for Southern California Edison in August. With overall responsibility for all M&I programs in SCE’s 50,000-square-mile service territory, Mel has more than 70 union and management employees and manages an annual budget that exceeds $150 million.

Jim Bilyeu ’89 was elected as an Inyo County Supervisor in 2004. He previously owned and operated a private investigative and polygraph firm for 22 years. He is also a retired law enforcement officer. From 1998 through 2004 he served as president of the local hospital board. He and his wife, Sandee, have resided in Inyo County for 35 years.

Doug ’83, ’85 & Dena Carter ’83, are proud to announce they are parents of a 2005 Pre-Teen California Senior Division Titleholder, their 12-year-old daughter, Mackenzie. Doug is a ULV grad with a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration, and master’s degree in Business Administration. Dena is also a ULV alumna with a bachelor’s degree in Journalism.
Doug Martins, '05

Some believe that if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it. But don’t try selling that line to Doug Martins.

Martins had a perfectly good career going with Wells Fargo, but felt as though he wasn’t fulfilling his potential. So he enrolled in the University of La Verne’s MBA program, and upon receiving his master’s degree, has discovered that the sky is the limit.

“It became a springboard, both for my mind and for my career,” said Martins, 35, who accepted a position as a high-paid consultant for Gallup. “The program allowed me to use the experience I had gained in the business world, and I was able to achieve a higher level of success much quicker than previously.

“That degree fueled a fire within me and I believed that I had more potential in me, even though I was successful at Wells Fargo, and had a nice title and made a nice salary. I felt that there was more that I can provide, and my approach was based on the philosophy of building on something that’s good and making it better.”

While leaving a good job one has been at for 14 years can produce some anxiety, Martins said he got an early indication at Gallup that he’d made the right move.

“It’s been a great experience so far,” he said. “In five months there, everyone I’ve talked to says I’ve exceeded all expectations. I went to Gallup’s university in Omaha, Neb., where there were 40 other newly hired people, all with different backgrounds and levels of experience. At the end of the training, your peers vote on who will have the biggest impact in the company and I was voted that person.”

Martins now works out of Gallup’s Irvine office, where he is an engagement manager, working with clients. He says there are indications that he will be moving up to a management position, based on scoring in the top 4 percent in a management aptitude test administered by Gallup upon his hiring.

Martins, whose wife, Michelle, received her undergraduate degree from ULV, grew up in La Verne. The ties to the area became a little stronger when he was hired by Wells Fargo as a teller in 1988, and at one point worked in the La Verne branch building now occupied by the ULV bookstore. The Martinses now live in Rancho Cucamonga, where they are building a family while Doug builds a career.

If you see the Martinses at Alumni Weekend in October, you might well hear about some of the merits of the ULV MBA program from Doug, who credits it with helping him reach the next level.

“I would never have been able to accomplish any of this without the MBA I received from the University of La Verne,” Martins said. “It drove me to a much higher level.”

— Rusty Evans

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1990s

Jeffrey Gurley '90, was appointed by the La Verne City Council to the position of City Treasurer on March 25, 1991.

Christine Grey '93. In May of 2005, Christine received a master’s degree in Regulatory Science from USC. Currently, she is working for Allergan as a senior administrator in the Compliance department.

Leslie I. Porras '93, '00, was recently appointed to the Board of Directors for the Safe Haven Project. Since 1993, the Safe Haven Project, Inc. has been committed to improving the lives of young people afflicted or affected by HIV/AIDS. Their efforts include camp style retreats (held annually in Martha’s Vineyard and Frederick, Md.) designed to provide a “safe haven” for young people living with HIV/AIDS, and national and international outreach programs (in the U.S. and Ghana) focused on HIV/AIDS prevention, awareness and education.

Joanna (D’Alessandro) Kubicki ’95 is working at Pembroke Hill school in Kansas City, Mo., and living with her husband Michael. They are both proud parents of two wonderful children, Alex who is 5 years old and Madde who is 1 year old.

Christine Foote ’95, and her husband, Deane, are proud to announce they have opened their own winery in Temecula, Calif.


LTC Mike Bridges ’96 graduated with a second master’s degree, this one via the U.S. Army War College. He completed a two-year Distance Delivery program and was awarded a Master’s of Strategic Studies along with 303 other students from more than 500 that started the program.

Elizabeth Miller-Hanlon ’96 & ’98, recently donated 12 inches of her hair to Locks of Love.
Locks of Love is an organization that accept donations of hair to make wigs for children suffering from disease-related hair loss. Those who are interested can go to locksoflove.org or ask their hairdresser.

Cynthia (Barrett) Wiedefeld ‘97 is teaching first grade in Claremont. She is married to Steve Wiedefeld, also a teacher, and they have two girls. Lyndsay Grace was born March 10, 2002. Kelsey Ann was born February 28, 2005.

Jennifer (Pashone) Hart ‘98 received her master's degree in Educational Technology at Azusa Pacific University in January 2005. She and her husband, Geoffrey, are also proud to announce the arrival of their first-born son. Geoffrey works at Microsoft and Jennifer is now a full-time mom.


Cecilia Celeste Torres ’99 & ’03 received a master's degree in Education (Special Emphasis) in May 2003 from ULV. She received her Reading Specialist Credential in January 2004. She married Jason De La Torres on August 14, 2004. She received a second master's degree in Reading in May 2005 from ULV. She is now a proud parent of her first son, Dartangean.

2000s
Summer (Douglas) Williams '00 married Brandon Williams on May 7, 2005. She is currently working at Alverno High School as the Alumni Coordinator and is attending Cal State Los Angeles working on her master's degree in communications.

Jim Werle, ’00 was promoted to Director of Manufacturing for Cisco Systems in San Jose. He’s currently directing the program management office responsible for the Cisco Lean Manufacturing Initiative as well as 15 other key supply chain improvement initiatives and is interested in talking with other Leos involved in such activities.

Dr. Brian Paulson ’01 was elected on September 20, 2005 to the Board of Directors of the National Association for County Community and Economic Development (NACCECD) at its annual conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.

A. Marie Martinez ’02, proudly opened Allstate Insurance in Azusa on September 16, 2005.

Daryl Baltazar ’03, moved to San Francisco with his fiancée, Lauren, who he met before he began his masters program. He is planning to start his new career in San Francisco.

Heather Cooper-Pedevill ’02, and her husband, Anthony, celebrated their 4th wedding anniversary. They were married December 8, 2001. They are happy to announce the birth of their first child, Logan Riley, on October 10, 2004. Heather is an athletic trainer and Anthony works as an insurance agent at their family’s brokerage firm in Covina.

Sarah (Shalom) Smith Edelman ‘03, gave birth to a beautiful girl named Brigid Rhiannon on October 3rd, 2004. On March 21st, 2005, she married Cameron Edelman. Currently she is a stay-at-home mom and plans to return to the work force when her daughter enters preschool. She is a qualified substitute teacher and hopes in the future to open her own business and to do some writing.

Roselinda Hoover ‘03, took a year off to travel after graduating from ULV, and is now working in the marketing department for the ICEE Company. She is planning to return to ULV to get her MBA within the next two years.

Janet Barker ’04 received her Masters Degree in Education from ULV and is currently teaching at a middle school. She was recently awarded the National Diversity Education Grant. She will spend the year focusing on subjects such as racism and discrimination and developing a curriculum for her middle school students. She has earned The National Endowment of the Arts Mark Twain Fellowship, The National Writing Project Fellowship, The Nancie Arwell Internship, and The National Diversity Education Fellowship.

Angela Torres ’04 is a high school English teacher in the Chaffey-Joint School District. She is working on her P.P.S. degree and is preparing to begin a new career in the field of educational counseling.

Laura Gonzalez ’05. Thanks to God's amazing grace, Laura passed the July 2005 California Bar Exam. What a great year! Laura graduated from the ULV College of Law in May 2005, began working for Gutierrez & Vera Law Firm in September 2005. Laura and husband Chuck (’04) welcomed their first baby Leo, Olivia, to the family in February 2006. God is good!

Cynthia Worthen, ’05 recently accepted a position as the Campus Director at University of Redlands, Burbank Campus. Cynthia received her Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership from the University of La Verne in 2005.

Little Leos
Diana (Brown) Minor ’90 & ’92, and her husband, Darryle, are thrilled to announce that they have a new member in their family, a daughter named Dakota Patrice. Dakota joins her brother Darrian D’Mar, age 2, to complete the happy family.

Kirk ’90 and Anastasia ’90 Skorpanich are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Jadyn Karin, who was born March 1, 2005. Kirk is an elementary school principal in Moreno Valley and Anastasia was a third grade teacher in Perris.

John Ramos ’91 and wife Suzanne announce the birth of their daughter, Cera Suzanne Ramos on June 30, 2005 at 4 pounds, 5.7 ounces, their first child. John works for the ABC Radio Network, while Suzanne is a customer service rep.

Matt Solters ’91, and his wife, Jennifer, are proud to announce the arrival of their daughter, Rylie Reese Solters, on September 25, 2005. She joins her big brother Hudson, who is 2.

Steven R. Marin ’95 and his lovely wife, Lisa, welcomed their second son, Evan Steven, October 31, 2005. Their first son, Julian Cisneros Marin, is 6. Steve has served 10 years in the Air Force and is a major. In June 2004 he became a flight navigator instructor for the AWACS plane. Before he began instructing

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Aleen Agranowitz ’86

Though Aileen Agranowitz started out her professional career as a schoolteacher, she was in the U.S. Navy when she began working with World War II sailors returning from battle with communication disorders caused by brain trauma.

That led to her working with a few children with disabilities, then a few more, then several more. Now Agranowitz is 90, and in 2005, the 1988 graduate of the ULV’s Doctor of Education degree program commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Speech and Language Development Center, which she and Gladys Gleason founded in 1955, and which has been at its Buena Park location for 27 years and currently has 350 students.

The Speech and Language Development Center (SLDC) is a non-profit organization that provides education and occupational therapy for children and young adults from 6 months to 21 years of age. Many students with such disorders as autism, Down syndrome, attention deficit/hyperactivity, speech and language disorders, learning disabilities or disorders caused by traumatic brain injury receive the type of education and therapy they need, assistance that’s not available at regular schools.

“I’m truly blessed,” Agranowitz said. “I just love what I do. And there’s such energy that emanates from this school and from the children. When people come here, they say there’s a special feeling about this school. We measure the gains with the children in small amounts.”

Her work at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland back in the 1940s was the beginning of the study of adult aphasia, a disorder that results from damage to language centers of the brain.

“The first time I sat down with this young Marine officer who was very bright but couldn’t talk and was very frustrated, I said, ‘This is what I want to do the rest of my life.’ I wanted to understand language and understand what happens when you lose it, and what happens to children when they have trouble developing it.”

Although she had grown up in New England, she left the East Coast behind and moved to Los Angeles When she got the opportunity to study under renowned neurologist Dr. Johannes M. Nielsen.

Working at the Veterans Affairs (VA) in Los Angeles, she fell in love with a patient, Aaron Agranowitz, whom she later married. Though his recovery from aphasia was good, it took several years.

The seed of the SLDC was planted in the Agranowitz’s Long Beach home, and Aileen Agranowitz worked with three children initially. They moved to Orange County and kept expanding, and at one point had students in seven locations.

In 1963 she was approached by Maynard Morvay of the Centralla School District, who wanted to help her school find a permanent home and receive help from the state. That’s when she and the SLDC moved to the current Buena Park location.

The younger children’s classes participate in “reverse mainstreaming” where a small number of regular school kids sit next to and learn with and from their challenged counterparts. Agranowitz says there are obvious benefits, and the small class sizes help both.

“I am so grateful that I have, and still am, doing something that I just absolutely love,” Agranowitz said. “We can only grow so much. Our growth will come in publishing and sharing what we know.”

— Rusty Evans

He was stationed at Randolph Air Force Base in Texas. Steve received his master’s degree in Human Relations from the University of Oklahoma in 2003. Lisa is a stay-at-home wife, raising two beautiful children.

Wendy ‘97 & Patrick Murray ’96 are excited to announce the birth of Kyle Patrick who was born May 28, 2005. At birth, Kyle Patrick weighed 8 pounds and was 20 inches. They reside in Huntington Beach, Calif., where Wendy is an occupational therapist and Patrick is an admissions advisor at National University.

Rebecca Cook-Arteaga ’97, ’00, and her husband are proud to announce the birth of their third child, Michael. He was born August 24, 2005, weighed 8 lbs., 10 oz, and was 21½ inches long. He joins two older siblings, Hailey, 7, and Bianca, 2. Rebecca is currently the school counselor at Pomona Catholic High School.

Amber M. (Neri) Jantz ’97 and her husband Darrell Jantz, are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Ainsley Kathleen, born on September 30, 2005.

Perry Garcia ’00, and his wife, Karen, are thrilled to announce the birth of their son, Timothy, born February 15, 2005. Within five months of birth, Timothy traveled to Toronto, Niagara Falls, Minnesota, Boston, and Cape Cod.

Mayra Ortega ’05 and her husband, Johnny, are proud to announce the arrival of their first child, Nijoel. Nijoel was born April 20, 2005 in Pomona. They reside in Riverside.

Sophia (Garcia) Guzman ’01, and her husband Raul, are proud to announce the newest member of their family. Ryan Jacob was born on August 8, 2005. He was a healthy 7 pounds, 2 ounces and 19-1/2 inches long. He is also welcomed and loved by his older brother Andrew Vincent, 2, who

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In Memoriam

Virginia (Stern) Ruark ’33 passed away on February 14, one day after her 95th birthday. Mrs. Ruark was a member of the class of 1933. However, she completed her final semester in the early 1960s.

Roy W. Smith ’35 died peacefully at his home in Olympia, Wash., on October 26, 2005, at the age of 93. Born in Sunnyvale, Wash. to the son of homesteaders, he decided to attend La Verne College after hearing the college men’s quartet perform in his church. Roy was a gifted all-around athlete, earning the nickname “Ironman Smith.” He garnered 11 varsity letters in track, football, baseball and basketball, and was later inducted into the ULV Hall of Fame. Roy spent most of his professional career as an elementary principal in Fresno, where he also trained new principals. For his lifetime of dedication to ULV, he was honored as Alumnus of the Year in 1985.

Madge (Fischer) La Noue, ’40 passed away November 11, 2005. She was a longtime teacher at Bonita High School and graduated from La Verne College.

Genevieve (Hanawalt) Moore ’44, beloved wife of “Squack” Moore ’43, passed away. As a La Verne student, Genevieve was the junior class vice president, active member of the Women’s Athletic Association and a member of the yearbook staff.

Edmond O. Dunahoo, ’51, passed away on September 23, 2005. Edmond grew up in Covina, but was a longtime resident of Long Beach and Los Alamitos. He served in the Navy for three years during WWII, and would later become a member of the ULV Board of Trustees. He earned a teaching credential, taught parttime, and was active in the business world. In 1968 he started a company in Salt Lake City, Utah, where he lived and worked until 1981.

Lloyd W. Lapp, ’53, passed away earlier this year, surrounded by family and friends. Lloyd’s Golden Wedding Day Celebration was on June 3, 2005. He completed a five-month stretch of travel in spite of his declining health, returning home to spend time in his woodshop at his Yucaipa home.

Sandra A. Russell ’64 passed away on September 7, 2005 peacefully at her Lake Goodwin home. She was born in Hollywood, grew up in Long Beach, and graduated from Lakewood High School. While attending ULV, she met her husband and moved to Seattle in 1964.


Ruth Brandt Hersch, ’74, a longtime childhood educator and resident of La Verne, died on Jan. 17, 2006, from natural causes. She was 87. Hersch was the first director of the university’s Child Development Center when it was located in the Hanawalt House on the main campus. Under her direction, the Child Development Center expanded and, along with the university’s infant-toddler program, merged with the Los Angeles County Fair Association and relocated to its current facility at Fairplex. Hersch continued with the program until 2000, when she was made an honorary board of directors member. A lifelong advocate of quality childcare in the La Verne community, in 1965 Hersch became founding director and lead teacher of the Church of the Brethren Parent Cooperative Nursery School. She earned a master’s degree in education from La Verne in 1974. Hersch is survived by her husband Paul; sons Steve of Kenmore, Wash., Tim of La Verne and Peter of Kirkland, Wash.; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.


Lucille Marie Beloian ’78 recently passed away at the age of 53. She was the niece of Lucille Keeler ’45 and cousin to Dr. George Keeler ’77, ULV Communication Department Chair. Her grandfather, Dr. Ka Sarafian was at one time the head of Education Department and her uncle Dr. Armen Sarafian ’40 was the President of ULV from 1975-1980.

Dora Robinson ’79, passed away on June 17, 2005. Before retirement, Dora was employed at Chapman University.

Virginia Mary Gascoigne Eichner ’80 passed away September 9, 2005. She was born in Upstate New York and had been an Oxnard resident for 35 years. She worked for the County of Ventura as a flood control dispatcher and later as an inventory control clerk. She was the first woman to hold both jobs. She was a founding member of the Palm Springs Air Museum.


Alberta McBride, ’86, passed away Nov. 21, 2005. An elementary school teacher in Los Angeles, Alberta was an active member in Friends of the Library, Women’s Civic League and the YWCA. Alberta is survived by her husband Robert and two sons, John and Richard.

Tami K. Potter, ’93. Born in Western Michigan, Tami earned a bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice while serving her country in the Navy. She later earned a Master of Science in Leadership & Management while working full time in California. At the time of her passing, Tami was teaching and tutoring while also pursuing a doctorate in the field of criminal justice.

Nereyda “Neddie” M. Iniguez passed away on Dec. 28, 2005, from leukemia. The 20-year-old native of Durango, Mexico, was in her senior year at ULV. Most recently a resident of Ontario, Neddie was a member of Phi Sigma Sigma sorority. She was studying abroad in Australia during the Fall 2004 semester when a reoccurrence of leukemia forced her to return early. A source of inspiration to her family and friends, Neddie was remembered by the campus community in a memorial service in the University Chapel on Feb. 16.
After a resounding success in its inaugural observance, the University of La Verne’s Winter Commencement expanded in 2006 to meet the institution’s growing needs. On Sunday, Jan. 22, the university hosted three separate ceremonies as graduates and their families celebrated a landmark life experience.

By day’s end, 430 students – 242 bachelors and 188 masters – took part and received their degrees. Of those, five were honored as Summa Cum Laude, eight as Magna Cum Laude and 27 as Cum Laude.

All three ceremonies took place inside a large canopy erected on the field at Ortmayer Stadium. Beforehand, candidates readied themselves in the Old Gymnasium, congratulating each other while sharing the same common anxieties.

“Before walking onto that stage, most students were probably thinking, ‘Wow, this is finally happening!’” said Ruby Montano-Cordova, associate dean of Student Affairs. “It’s such a big moment, having all their family and friends present. We try to provide them with a beautiful setting with that canopy, flowers and music.”

Rather than the familiar undergraduate and graduate divisions of recent spring commencements, this year’s winter event was divided by a combination of college affiliation and educational site. The 9:30 a.m. ceremony involved undergraduates and graduate degrees from the College of Arts & Sciences and the College of Business & Public Management for students from the Campus Accelerated Program for Adults (CAPA) and the university’s Regional Campus Administration (RCA). The 2 p.m. ceremony included CAPA and RCA undergraduate and graduate degrees from the College of Education & Organizational Leadership. The 6 p.m. ceremony consisted of undergraduate and graduate candidates from the main campus.

Keynote speakers included Rupert Grant, 1986 ULV graduate and president of Grant Food Services LLC; Leonard Pellicer, noted author and dean of ULV’s College of Education & Organizational Leadership; and Jane Pisano, president and director of the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum.

“Each speaker was poignant, inclusive and reflective,” said Montano-Cordova. “The speakers were the highlight of each ceremony. But for the students, the real climax comes when his or her or name is read and they walk across that stage to receive their degree.”
There are plenty of smiles to go around at Commencement, including the ever-present one belonging to Benjamin Harris, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, above.
As most Americans were settling in for a four-day Thanksgiving break filled with relaxation, food and family fun, 10 representatives of the University of La Verne traveled to hurricane-ravaged Louisiana, rolled up their sleeves and pitched in to help with clean-up efforts.

Making this trip to the Lake Charles area of Louisiana, hard-hit by Hurricane Rita, were ULV students Shanae Diaz, Emily Roberts, Abby Lee, Alex Lumbreras, Allison Farole and Mercy-Faith Kimbwala; ULV executive vice president Phil Hawkey and his wife, Dena Spanos Hawkey; Campus Minister and Director of Peace Studies Debbie Roberts; and Steve Kinzie, Assistant Director of the Learning Enhancement Center and adjunct professor in Peace Studies.

Although it had been more than six weeks since the hurricane hit, communities were still struggling to recover from extensive damage. Much of the destruction inland resulted from uprooted trees falling into houses and buildings. Nearer lakes in Cameron Parish, a tremendous storm surge did enormous damage to lakefront homes and pushed killed animals, furniture, house siding, appliances, and large boats hundreds of feet onto the land.

We worked at a number of different sites. The first day we spent raking debris and recycling boards from a jumbled dock. We also shared in a wonderful Thanksgiving meal hosted by the Lake Charles Church of the Brethren.

On Friday, we spent the morning cleaning up dozens of fallen trees in the acre behind the inland home of a couple, and that afternoon we cleared debris from around the much damaged home of an elderly woman resident in Lake Charles.

The last day, we worked clearing a massive tangle of fallen trees at the small home of a disabled couple. Their poverty and need was tremendous, and we were very touched by their suffering and graciousness. This mixture of suffering and graciousness, in fact, met us at every turn. Even when people had very little to share, they were generous with their food, smiles, and thanks. All of us returned sobered by the reality of the continuing hardships faced by the wonderful people we were blessed to meet and work with for even so short a time.

The financial support of the La Verne Church of the Brethren, ULV, and the wider La Verne community helped make this experience possible.
The trip to Louisiana offered an up-close view of the devastation rendered by Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. Much of the work of the ULV group consisted of cleaning up debris from fallen trees, many of which had fallen on homes.
Three days packed with fun, festivities and the traditional homecoming football game made for an unforgettable occasion when the University of La Verne hosted 2005 Alumni Weekend in October.

Receptions, games, a festival, and a magnificent dinner & dance highlighted a memorable weekend for ULV alumni. The annual event is designed to bring graduates and their families back to the university, reuniting classmates, faculty and staff in a celebration of all things La Verne.

“The weekend celebration really gives people a chance to reconnect,” said ULV Director of Alumni Relations Beth Elmore. “When it’s only one day, you try and see everyone and you don’t get to have full conversations with people.”

To encourage alumni with children to attend, more family friendly events have been added. Merchants in Old Town La Verne have joined in, holding their Harvest Festival on the Saturday morning of Alumni Weekend.

This year’s festivities kicked off Friday evening with the All-Alumni Dinner & Dance. Distinguished Alumni Award honorees included Marlin Heckman ’58, service to alma mater; Jeannette Vagnozzi ’91, service to community; Wayne Butterbaugh ’43, service to profession; and Anthony Granillo ’02, early achievement. In addition, professor Robert Neher was presented the Distinguished Professor Award for his contributions to ULV and its students over the years. And the College of Education & Organizational Leadership recognized professor Tom Harvey during a special pre-dinner reception.

Saturday’s schedule got under way early when alumni, staff, students and community members took part in the ULV Athletic Training Education Program’s 5K Fun Run/Walk. Later, student organizations provided visitors a glimpse into the past with booths themed to honor specific decades. The all-class picnic gave alumni an opportunity to mingle with fellow graduates and current students and included Greek tables for sorority and fraternity alumni. That afternoon, the ULV community gathered at Ortmayer Stadium to enjoy the traditional homecoming football game between the Leopards and conference rival Cal Lutheran.

Highlighting the weekend’s final day was ULV Recognition Sunday at the Church of the Brethren and an afternoon filled with decade reunions.

Planning for Alumni Weekend 2006 is already underway. Slated for October 13-15, the festivities will feature decade reunions for the classes of 1936, ’46, ’56, ’66, ’76, ’86 and ’96. It will also offer an opportunity to honor alumni who have distinguished themselves and the university as well as provide alumni a firsthand view of ongoing campus development, part of the Building on Excellence Campaign.

Below, spirit is high before the Leopards take the field against Cal Lutheran for the SCIAC football game on Saturday.
Alumni Weekend 2005 reunites friends and honors distinguished ULV grads during a fun-filled three days.

“The weekend really gives people a chance to reconnect.”

- Beth Elmore
  Director of Alumni Relations

Left, longtime ULV professor Robert Neher is honored as a distinguished professor at the Friday night dinner/dance.

The message is clear at Saturday’s homecoming game, which drew a crowd that filled up the home side stands.

The National Anthem complete, it’s time to line up and play. Despite the 35-7 loss to Cal Lutheran, the Leos finished the season with a respectable mark of 5-4.
After a midseason slump, the ULV women’s volleyball team proved to everyone that it is

still the

By Will Darity
ULV Sports Information Director

reports of the Leopards’ demise were greatly exaggerated. The ULV women’s volleyball squad embarked on the 2005 season without the services of five graduated starters (including two All-Americans) who were the pulse of a team that earned Final Four appearances each of the previous two seasons. Only two seniors remained as the squad faced the task of integrating several inexperienced underclassmen into the rotation.

That alone raised speculation that this was finally the year that La Verne would be dethroned in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and fall from among the nation’s elite.

But once again, the Leopards finished in their accustomed spot atop the SCIAC, winning their sixth consecutive title. The Leopards also went on to collect their third consecutive West Region Championship.

While the team can look back now on a highly successful campaign, things didn’t look so rosy midway through the season, when ULV suffered four losses in a five-match span. Other issues confronted the young La Verne squad as well.

Because of the renovation to its home floor within ULV’s Sports Science & Athletics Pavilion, the team played all of its matches on the road. Each day, whether for practice or match, the Leopards packed up their gear and traveled to various sites just to find a place to play.

In addition, the Leopards were without the services of four-year assistant coach Adriana Contreras, who left the team after the death of both her father and grandmother. Contreras rejoined the team at midseason.

While such adversity worked against the Leopards, it also strengthened the bond between the players as well as their resolve to succeed. This La Verne team grew to be the toughest in recent memory.

“Some of the things that occurred made the season the hardest, in many ways,” ULV coach Don Flora said. “But in many ways it’s been the most fulfilling and rewarding year. We’ve got a great group of players who have truly evolved and formed a very cohesive unit.”

Though La Verne’s evolution into a dominant unit was a slow and, at times, painful process, on one night in particular it seemed the tide began to turn.

On October 18 the Leopards faced Claremont-Mudd-Scripps (originally scheduled as a La Verne home match) on the Athenas’ home floor at Ducey Gym to...
open the second half of conference play.

ULV staggered into the CMS contest on the heels of a losing streak. Eleven days earlier, the Leopards suffered a 3-1 loss to a strong Cal Lutheran team in Thousand Oaks, ending ULV's celebrated 56-match win streak in conference play. Losses to nationally-ranked Juniata, NAIA power Azusa Pacific and Simpson College followed.

Four losses in an eight-day span.

It seemed that relative inexperience, along with the constant travel, had finally caught up with the youthful Leopards, who were reeling and seemed to be at their most vulnerable. With Cal Lutheran steamrolling each of its opponents in conference play, La Verne's only shot at a SCIAC title would be win the rest of its conference matches with a chance to defeat the Regals in the rematch at the end of the regular season. The goal was simple. Accomplishing it would be much tougher.

CMS came out strong in that October 18 match and quickly pounced on ULV to take the first game, 30-20. The onslaught continued with an easy 30-22 win in the second game. Facing a 2-0 deficit to a tough CMS squad on the road, it looked as though La Verne's SCIAC reign was about to end.

“There’s a point in every season where a team decides to be either good or great,” Flora said. “This team chose to stick together and battle. It wasn’t the easiest path to take but they were willing to sacrifice to make it happen.”

La Verne closed ranks and began to forge an identity. Scrapping their two-set offense in favor of a 5-1 attack, the Leopards bounced back against the Athenas and won the next three games by scores of 30-18, 30-12, and 15-11 in the decisive fifth game. CMS learned that night what the rest of the SCIAC, and eventually the West Region, would soon discover: The Leopards were back.

All of the pieces were coming together at the same time and the Leopards reeled off a six-match winning streak, setting up their long-awaited second meeting with undefeated Cal Lutheran.

This time the result was different. With a convincing three-game sweep, the Leopards not only handed the Regals their first loss of the season, but also clinched a share of the SCIAC championship. Two nights later was more of the same as ULV once again rolled past Cal Lutheran in three games, earning the automatic berth to the NCAA playoffs. The Leopards also locked down the No. 1 seed in the West Region to complete their dramatic turnaround.

So, how did it happen?

The senior duo of Courtney Rollins and Mandy Sedia provided the necessary veteran leadership and performed at a consistent level all season. Both earned a spot on the All-West Region team.

Slowly, other standouts began to surface.

Defensively, the Leopards began to jell with the solid play of junior libero Lauren Friestad, along with regulars Whitney Kranz and Katherine Randall. The offense improved as well with the feisty leadership of setter Leslie Flores and the emergence of junior middle blocker Megan Powers. Sophomore Jodi Lindsay was dominant after an early-season injury, and the development of high-flying freshman Brianna Gonzales had a significant impact.

La Verne's run through the West Region playoffs at Spokane, Wash., which included sweeps over Chapman, Cal State East Bay and tournament host Whitworth, reinforced the notion that it was still the team to beat in the West. The Whitworth match showcased the Leopards 'maturity as they eventually silenced the raucous and partisan Pirate crowd on their way to beating the nation's 15th-ranked team on its home floor.

“The regional was defined by our players sticking together, competing hard and having fun doing it,” Flora said. “It was great for many of our younger players to experience that type of atmosphere and continue to perform under pressure.”

The road through the 2005 season wound through unfamiliar territory fraught with inexperience, uncertainty and some adversity. But in one of the most satisfying seasons any team could ask for, the Leopards survived and endured, overcame and grew, and arrived where they usually do — at the top.

The dynasty lives on.

ULV senior Courtney Rollins was the named to the 2005 All-America Team by the American Volleyball Coaches Association.

Continued from 28
Greenlee caps a stellar season with Academic All-America recognition

ULV senior scholar-athlete also earns a spot on the All-Conference basketball team with teammate Lanier Brown.

By Will Darity
ULV Sports Information Director

University of La Verne senior Jason Greenlee has been named to the 2006 ESPN The Magazine Second-Team Academic All-America® College Division Men’s Basketball Team, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

“We are very excited and proud that Jason was named Academic All-America. He truly exemplifies what it means to be a student-athlete,” ULV head coach Gabe Duran said. “His outstanding play on the basketball court and his exceptional academic achievement in the classroom combine to make Jason a very special individual.”

Greenlee, a First Team All-SCIAC selection, started 23 games for the Leopards and led the team in scoring (17.5) for the third consecutive season. He finished the season ranked fifth in the conference in scoring, eighth in free throw percentage (.750) and ninth in three-pointers (44).

A 6-3 guard from San Dimas, Greenlee was also honored as the SCIAC Male Athlete of the Week on February 15. His all-conference selection this season marked the third consecutive year that Greenlee was named First Team All-SCIAC in basketball. He amassed more than 1,700 points in his four seasons with the Leopards.

An academic First Team Academic All-District selection, Greenlee has maintained a 3.89 grade point average as an accounting major at La Verne.

The Academic All-America Teams program honors 816 male and female student-athletes annually who have succeeded at the highest level on the playing field and in the classroom. Individuals are selected through voting by CoSIDA, a 2,000-member organization consisting of sports public relations professionals for colleges and universities in the United States and Canada.

To be eligible, a student-athlete must be a varsity starter or key reserve, maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.20 on a scale of 4.00, have reached sophomore athletic and academic standing at his or her current institution and be nominated by his or her sports information director. Since the program’s inception in 1952, CoSIDA has bestowed Academic All-America honors on more than 15,000 student-athletes in Division I, II, III and NAIA covering all NCAA championship sports.

In addition, Greenlee, along with teammate Lanier Brown, have been named to the All-SCIAC basketball team, as selected by the conference coaches.

Greenlee earned First Team honors for the third consecutive season. He tallied a team-high 44 three-point baskets and shot 75% from the free throw line as the Leopards finished fourth in the SCIAC standings. He scored a season-high 34 points in an 84-75 win over George Fox on Dec. 20 and led La Verne in scoring in 12 games this season. Greenlee was also named the SCIAC Male Athlete of the Week on Feb. 15.

Brown averaged 13.5 points per game in league competition en route to his second straight selection to the All-SCIAC Second Team. In addition, he shot .507 from the field in conference games. A 6-3 guard from Los Angeles, Brown registered a career-high 32 points in a 101-76 win over Whittier on Feb. 1.
Veronica Andrews is a surfing enthusiast, aspiring film director, reality TV star, scholar-athlete and SCIAC champion. She would love to add All-American to the list.

After nearly earning that title in the javelin throw a year ago, Andrews stays focused on her goal while keeping a busy schedule. She's involved in various activities on the ULV campus and puts lots of energy and enthusiasm into each of them.

Andrews is an avid surfer and spends most of her summers as a surfing instructor as a member of Surf Divas in the San Diego area. She has competed as an amateur in several semi-pro surfing tournaments and has surfed all around the country and Mexico.

“Surfing has been my passion for a long time,” she said. “I get out to the beach whenever there’s an opportunity. It’s great to be relatively close to the ocean so I can pursue it whenever I get a spare moment.”

Her time in the water has apparently enhanced her exploits on the track. She won both the high jump and javelin events as a sophomore at the 2005 SCIAC Championships, helping the Leopard women claim their second conference title in three seasons. She later improved her efforts in the javelin with a toss of 138 feet, 11 inches, (second-best in ULV school history) to earn a berth in last year’s NCAA Championships in Waverly, Iowa, where she came tantalizing close to becoming All-American with a ninth-place finish.

“I finished one spot away from being named All-American,” Andrews said. “It was initially disappointing, but now I view it as a great experience to be among the best athletes in the country at that level.”

In this season’s quest for All-America status, she has provisionally qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Championships with a toss of 131-2.

Andrews came to La Verne from the town of Carlsbad in San Diego County, where she starred in three sports (track, volleyball, basketball) at La Costa Canyon High School while maintaining a 4.3 grade point average.

Her interest in track and field, in addition to her love of film and television production, has made Andrews a natural fit at ULV, where she has excelled in the Communications Department as a TV Broadcasting major. She has helped produce and direct several school-related productions and has most recently served as a production assistant for the President’s Dinner Gala video. She plans to study film and television production in graduate school with the hopes of having a career directing and producing films.

Her interests in that field have also surfaced in front of the camera, as she landed a spot on MTV’s “Date My Mom” reality show, where she and her mom, Tara, won the dating competition during an episode a year ago.

“Being on the show was a very interesting experience on many levels,” she said. “It was nice to have my mom be a part of it all, and it was neat to observe what occurs behind the scenes during the production.”

She has maintained her commitment in the classroom after recently being named a La Verne Scholar-Athlete for the second year in a row.

For now, Andrews continues to focus both on and off the track with her sights set on other opportunities. She plans on studying abroad next fall before completing her collegiate career next season.

“La Verne has been a place where I’ve been involved in so many things and still have had fun,” she said. “I’m looking forward to what the future holds.”
When not attending class or tending to her duties as vice president of the Associated Students of the University of La Verne, Rida Fatima spends a good part of her time at La Fetra Hall, where she practices with the ULV debate team four hours a week.

Rusty Evans photo

LIVELY DEBATE

When it comes to discussing current events, especially politics, Rida Fatima is rarely at a loss for words

By Rusty Evans

Don’t worry about offending Rida Fatima. She’ll talk politics with you anytime.

But you’d better know your stuff.

For Fatima, a junior at ULV, politics and current events are always at the forefront of her consciousness. She’s vice president of the Associated Students of the University of La Verne and helped draw up the new constitution. She’s also running for ASULV president and is a political science major with a minor in speech communication. And, as a member of the ULV Debate Team that traveled to Asia for the world championships, she’s adept at getting her point across.

Analyzing daily world events as an outstanding college student is merely an extension of her upbringing. She says she finds nothing more stimulating and, at the same time, relaxing than snuggling up to her computer at the end of the day and checking out what’s happened in the past 24 hours.

“This seems really nerdy, but after checking my e-mails, I go to the BBC website,” said Fatima, a Landis LEAD Scholar. “It’s my thing. I grew up in a very politically aware home. Whether it’s state and local politics or national politics, it really does appeal to me. Part of it, I think, is the way my parents raised me. I love reading. That’s my interest. Kind of nerdy, but that’s what I grew up with.”

Fatima’s father, Rizwan Akbar, moved his family from Pakistan to the United States when Rida was 13. Fatima’s father, a university physics professor, would stir the debate at home.

“Our normal family activity is we get together as a family and watch the news and we discuss what happens in the world,” Fatima said. “My father would play the devil’s advocate and we’d go back and forth. I remember being really young and my father having those discussions with my grandpa. So we have a long line of being very politically active people.”

Fatima says that while she resisted change in general during her adolescence, she embraces it now and as a campus politician works to make things better for her fellow students.

She’ll discuss any of the issues, anytime, anywhere.

“People talk about how politics and religion are taboo subjects at the dinner table and I thought about that when I moved here,” she said. “I thought, ‘What are you talking about? That’s what we talk about at home.’ We listen to the news on all different channels and we discuss it. It’s great.

“It makes for lovely family reunions.”
When Betty decided it was time to part with her rental property, she turned to the University of La Verne.

By working with ULV, Betty Sivcovich (Class of 1943) was able to transfer her property into a charitable remainder unitrust, which provides her and her heirs with a high rate of income for 20 years, an immediate income tax deduction, and avoidance of capital gains tax on the transfer of the property. She accomplished all this while leaving the university a permanent legacy as well.

Here are some examples of property you can transfer:
- Residential
- Commercial
- Vacant Land
- Industrial
- Apartment Buildings
- Rental Units

If you have property — whether it be residential, commercial, industrial or raw land — and are interested in making a similar gift, please contact Robert Earhart (909) 392-2740.

For more information, visit www.ulv.edu/ur/giving
**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 Summer/Fall ’06 issue of The Voice. Thanks!

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