

UNIVERSITY OF



LA VERNE

Summer/Fall 2007

VOICE



SMALL WORLD

ULV's New Agreement With A
Cambodian University Brings
The Far East A Little Closer

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UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE

Knowledge. Service. Vision.

By Steve Morgan

Affirming Tradition, Promoting Progress

Those of us who have been part of the La Verne family for an extended time often see ourselves as links between the generations. We cherish memories of La Verne College, a place where the Old Gym played an essential role in daily campus life. Simultaneously, we're looking ahead to the Sara & Michael Abraham Campus Center, eager to enjoy the amenities it will bring to ULV.



This issue of the Voice offers an example of the challenge our university, like all institutions of higher education, regularly face – the need to affirm tradition while also promoting progress.

At the very core of the ULV legacy is its history. Individuals like Dwight Hanawalt and Ben Hines embody the best qualities of La Verne. And the 1972 baseball team, in winning the NAIA World Series, set a standard of excellence for all future student-athletes.

Yet history is restricted by neither time nor place. In a world made smaller each day by transportation and technology, ULV is part of the global learning experience. The International and Study Abroad Center provides our students a chance to discover new people, places and ideas. And the efforts of faculty members Georgij Paro and Peggy Redman are forging links between our campus and learning centers in Europe and Asia.

The ultimate validation of a university comes in the accomplishments of its graduates. Donna Nasmyth made history by becoming the first female member of the La Verne City Council. And Marissa DeRosa-Buckisch, who transformed her family's quaint café into a thriving modern business, has been honored by the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce and the YWCA of the San Gabriel Valley. These are just two of more than 40,000 La Verne graduates, all making our world a better place through their professional/career contributions and through community service.

At the University of La Verne, we recognize that progress involves both expectation and experience. By understanding what we've done and where we've been, we can draw on our past successes to enhance the rich educational opportunities we provide.

Steve Morgan

In a world made smaller each day by transportation and technology, ULV is part of the global learning experience.

The World is Getting Smaller, and ULV's Reaching Out To It

While waiting for the fabulous Khmer Arts Academy Dancers to begin their performance on Saturday of Homecoming Weekend, I chatted with Peggy Redman, Diane and Rich George and Charles Bentley.

We could hear the roar of the Homecoming football game crowd nearby and so the conversation took a turn toward collegiate athletics. Well, Charles and I are the former sportswriters, but you'd have thought it was Peggy. She spoke of the effects of injuries, recruiting, strength of schedule, the rankings — wow!

It didn't occur to me until later that it's likely that Peggy can carry on such an authoritative conversation with anyone about just about anything. I thought about that as I read Randy Miller's story about Peggy's summer trip to Vietnam and Cambodia with cousin June Pulcini to finalize a Memorandum Of Understanding with Pannasastra University in Cambodia.

With her warmth, ready smile and expertise in communicating, who better to serve as the University of La Verne's ambassador in bringing two universities on opposite ends of the globe together in the pursuit of learning?

We were so fortunate to have Miller, an adjunct professor of journalism at ULV, to capture and put into words the significance of the trip, the event, the future. There are also two photos with the story that interested me. One is of Peggy signing papers at the official ceremony, like some treaty from our history books, a million miles away. The other shows Peggy sitting at a computer, logging onto the ULV College of Law website, today's technology instantaneously linking two cultures.

The university has student ambassadors as well. Every year, ULV students take off to study abroad, safe in the knowledge that the university is behind them every step of the way. We know this because we were lucky enough to find a talented young writer in ULV student Lilia Cabello, who spent a few months in Ireland on the study abroad program. Lilia got some of her friends to send photos of their time in Japan, Spain and Italy as well, so you won't find a fresher perspective on the subject.

Sometimes the world comes to ULV, which has been extremely fortunate to have Georgij Paro as guest director in the Theatre Arts Department each spring for the past two decades. Lisa O'Neill Hill's story captures the essence of the man who is a national treasure in Croatia, one more revered than a Steven Spielberg in the motion picture industry in the United States, according to Department Chair David Flaten.

There's also big news in our own back yard.

A ground breaking ceremony for the Abraham Campus Center occurred during Homecoming Weekend in October, kicking off the university's most exciting capital project since the Wilson Library/Landis Academic Center. The Campus Center will not only be a visual work of art, but it will be state-of-the-art in every way on the inside. It's likely that it will change the way people think about the University of La Verne entirely — both alumni and first-time visitors.



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On the cover: *The Khmer Arts Academy Ensemble of Long Beach perform at ULV as part of the exhibit: "Then and Now: ULV Connections to Cambodia and Vietnam"*

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In his native Croatia, theater director **Georgij Paro** is more recognized and revered than Steven Spielberg or George Lucas in the United States. Every spring, ULV has the good fortune to have him as guest director.

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In a special celebration, the ULV Community paid tribute to two inseparable icons: **Dwight Hanawalt** and the Old Gym.



News Notes &

UNIVERSITY RECEIVES A \$2.47 MILLION GRANT TO SUPPORT DIVERSITY

The U.S. Department of Education has awarded a \$2.47 million Title V Developing Hispanic Serving Institution grant to the University of La Verne. The five-year grant will serve to enhance programs within the university's College of Business & Public Management.

"This grant is a major step forward for the College of Business & Public Management," said college Dean Gordon Badovick. "It supports our commitment to diversity and truly helps us help our ambitious students to be confident and successful when they graduate.

Providing at least \$483,500 annually, the grant will fund development of a number of ULV programs, most prominently the Rita Thakur Skills for Success Program and the REACH Summer Business Camp. Funds will also benefit technology enhancements and provide faculty training in new methodologies in teaching students from varying ethnic backgrounds.

The Skills for Success Program — named for Thakur, associate dean in the CBPM, in honor of her efforts and devotion to the program and her role in ULV receiving the Title V Grant — helps business majors cultivate strong career-management skills over a four-semester schedule. The REACH Summer Business Camp brings together local high school students for a three-week on-campus program where attendees stay in residence halls and attend classes on a range of business-related topics as well as college preparation and financial aid instruction. The students also take part in a team competition to create business plans for a fictitious enterprise.

LABINGER'S WORKS EARN FINALIST HONORS



Andrea Labinger proved twice worthy of honors in the PEN USA 2007 Literacy Awards, earning two of four finalist spots in the competition's translation category.

A professor of Spanish and director of the Honors Program at ULV, Labinger was a finalist for her translation of Alicia Steimberg's "The Rainforest." Additionally, her translation work with Joanne and Donald Yates on the translation of Edgar Brau's "Casablanca and Other Stories" was also chosen as a finalist.

Mary M.Y. Fung and David Lunde were named the 2007 award winners for their translation of "The Carving of Insects" by Bian Zhilin. The PEN USA literacy awards honor the work of writers and journalists in the West.

STUDENT MARKETERS ACCEPT AWARDS AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The ULV Chapter of the American Marketing Association was recognized for its outstanding achievements during the 2006-07 academic year. La Verne students attending the AMA International Collegiate Conference in New Orleans returned with three leading awards, including Revitalized Chapter of the Year, Outstanding Communications and Best Web Site (honorable mention).

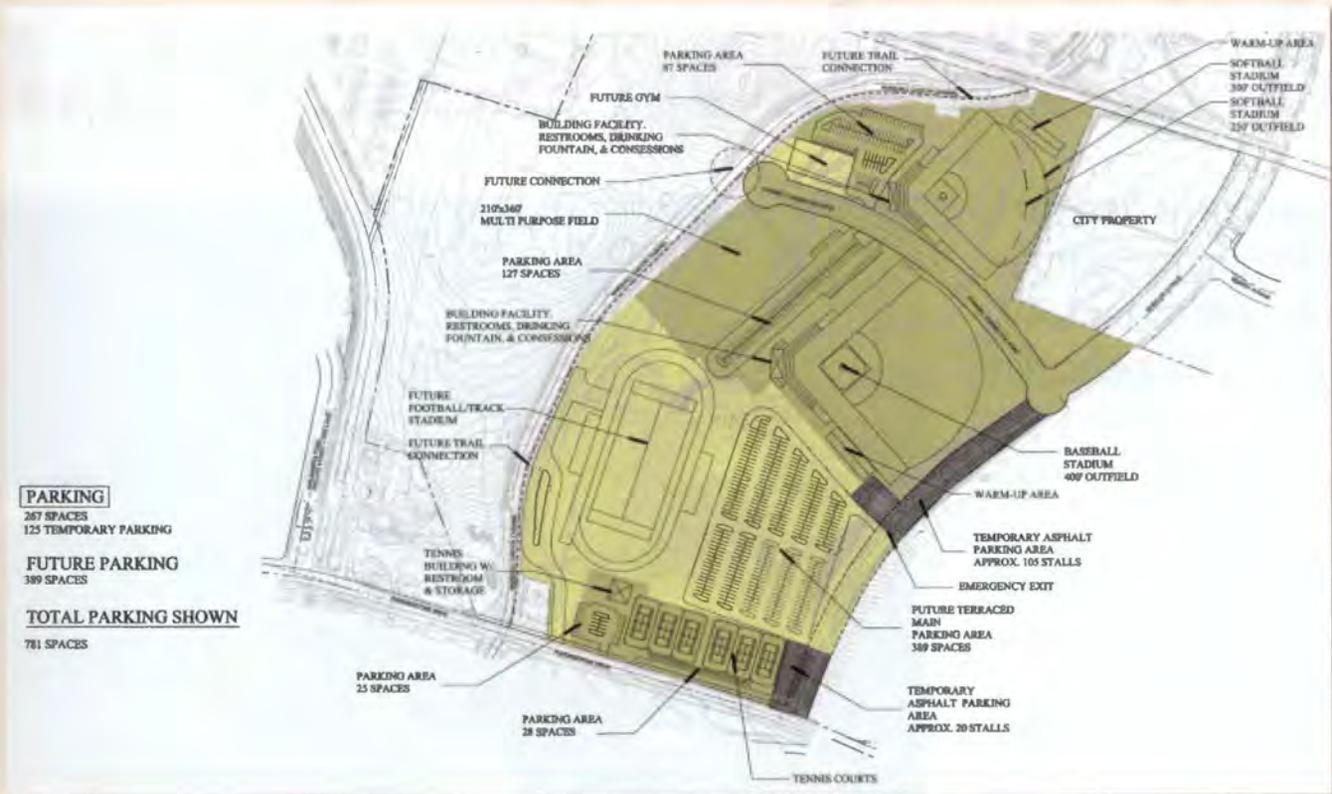
Janis Dietz, ULV professor of marketing, made a presentation during the conference's senior sessions. Her presentation, "The Things Your Future Wants to Make Sure You Learned in Marketing," received high marks from its audience.

The ULV AMA Chapter is dedicated to

promoting a professional environment where students of any major can gain hands-on experience in all fields of business, finance, economics, event planning, and various other key skills needed for career advancement. Its goal is to improve professional development by providing students the exposure needed to find career opportunities and to gain personal marketing and networking skills.

MOORPARK STUDENTS CAN STAY PUT AND EARN A ULV DEGREE

ULV has joined with Moorpark College to offer an innovative program that allows students to complete bachelor's degrees without leaving the Moorpark campus. The University of La Verne at Moorpark College program permits students to attain ULV degrees in Business Administration,



CITY APPROVES AGREEMENT FOR JOINT-USE SPORTS COMPLEX

An agreement reached between the City of La Verne and ULV will create new recreational facilities over the next five years that will serve both the university and the local community.

By a 3-1 vote, the La Verne City Council approved an agreement to sell the city's share of 28 acres of undeveloped land to the university. The university has agreed to develop

recreational facilities including baseball and softball stadiums, tennis courts and multi-use fields, with the city receiving joint use of the facilities through a 199-year deal at a cost of \$1 per year.

The 28 acres is a portion of property formerly owned by the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) that was purchased in a 2005 cooperative alliance between the university and the city. That

land, located south of Arrow Highway and east to Marshall Creek, is adjacent to a 20-acre parcel of land previously acquired by ULV.

With this agreement, the university can eventually relocate its athletic facilities from the main campus. That, in turn, will free space to accommodate growth and academic expansion on the main campus.

Child Development or Liberal Studies while doing the necessary coursework at Moorpark.

"Unlike other institutions, La Verne has the capacity to bring the university to the student so we do not have to ask the student to come to the university," said Stephen Lesniak, dean of ULV's Regional Campus Administration. "This model appeals to busy students who have ties to a given geographic area."

The program will be taught and administered by the faculty and staff of the ULV Ventura County Campus in Oxnard, supported by the university's main campus. It mirrors similar programs La Verne has established at other California Community Colleges.

LTV-3 CLEANS UP ON REGIONAL AWARDS AT VENTURA CONFERENCE

Six video productions by ULV Communications Department students aired on LTV-3 were honored at the Alliance for Community West Region Conference in Ventura. The six WAVE awards totaled more than any other access center in the region, including cities such as Honolulu, Sacramento, San Francisco, Denver, Albuquerque, and Tucson.

All the videos were produced by ULV students in different classes. The winners include: Best Magazine Program — "La

Verne Exclusive," Megan Montalvo and Angie Gangi; Best Information Video — "Vertical Minds," Chelsea Sherier; Best Live Show — "Halloween Live!" Armen Katchiguan and (instructor) Shane Rodrigues; Best Experimental Program — "Lyminidum," Joseph Valencia, Ray Kaptur, Evan Mobley, Adrianna Castillo; Best Station Promo — "LTV Channel Promo," Kim Bui; Best Community News Show — "La Verne Community News," Allison Farole.

Since 1994, the ULV Communications Department has contracted with the City of La Verne to run LTV-3. It has more than 6,000 subscribers and provides coverage of events throughout the community and at the university.

'A new beginning...

Ground breaking for the Abraham Campus Center energizes ULV faithful at Homecoming

Story By Rusty Evans

Photos by Jeanine Hill

Sara Abraham squinted and gazed beneath the beams of late October morning sunshine at the vacant lot where once stood physical education buildings on the La Verne campus.

"The area looks a lot bigger now," she said. "In two years, we'll be back to enjoy the fruits of our labor."

That seemed to capture the sentiment of the other 400 or so gathered near the corner of Second and C streets for the ground breaking ceremony of the Sara & Michael Abraham Campus Center during Homecoming Weekend.

The brick P.E. building and the Old Gym had been razed two months earlier, the ground leveled as if by an artist stretching his canvas. Construction of the three-story building is expected to take a little less than two years. Its benefits will last considerably longer.

"As a college student, you need to have a place to get together with others and think about what you're going to do with your life and how you're going to change the lives of others," said Michael Abraham, a member of ULV's Board of Trustees, who along with his wife, Sara, has pledged \$6.5 million to the Campus Center Project. "A lot of this is done after the schooling hours. It's where you learn about life. You don't learn about life from a book."

The gathering was framed by a dozen easels, each with an architect's rendering depicting a different view of the three-story building. Inside will be a café called

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Sara and Michael Abraham were handed ceremonial shovels, but it was Michael who jumped up onto the heavy equipment (background) to direct a giant first scoop of ground breaking soil.

a new source of life'



ULV President Steve Morgan, above, addresses a crowd of nearly 400 at the ground breaking ceremony for the Sara & Michael Abraham Campus Center during Homecoming Weekend.

Right, Board of Trustees Chair Benjamin Harris signifies the work left to be done, both with the Campus Center and the "Building On Excellence" campaign, by donning a ceremonial hard hat.



Below, ULV Board of Trustees member Paul Moseley (white shirt) made the trip from his Montana home to share in the historic event and stopped for a photo with ULV students and school mascot "Leo" the Leopard.



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"Barbara's Place" (in recognition of the gift made to the university by Barbara and Ben Harris), bookstore, student game lounges, student government offices and workspaces, new classrooms and meeting rooms, all crowned by a grand conference center, the Ludwick Forum, on the top floor.

Jonathan Fitzhugh, ASULV president, expressed eager anticipation, on behalf of the student body.

"This has brought excitement to the students, for whom it will be a bridge from our course work to our social life," he said. "The center will shine as a light to bring the community together as a new source of life and energy, and a new beginning. This will give the students one location where they can share moments and memories."

The Abraham Campus Center is the third and final component to the university's Campus Center Project, for which more than \$24 million in private funds have been raised. Margaret "Peggy" Redman, ULV's Director of Teacher Education, called it a second home.

"Having a sense of place is important to students," said Redman, who recalled hanging out in the lobby of Studebaker Hall as a student in 1956. "It's a place to put down roots. It's a place to call home."

ULV President Steve Morgan pointed out in his remarks to the crowd that the Campus Center Project has raised more than six times as much money as any other capital campaign in the school's history. In three years, the Super Tents have been transformed into the gleaming new Sports Science & Athletics Pavilion, and the Frank and Nadine Johnson Family Plaza has given the campus a new town square.

And, in the same bold spirit, the university eschewed the traditional gold-plated shovels and gave Michael Abraham the honor of jumping up onto an enormous construction loader, which churned up a giant scoopful of soil.

Let the building begin.

SMALL WORLD

Peggy Redman travels to Southeast Asia with cousin June Pulcini to forge a Memorandum of Understanding with Pannasastra University in Cambodia.

By Randy Miller

Back in the 1960s, before La Verne College had stretched its global wings to become the University of La Verne, it already had made inroads to distant lands via its alumni. Years before U.S. troops waded ashore on Vietnam's China Beach in 1965 — marking the beginning of what became known as the Vietnam War — La Verne graduates had been quietly working in that country, Laos and Cambodia as, among other things, volunteer teachers and agricultural advisors under the auspices of International Voluntary Services. They worked in villages whose names their families could barely pronounce, in weather that rivaled the worst that sticky Ohio and Indiana summers could offer. And they loved it.

Some returned to the States after their terms of service. Some hopped from one country to another, switching projects either by force or by choice. Some remained in the region to work in refugee camps and help resettle “boat people.”

June Pulcini stayed seven years, following her graduation from La Verne College in 1962 and the beginning of her volunteer work in 1963. She worked in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam before finally returning to the States in 1970, settling in California's idyllic Hermosa Beach.

But a part of her remained in Southeast Asia, and every few years she goes back. In the summer of 2007, Pulcini went back again — and this time she took her cousin, Peggy Redman.

Redman is not only a La Verne grad ('60, MEd '87, EdD '91), she is also the university's Director of Teacher Education,

and the first to occupy the Anthony La Fetra Endowed Chair for Excellence in Teaching and Service. Perfect credentials to help establish ties between the University of La Verne and Cambodia's Pannasastra University, which was part of the impetus behind her trip to Southeast Asia with Pulcini in the summer of 2007.

Of course, a lot had taken place ahead of time to set the stage for this jaunt across the Pacific. Ventures like this don't come to fruition overnight. Many who have come to know Pulcini are from Southeast Asia: people she and her husband Marvin May befriended over the years. Between Pulcini's return from volunteer work in Southeast Asia in 1970 and her trip with Redman last summer, several of those friends had undergone one harrowing adventure or another on their way to the States. Some had to evade pirates on the South China Sea following the 1975 fall of Saigon. Others had narrowly escaped the brutality of Cambodia's Khmer Rouge years under Pol Pot in the late 1970s. And many of them, at one time or another, crossed June and Marvin's threshold.

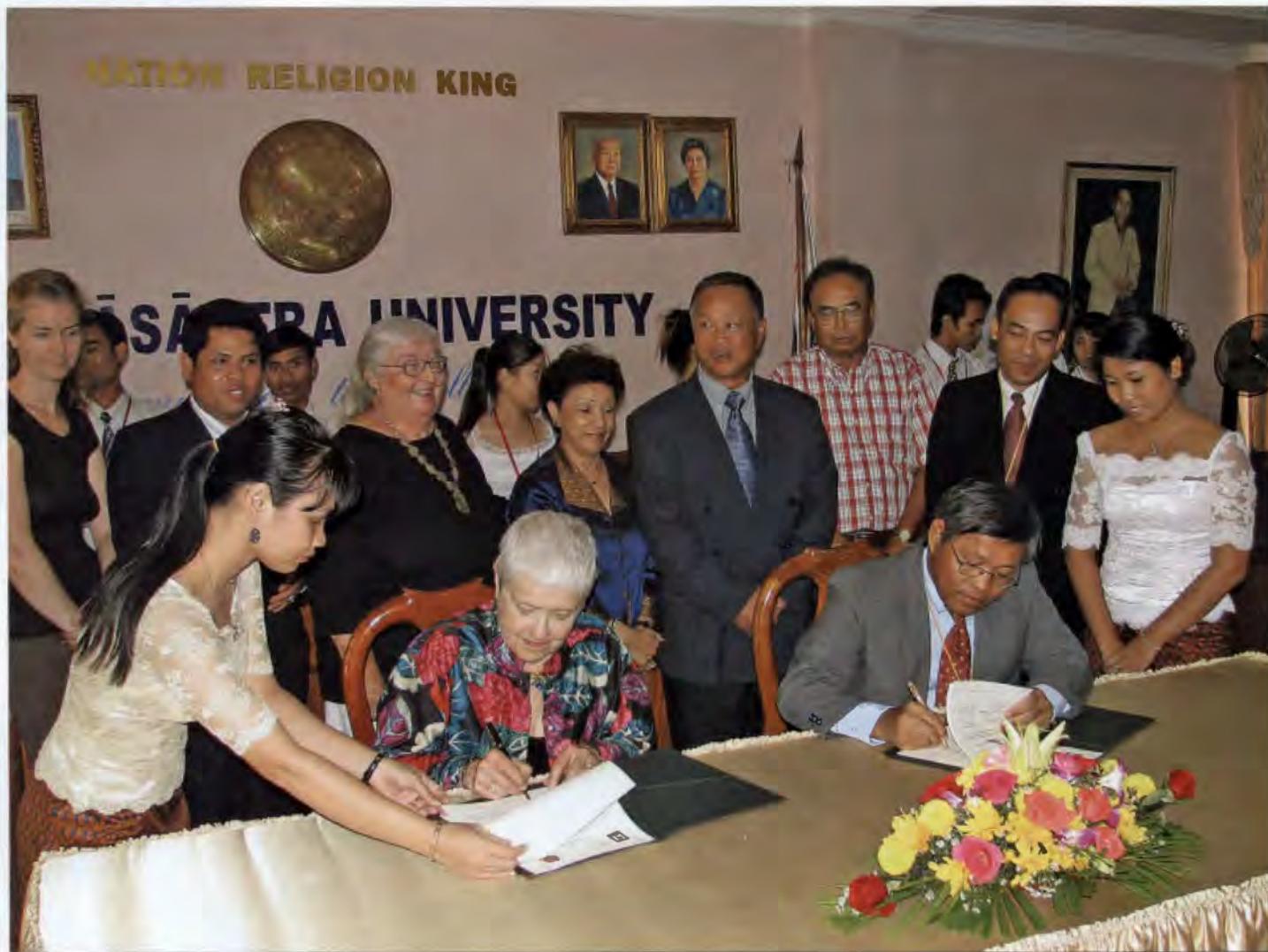
A tour of the Pulcinis' beach-side residence feels almost like a walk through a museum replete with works of art, books, photographs and other memorabilia from Southeast Asia and other far-flung places. Here, one finds a copy of the book “When Heaven and Earth Changed Places” signed by their friend of many years, Le Ly Hayslip, upon whose life story Oliver Stone based his film “Heaven and Earth.” Nearby, hangs a photograph of Pulcini with Redondo Beach

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Members of the Khmer Arts Academy Ensemble of Long Beach perform outside the University of La Verne Wilson Library during Homecoming Weekend 2007 as part of June Pulcini's exhibit celebrating the university's relationships with Cambodia and Vietnam.

Rusty Evans photo





Kolap Mao photo

Peggy Redman represents the University of La Verne at the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between ULV and Pannasastra University, held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The agreement was also signed by Pannasastra University president Chanthan Chea, seated right.

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neighbor and friend Ron Kovic, author of "Born on the Fourth of July," and subject of yet another Oliver Stone film. Actor Haing S. Ngor, who starred in "The Killing Fields," the definitive film about the Khmer Rouge genocide, inscribed this note to Pulcini in a copy of his memoir: "To June, with all my very best wishes and respect — may it never happen again. (Sadly, she lost that friend when, in a tragic irony, after surviving the Khmer Rouge years, he was gunned down by three gang members in Los Angeles in 1996.)"

And on a wall in her filled-to-overflowing upstairs library hangs a signed copy of photographer Nick Ut's 1973 Pulitzer Prize-winning image of a young napalm-burned girl running naked down a rural Vietnam road. Beneath it is a photograph of Pulcini and her friend Nick, who has visited her

home on several occasions. Her concern for and interest in the people she served as a volunteer in Southeast Asia did not end when she came home. It merely took on a new form.

"I think June was an Asian woman in an earlier life," said Hayslip, a devout Buddhist. "I think her soul is Asian."

Chanthan Chea, who came to the United States from Cambodia, had embarked upon a course of study that would take him to UC Santa Barbara, where he earned his Ph.D. While studying in Southern California, his path crossed Pulcini's and they became fast friends.

"They're really kind of like brother and sister," Redman said. "When he was getting his doctorate at Santa Barbara, June's place was his second home."

Chea had come to the States in the early 1970s, and so was away from his family when the Khmer Rouge took over the country. He

would not hear from them for the next 10 years. June's home became something of a refuge for him.

While studying here for his degree, Chea read books on management and organizational leadership by 1961 La Verne graduate Terrence Deal (yet another cousin — and recipient of the ULV President's Award in 2006). Inspired and invigorated, Chea, upon completing his degree, decided to return to Cambodia due to his mother's terminal illness. He then participated in founding a private university with other Cambodian Americans. In 2000, with a few books, a modest-sized staff, and some 150 students, he helped launch Pannasastra University of Cambodia in the country's capital city, Phnom Penh. Today, the student body has grown to 10,000 on four separate campuses — a remarkable transformation from the days when books for the school

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had to be shipped from the States to Cambodia in the trunks of used cars to save on mailing costs.

"That institution is successful because of Chanthan," Redman said. "He's forward-thinking. And his American education gives him a good understanding of academia. They want to develop graduate programs in education."

Among Pulcini's many gifts is her ability to bring people — and institutions — together. She did just that with her beloved alma mater and her friend's fledgling university in Phnom Penh last July. Making arrangements behind the scenes for more than a year, she quietly but persistently helped lay the foundation for a Memorandum of Understanding between ULV's College of Education and Organizational Leadership and Pannasastra University of Cambodia. That document was signed by ULV Dean Leonard O. Pellicer and Chea, president of Pannasastra University.

According to the document, this new relationship will 1) assist in curriculum development to establish an M.Ed. in Educational Management and Leadership; 2) provide textbooks and other resources (25 leadership books by Deal were presented to Chea in March 2006); and 3) explore possible joint degree programs, undergraduate exchanges, and other mutually advantageous undertakings. Although not a legally binding document, both parties hope that the MOU will serve as "a guideline for cooperative intentions."

"The MOU is an arrangement to help bring forth experiences that will benefit both institutions," Redman said. "It's an arrangement that leaves room for both institutions to decide the nature of the future relationship. Basically, it's an acknowledgement that doors have been opened."

His signing of the MOU was not Chea's first contact with ULV, however.

"I have very good impressions of the University of La Verne from long before my recent meeting with June and Peggy in Cambodia," Chea said. "I visited the ULV campus several times while living and studying in the States in the 1980s and 1990s. I usually went with June and Marvin, participating in activities on campus, academic or otherwise. What I like about ULV is that it's a small campus, and that its academic development and [course] offerings are quite innovative, up-to-date and practical.



June Pulcini photo

Peggy Redman speaks to teachers in the Vietnam Teacher Training Program in a classroom setting (above) in Hue, Vietnam. Redman was chauffeured to some of her destinations on scooters that zipped around crowded city streets in Vietnam (below).

In addition, it's located beautifully in a small-town environment. As someone from a small, rural village in a small country, I can relate much better in a small community.

"My recent meeting with Peggy and June in Cambodia, and the signing of the MOU between ULV and PUC, only confirmed the strength and depth and the value that ULV has had and continues to have."

Although the signing of the MOU was a major reason for Pulcini's and Redman's visit to Southeast Asia, it was not the only one. From Phnom Penh, they traveled to Hue, Vietnam, where Peggy had been invited to lead a seminar at the Vietnam Teacher Training Program (VTTP). The event is coordinated by CHEER for Vietnam, a non-profit organization for which both Pulcini and Redman serve on the board of directors. (CHEER stands for Culture, Health, Education, Environmental Resources.) VTTP was created in 2001 to meet the needs of teachers of English in Vietnam. The program provides teachers from high school and college levels an opportunity to interact with native speakers of English, to deepen cultural understanding, exchange professional practices and to build leadership capacity.

"Our time in Vietnam was fabulous," Redman said. "We worked with people who teach English in high schools and colleges. And the people we were teaching are very gifted teachers, themselves. I'd like to see



ULV help provide more expertise. What CHEER is doing through VTTP is very congruent with what ULV is doing."

Already, there has been preliminary discussion about participation in future workshops and other possible cross-cultural exchanges between ULV and VTTP.

"This was Peggy's first trip to Vietnam,"

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Pulcini chronicles ULV's ties to Asia

Alumna's exhibit is a treasure trove of
Cambodian, Vietnamese memorabilia

Not long after the cheers from this year's homecoming football game had faded away, one could hear the sound of classical Cambodian music wafting across the University of La Verne campus. Closer inspection revealed that it was coming from just outside Wilson Library where, moving in perfect symmetry and grace, a troupe of classical Khmer dancers could be seen performing in full regalia, the late afternoon sun glinting off their gilded costumes.

Members of the Khmer Arts Academy Ensemble from Long Beach were on hand to perform as part of an exhibit highlighting the university's relationship with Cambodia and Vietnam. Titled "Then and Now: ULV Connections to Cambodia and Vietnam," the exhibit featured an assortment of photographs, art work, rare books and other memorabilia from the June Pulcini ('62) Collection.

The "then" portion of the exhibit drew attention, mainly through photographs, to the involvement of La Verne graduates in the early 1960s who performed tours of service in Southeast Asia through International Voluntary Services. Pulcini traveled to Cambodia with then husband Ron Pulcini ('63), where she served four months before IVS was forced to abandon its work there because Cambodia's Prince Sihanouk expelled the U.S. Agency for International Development (the primary source of funds for IVS). Undaunted, they moved on, some to Laos, some to Vietnam. Pulcini continued working in both Laos and Vietnam during the next seven years, until 1970, when she returned to the United States.

The "now" portion of the exhibit also involved Pulcini, who, along with ULV's Director of Teacher Education Peggy Redman, traveled to Cambodia and Vietnam in July in an effort to further cement ties between those countries and the university. In Cambodia, Redman and Pulcini facilitated the signing of a "Memorandum of Understanding" (MOU) between ULV's College of Education & Organizational Leadership and Pannasastra University of Cambodia. The MOU, although not legally binding, marks the opening of a relationship between the two institutions that could involve future exchanges of teachers and students, as well as joint degree programs and "other mutually advantageous undertakings," according to the document.

Following their week in Cambodia, the two traveled to Hue, Vietnam, where Redman led workshops as part of the Vietnam Teacher Training Program. The VTP was created in 2001 to help educate teachers of English in that country.

"I was absolutely taken with how warm the people were to June and me," Redman said of her time in Vietnam. "And it was genuine. They were glad to meet us, to share their culture, and to learn about us."

The library exhibit at ULV grew out of Pulcini's desire to share her materials with others so that they might benefit from what she and her colleagues have learned, and not repeat past mistakes. She is fond of



June Pulcini, left, and Peggy Redman, at a reception where Pulcini displayed some of the artifacts from her collection, which includes art, papers and books.

Rusty Evans photos



the George Santayana quote: "Progress, far from consisting in change, depends on retentiveness ... and when experience is not retained, as among savages, infancy is perpetual. Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it. ... This is the condition of children and barbarians, in which instinct has learned nothing from experience."

The homecoming exhibit represented a small portion of a vast collection that Pulcini would like to contribute to an educational institution that is in a position to accept it. ULV, with its emphasis on education and service, would be her first choice, should space and funding become available to adequately house it.

— Randy Miller

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says Doan Thi Nam-Hau, Ed.D, founder and president of CHEER for Vietnam. Nam-Hau received her doctorate from UCLA and lives in Los Angeles, but travels to Vietnam at least once a year for CHEER and the VTTP workshops. "It was all so new for her. She just immersed herself in the culture — and always with a big smile. She tried everything. She would never refuse anything. And she mingled well with the teachers. I think she had a great time helping them understand the lessons, particularly with regard to understanding American culture."

Pulcini and Redman said their time outside the classroom was well spent, too.

"We were invited to students' homes," Redman said. "They welcomed us. They took us on motorcycles all over Hue. It was a great experience. The students benefited, but we benefited equally. It was exciting for me, spending time with such gifted teachers."

Being in Hue, where she had lived and taught English in a high school four decades earlier, stirred fond memories for Pulcini.

"While the teachers were otherwise occupied with their workshops I took a cyclo (three-wheeled pedal rickshaw) one afternoon to find the house where I once lived," she said. "The street's name had changed, but I could still recognize the house. So many things got bombed there during the Tet offensive in 1968, I was afraid maybe it would be gone. But it was still there."

Reflecting on her upbringing in Vietnam, Nam-Hau said, "I lived in a time when there was conflict between Vietnam and the United States. Had we known each other as a people and a culture, would we have engaged in that bloody conflict?"

"Today, teachers in Vietnam are so enthusiastic about learning about the United States. And I want to create an interest in teachers in the United States to go over to Vietnam and learn about that culture. I believe in the power that one person has to make a difference in the lives of other people. We don't know how much power we have within ourselves. These teachers can tell their



June Pulcini photo

Peggy Redman, center, logs on to the ULV College of Law web site from Cambodia, illustrating how technology will help connect two institutions on opposite sides of the globe.

students now about how great peace is. They can plant a seed of peace. That's what we're trying to do."

Back in La Verne, Redman reflected on her trip — what it meant for her, and what it could mean for the university.

"We live in a global world; there's no getting around it," Redman said. "And these new relationships we're developing [in Cambodia and Vietnam] provide us with an entrance to other cultures that broadens our understanding of the global nature of society. Thomas Friedman is right, the world is flat. I want to do more than just visit places. This MOU with Pannasastra provides us with an opportunity to not just visit, but to participate in another culture."

Standing amid stacks of books, files and news clippings in her home library in Hermosa Beach, Pulcini gazes at a picture on the wall of her and Chea made in 1992. It triggers a memory. She rifles through some papers and pulls out an article. She quotes a paragraph from

it to a guest and smiles. "It all ties together," she says, marveling at the thought of how things are connected — the six

degrees of separation theory. "The good, the bad — and we need to learn from the past. We can't just forget about it."

"ULV is quite fortunate to have June as an alumna, as she is a great ambassador for ULV," Chea said. "Wherever she goes, she talks about ULV; wherever she goes, she talks about her work as an IVS volunteer in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam back in the 1960s. And wherever she goes, she talks about peace."

"And if you take a peek at PUC's website (www.puc.edu.kh), you will find that two of our main missions are quality education and developing and building peace. Cambodia has experienced some of the worst genocidal atrocities in modern world history. So now, this is the time for peace. And we thank June for her part in helping to build bridges of peace, for us Cambodians and for others in Laos and Vietnam."

Pulcini isn't likely to forget her years of bridge-building, or how we're all connected. Nor will future generations, if she has her way.

An excerpt from the Memorandum of Understanding reads: "Four Alumni of ULV went to teach in Cambodia in 1963 as Volunteers with International Volunteer (sic) Services. One of these graduates, June Pulcini, is enthusiastically promoting this relationship 44 years later."

Some of those idealistic La Verne volunteers just never give up.



"The Memorandum of Understanding is an arrangement to help bring forth experiences that will benefit both institutions. Basically, it's an acknowledgement that doors have been opened."

— Peggy Redman

ULV Director of Teacher Education and La Fetra Family Endowed Chair for Excellence in Teaching and Service



The author, Lilia Cabello, who studied abroad in Ireland, stops for a photo with a new friend near an ancient seaside castle in Ireland. Bottom photo, clockwise from top, Christine Moitoso, Gwen Garrison, Michelle Ball, Erma Rodriguez and Jennifer Koppel at the ruins in Rome.

World Class

ULV students gain global perspective through ULV Study Abroad program

By Lilia Cabello

Worldwide travel is not usually associated with the college experience. The average student is too busy thinking about essays, exams and loans. At the University of La Verne, students are encouraged to study not merely outside the classroom, but outside the borders of the United States.

"Traveling through ULV is great because you meet people who are more honest, open and independent," said Cynthia Arvizo, a senior business administration major who studied in Madrid during spring 2007.

"You interact with different people and get to know everything

that drives them, culture, religion, education, all of it," she added.

Phil Hofer, the director of the International and Study Abroad Center or ISAC, agrees that studying abroad is an eye-opening experience.

"It gives students a new perspective," he said. "Every experience is a difference in culture and lifestyle that changes students."

Hofer, in his ninth year at the center, explains that it educates and promotes student travel to various places, from Europe to Asia, Africa to South America and beyond.

"We provide information and support for students looking to travel and have that life-altering experience," he said.

Students can go abroad any time during their education, but it is generally



recommended to go during the second or third year of their college career. The time spent abroad ranges from January interterm, a semester or an entire academic year. The deciding factor is if the student feels ready to jump into a different state of mind.

Senior Christine Moitoso, a broadcast TV major, spent her interterm 2006 in Italy. She recounts her trip as a great experience because she connected with many of the people who went.

"I had so much fun. The whole trip was just amazing," she said. "I formed such a close relationship with the students and my professor, as well as all the other people I met."

When the opportunity comes for a student to question studying abroad, many answer with an emphatic yes.

A local girl, April Weldon admitted she could not go away from home for more than 10 days without getting homesick. Yet, when the chance came for her to study in Tokyo, she didn't hesitate.

"I really, really wanted to go," said the 20-year-old international business major. "I wanted to push and test myself."

Weldon went abroad as the only person from ULV for the spring 2007. Although it was a surprise, she is grateful to have had a wonderful experience.

"A lot of things were different, but it was so great," she said. "I explored Japanese festivals, listened to Japanese music and visited places with a deep history."

A month, semester or year studying abroad in a different country alone can be a difficult thing. Students must be ready to take the plunge and expand their minds.

Another such person is 24-year-old alumna Siddeeqah Shabazz, who graduated in January 2006 with her BA in theatre. Shabazz studied in England for the academic year of 2003 to 2004. Unlike most students who travel through a general study abroad program, Shabazz traveled through a ULV theatre department program. She was determined to go from the very beginning.

"C'mon, it's theatre and it's England," she said. "I just had to go."

"The culture has got a place in my heart. I just feel that's where I should always be," she added.

A topic that arises early in the study abroad process is the issue of funds. As "broke" college students, many feel that they cannot travel. But with ULV students, this has never stopped them.

"ULV is so great about it," Arvizo said. "If it wasn't for grants, financial aid and everything,

I wouldn't have been able to go."

"In fact, having all that motivated me to go," she said.

Weldon also had the support of ULV and financial aid.

"ULV helped a lot," she said. "I got scholarships and had my way covered."

Shabazz was grateful for not only the financial assistance, but the helpfulness of Hofer and the ISAC office as well.

"I love that my financial aid covered it so I didn't have to pay a lot," she said. "I always called Phil and the office when I had questions too and they helped me stay afloat."

This willingness by the University and the ISAC to give students that life-changing experience has culminated in a new program to be offered.

Recently, ULV and Fairfield University in Connecticut have been awarded a four-year grant by the U.S. Department of Education. This grant allows for the universities to exchange faculty and students for a semester with two Brazilian universities, Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense (the Northern Fluminense State University) and Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos (the University of the Dos Sinos Rios Valley).

The program, dubbed ULV Brazil, has created much excitement and is looked forward to with great interest by not only students but professors as well.

Jack Meek, professor of public administration, said that students need to take advantage of all study abroad opportunities, especially this new program.

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime experience," Meek said. "And ULV Brazil is a funded program with enormous benefits for students."

Meek, going on 25 years at ULV, works with Hofer to stress to students the importance of studying within the international community.

"When you go through an educational program, you meet international peers," he said. "You share ideas and experiences that as a tourist you don't."

Because future opportunities to travel abroad may be rare, Meek said students should not miss out on the chance to expand their minds and futures through education.

"International experiences are amazing," Meek said. "Encountering other people, ideas and things, will change your world."



Top photo, Cynthia Arvizo, third from left, and the Madrid CIEE study abroad group in front of El Palacio de Telecomunicaciones located in Plaza Cibeles, Madrid, Spain. Middle, April Weldon, in front of Buddha near Kamakura, Japan, built in 1252. Bottom, Christine Moitoso and Jennifer Koppel at the Coliseum in Rome.

Leo Lines

An update on where ULV alumni are and what they're doing

Jewel McDaniel '40 and Robert Nance were married April 28, 2007 in the yard of the bride in the Foothill Community of Bailey Flat with 40 neighbors as guests.

John "Jack" Brennecke '56 is retired from full-time teaching but he still teaches at Mt. San Antonio College as a Professor of Psychology. He is the oldest "still active" Mt. SAC employee with 46 years of experience & loving it!

Sandra (Kelso) Groves '63 retired July 1, 2007, from Illinois State University as Director of Graduate Studies for the University (Graduate School) and Professor of Kinesiology and Recreation.

Charles E. Cable '66 celebrated 25 years of service at Hillcrest. "Chuck" Cable is President and Chief Executive Officer at Hillcrest, a remarkable retirement community in La Verne. A native of Tacoma, Wash., Mr. Cable came to Hillcrest with several years of hospital administration experience, including Covina Valley Community Hospital in West Covina. Chuck graduated from the University of La Verne with a B.A. degree in business and economics and a Master of Public Health Degree in Hospital Administration from UCLA. He is a Certified Healthcare Executive and Diplomat with the American College of Healthcare Executives.

William Young '67 retired in 2006 from American Honda Co. and moved to Sonoma, Calif. He has traveled to all 50 states and 40 countries. He continues to collect and restore old cars and can't believe it has been 40 years since he graduated from ULV.

Teri (Luce) Kennan '69, after 37 years with Bonita Unified School District, retired in June 2002. She taught kindergarten and grades 2, 3, 4 & 5, and now plans to travel, read, and play with grandbabies, Faith and Brady.

Cherilyn (Naylor) Peniston '70 was elected to the Colorado State House of Representatives last



Rev. Dr. John R. McFarland '74 spent 11 days in Northern Iraq in April 2007. He was with a humanitarian group exploring the political, socio-economic and religious future of the country. He concluded the trip with a six-day archeological tour of the Aegean Coast of Turkey including the cities of Ephesus and Pergamum. John is available for presentations about this experience. Contact him at: jkmcfamily@verizon.net

November. She completed her first legislative session in May 2007 and served on the House Education & Local Government Committees.

Barbara Chilson '74 is working as a visiting professor for the University of Shenandoah in Winchester, Virginia. She wishes to contact Frank Taylor '78, who is looking for National Educational Consultants in every state (2 from each state). Her e-mail is bjchilson@yahoo.com.

Rich Fielder '75 has three children. Oldest son Brett will be a junior at Vanguard University, daughter Whitney will be a freshman at Loyola Marymount University, and son Zac will be a

sophomore at Calvary Chapel High School.

Truman N. Sunderland '79, retired CMSgt/USAF, is currently employed by the Oklahoma Halfway House, an Adult Community Corrections Facility for federal and state residents. The facility is located in Oklahoma City, Okla.

Eric Dean Vilchis '81 & Rosalie Vilchis '81. Eric was accepted as a Deacon at St. Catherines of Seana Church in Rialto after four years of theology and seminary training. His new title is Deacon Eric Vilchis and he is now also a grandfather of 'Little Jake.'

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Christopher Kerber '81 & Robin Allen Kerber '82 celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary May 29, 2007.

Betty Jackson (Ward) '82 retired from Pasadena City College and married Lowell K. Brubaker in 2002. She lives at Hillcrest and is a part-time consultant and inservice educator.

Evans Woherem '83 graduated from the Athens campus and went on to get a M.S. in Cognition, Computing and Psychology from the University of Warwick, England, and a M.A. in Economics and a Ph.D. in Expert Computer Systems from the University of Manchester, England. He is presently an Executive Director with Unity Bank Plc, Abuja, Nigeria.

Chris Keating '84 received his Doctor of Ministry degree from Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City in May 2007. He lives in suburban St. Louis, and walks many early mornings with fellow ULV alum Roger Mansfield '84. They consider themselves to be the "Brandt Hall Alumni Association" chapter in St. Louis. Others are welcome to join them!

Lisa Crane '86, after working for the same company for 16 years, Lisa decided, with husband, Herb, 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.

Tim Pettis '86 & '90 and family are glad to be back in Southern California after 4½ years in Connecticut. Tim is working in Irvine as the Vice President of supply chain for Meade Instruments Corporation. They reside in Rancho Santa Margarita.

Roylee Martin '88 is Chief Engineer for Premier Bakeries, Inc. in Modesto, Calif. His specialty is industrial automation.

Dr. Erin D. Andrade-Lopez '92 graduated from Claremont Graduate University in May 2007 receiving her Doctor of Philosophy in Education. She was included in Who's Who Among America's Teachers for 2005-2006. She continues to teach for El Rancho Unified School District in the City of Pico Rivera.

Maxine Gaines-Williams '92 retired to re-invent herself. Her goal is to continue her education in a masters program.



Laura (Stanley) Burnes '93 took a position as Senior Account Executive for Micros Systems, Inc. She manages the entire Orange County area. She loves being a mom to Brayden (4) and Bryana (2), above.

Jeff Theiler '92 & Jennifer Theiler (Tallungan) '90 are glad for Jeff's position as the head men's basketball coach at Oxnard College. Jennifer also owns her own Suddenly Slender body wrapping salon in Thousand Oaks, called "Slender By The Hour". They have been married for 13 years and have a daughter named Danae.

Leslie Porras '93 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 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.

Kelly Varner '93 received her master of fine arts in Creative Writing from Goddard College in Vermont on July 1, 2007. Since then, she has secured adjunct teaching positions at two Virginia colleges. She is still hard at work on her first novel.

Tim Wessel '93 was promoted to the rank of Division Chief with the San Bernardino County Fire Department in September 2005. He is responsible for the North Desert Division which spans from Wrightwood, Calif., to Stateline, Nev. He is also responsible for the operations and budgets of 27 fire stations within his division. Tim still lives in Phelan, Calif., with his wife, Sherry, and their two sons, Tanner & Trevor.

Raul Ramirez '94 and his family still reside in

Keen, NH. Raul graduated in 2006 from Franklin Pierce University with his MBA. He currently works for TeleAtlas as a project manager.

Al Sturges '94 participated in the USTA (United States Tennis Association) League National Championship in Daytona Beach, Florida, April 20-24, 2007. He is a resident of Sun City, Palm Desert. He is also a member of the Sun City USTA Men's 6.0 Super Senior Tennis Team. The Sun City team won the Super Senior championship of the Coachella Valley and earned the right to represent Southern California at the 2007 USTA League National Championship.

Ali Ghamgosar '95 recently opened up a new private practice called the "Peninsula Foot & Ankle Center" in San Mateo, California. Her son, Dario turned 2.

Kal Paviolo '96 & '99 and **Dan Paviolo '96 & '99** just moved their home business to a storefront business, Virtu Music Center, because of growth!

Justin Cable '99 accepted a position as Director of Research for a new investment bank/broker dealer, Global Hunter Securities (GHS) in Newport Beach in May 2007. The research team will look to uncover small cap companies with unique value and above average growth using a bottom-up approach.

Robert C. J. Parry '99 has had a busy 18 months. In January of 2006, he returned from a one-year tour in Iraq as an infantry officer of the California

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Army National Guard. He subsequently had an Op/Ed about his experiences published on the front page of the Los Angeles Times Sunday opinion section, which led to a small speaking tour at places like the Los Angeles Press Club, UC Berkeley and, of course, on a variety of topics in the Los Angeles Daily News. In the meantime, he completed his MBA at the University of Southern California, and moved to Monrovia with his bride, Maribel. He presently works as a media relations consultant with a firm in West Los Angeles.

Celina Rosas '99 is working at Claremont McKenna College in the Faculty Support Center, and volunteers for Amnesty International.

Dereck Andrade '01 recently was hired as Executive Director of Public Affairs at Western University of Health Sciences. He will oversee Western University's public relations, special events, and graphics/branding departments. He also teaches public relations and journalism at Pasadena City College and is a 14-year member of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association. Western University is located in Pomona and is an independent non-profit health professions university.

Islea (Pena) Rager '01 received her Masters of Art in Spanish Linguistics from Purdue University in 2004. She taught Spanish and ESL to students and staff at Purdue for two years. She moved back to California in 2005 and worked at Citrus College in Glendora as an ESL instructor for two years. She currently translates documents such as newsletters and brochures for local school districts and community colleges. She also recently married on May 12, 2007.

Geraldina Hernandez '02 is a Special Education teacher for LAUSD and just married after a seven-year courtship.

Dan Ross '02 graduated from University of San Diego School of Law in May 2005 and was admitted to the state bar of California in November 2005. He has been working as a Deputy District Attorney for San Bernardino County at the Rancho Cucamonga Courthouse since April 2006.

Beverly Lewis '02 has been promoted to Lieutenant within the Los Angeles Police Department. She is the 11th African American female to be promoted to the rank of Lieutenant with the LAPD.

Roger Garcia '03 & Stephanie Gaylord '05 are happy to announce their marriage. The happy couple married May 5, 2007. They honeymooned on Kauai in Hawaii. They live in Whittier, Calif. and are enjoying life!

Ricardo Ortega '05 & Jeannette Sosa '03 & '06



Giovanna Brasfield Ed.D '07, DPA '07 was awarded the John F. Kennedy, Jr. Outstanding Public Service Award in April 2007. This is a state award that recognizes individuals who have contributed to their community in numerous ways. There were only three recipients this year and Giovanna was one of the three. She is honored to have received such a great recognition for her contributions in public service.

are proud to announce they were married on July 20, 2007, and have recently purchased a new home in the city of Covina. Ricardo works as a sixth grade math & science teacher for the Mountain View School District in El Monte. Jeannette works as a Senior Management Assistant for the City of La Puente. Go Leos!

Margaret-Suzanne Bell '05, who is an employee of the ULV College of Law, married Thomas Bell on Wednesday, July 4, 2007.

Ronald Lindemann '06 is working for Data Trace, Division of First American Financial. He gives thanks to ULV for a wonderful graduate experience.

Robert Asatourian '06 was hired by Focus Inc. to work in an elementary school in Los Angeles as a one-on-one behaviorist with an autistic child shortly after graduating in January of 2006. In November 2006, he was hired by California Department of Social Services where he adjudicated Social Security Disability cases. It took him almost 1½ years to get this job and he's glad his education has paid off and he is very proud to represent ULV. Robert's fiancée graduated in 2006 as well. They planned to be married in September 2007. He misses school very much and will always appreciate all the staff at ULV and the students he met. Robert gives his thanks!

Salvador Lopez Jr. '94 guided the Asotin High School Panthers to their first State Championship in school history after five years as head football coach in Southeastern Washington. For his achievement, he was named the 2006 Seattle Times 2B Football Coach of the Year. In his second year as head track and field coach, his girls' team won its first district championship and fifth league title in seven years. Sal has been at Asotin for nine years teaching social studies, health, and physical education. He and his wife, Kerry, just celebrated their ninth wedding anniversary.

LITTLE LEOS

Kirk Skorpanich '90 and Anastasia Desatoff Skorpanich '90 had a new daughter on December 19, 2006. Alexia joins big sister Jadyn to make this family complete.

Andrew Decker '99 and Jessica Decker '99 are happy to announce the birth of their first son, Ethan Michael Decker. Ethan was born April 10, 2007, in Upland, Calif.

Kristie (Hoge) Van Sant '99 and her husband, Scott, welcomed a son, Kyle Logan, and a daughter, Katie Jean, on December 15, 2006 at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska. Kyle was born at 11:56 a.m., weighing 6 pounds, 6 ounces and measuring 19.5 inches. Katie was born at 11:57 a.m., weighing 5 pounds, 13 ounces and measuring 19-¼ inches. Kristie and her family reside in Papillion, Neb.

Teresa Sargent-Maiden '06 adopted her fourth child on June 8, 2007. She has two biological children and four adopted children.

IN MEMORIAM

Dayton Elmer Dickey '39 passed away May 12, 2007. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, sons Dayton, Don and Douglas, daughter Deanne, seven grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

Thelma Rule '41 passed away December 6, 2006. Thelma and her husband, Frank Rule '42, met at ULV and celebrated 64 years of marriage.

Nellie Mae Jamison Jones '43 died August 16 after a brief illness. She was born on April 2, 1922, in Quinter, Kan., to Ben and Della Jamison. She was the oldest of three children. Nelle Mae attended La Verne College where she met the love of her life, J. Edwin Jones. They married July 26, 1942, in Long Beach and recently had a 65th wedding anniversary celebration with family and friends. She was active in the La Verne Church of the Brethren, the Hillcrest Thrift Shop, and the Valley Prospectors' Club. She had a passion for travel, camping, the beach, metal detecting,

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sewing, music, jewelry making, sports spectating, and spending time with her grandchildren.

Alveta Ross '47 has passed away.

Gorman Miller '56 passed away on April 9, 2007, in Danville, Pennsylvania.

Masoom Aimaq '60 passed away on September 13, 2007.

Fred Samuel Clinksdale, '68 died on September 15th, 2007 after a brief but valiant fight with acute pancreatitis. Fred was a man who loved God and family more than life itself. Fred touched many lives as a minister, educator, foster parent; a true advocate for those in need. He was a faithful friend, son-in-law, husband, father and granddad. Preceded in death by his parents, Everett and Leona Clinksdale and father-in-law Horace Messer. Survived by the love of his life and wife of 35 years, Mary Jo; son Bradley and daughter-in-law Amby; daughters Crystal Clinksdale and Andrea Lembcke, and son-in-law John Lembcke; grandchildren Pete and Erin Lembcke, and expected baby Clinksdale; mother-in-law Daisy Messer; in-laws Glen and Edra Messer, Estelle and Laroy Scott, John and Randi Norton, Frank and Vickie Messer; 11 nieces and nephews and 27 grandnieces and grandnephews, and countless foster children.

Terry J. Coon passed away peacefully at home on Friday, August 17, 2007, surrounded by his loved ones. He was born August 25, 1955, in



Wyman Miles '93 and Erica Miles welcomed their son Ethan Hugh Miles on February 6, 2006. Wyman is a senior computer security engineer at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. Erica works for the astronomy department at Cornell.

Minneapolis, Minn., to Fyrn and Harry Coon. He was raised in La Verne and attended St. Paul's Lutheran School in Pomona and graduated from Bonita High School in 1974 and attended the University of La Verne. He is survived by his wife, Pattie Coon of Alta Loma and his two children, Katie and Kevin Coon. Terry was employed by Nabisco, Inc., as a salesman before his disability. He was an enthusiastic sportsman on and off the field and enjoyed attending Angels games and concerts, and fishing and hunting. He had a zest for life, was a dedicated husband and father, loved being with his family and was always there for his friends.

Rita F. Walbrown '81 peacefully passed away

at home on April 6, 2007, on a Good Friday evening.

Ginger Good Iron '89 died on May 8, 2007 in Santa Fe, N.M., of complications from cancer and pneumonia. Ginger had worked in the areas of Juvenile Dependency, Worker's Compensation, and Family Law and donated a great deal of time to pro bono work for her clients. She also served as a Judge for a Pueblo in New Mexico. Ginger is survived by her husband, Tim Good Iron, her daughter Lyn (Ko Ko) Shemayme, and her stepdaughters, Shirly, Barbara and Deborah Shemayme. If you wish to contact the family, please send an e-mail to Lyn at tigger143trfn@2die4.com.

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Summer/Fall 2007 **VOICE 19**



Knowledge. Service. Vision.



Coach Ben Hines, center, holding trophy, always had teams that could hit, and this one was no different, but this team also got great pitching, most specialist Frank DiCraсто, far right, No. 12. Ochoa won two games in the tournament in Arizona and was named Most Valuable Player. DiCraсто had

Where Were

The hard-hitting Leopards baseball team sat atop the NAIA world, putting La Verne



notably from starter Nick Ochoa, far left, No. 13, and relief three saves and one victory in the tournament.

For many, baseball truly is the stuff that dreams are made of. Known as the national pastime, the sport has long been a passion for Americans. It serves the distinctively dual role of both an escape from day-to-day reality and a destination where lifelong hopes and aspirations can be realized.

Looking back, history tells us that 1972 was a time of flux and fury, both in the United States and throughout the world. The day's news regularly provided a vast array of distressing details, everything from war-torn Vietnam to a growing political firestorm known as Watergate.

For those connected to La Verne College in 1972, however, baseball provided a much-needed respite. A landmark effort turned in by the Leopards baseball team culminated in early June when head coach Ben Hines ('58) and his squad traveled to Phoenix, Ariz., in search of the ultimate collegiate prize: the school's first national championship.

Those Leopards boasted an impressive 33-8 regular season record in which they won 18 of their last 19 games on the way to clinching the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title. They had little trouble making it through the first two rounds of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) playoffs, going undefeated in District 3 play and winning three of four in Portland, Ore., to capture the Area I title.

That success landed La Verne a berth in the 1972 NAIA World Series, an eight-team, double-elimination tournament played at Phoenix Municipal Stadium. In its only previous World Series visit, La Verne had lost in the 1969 title game at St. Joseph, Mo. But this time the Leopards owned the second-best record (39-9) and the top team batting average (.329) in the field. With six seniors and nine juniors, the 1972 La Verne roster featured youth and experience.

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You In '72?

on the map by winning the school's first national championship in any sport.

By Charles Bentley



The 1972 team gathers outside its hotel in Phoenix during the NAIA Tournament, left. Below, La Verne coach Ben Hines accepts the NAIA National Championship trophy after the Leopards' victory over David Lipscomb College in the title game.



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"What do I remember about the '72 team? It was a good club. Talented. We jelled that year and got hot at the right time," said Nick Leyva, a freshman who started at shortstop that season. "Honestly, I was a bit overwhelmed as a freshman playing on an experienced team of talented ball players."

Coupled with the team's fearsome offense was its well-armed pitching staff. Seniors Ben Ochoa, John Calzia and Craig Bowser combined with juniors Dan Drake and Frank DiCraсто to provide a rotation and bullpen equal to the challenge, all under the direction of pitching coach and former La Verne standout John Monger. Junior Lou Berthelson handled the catching duties along with sophomore Don Snyder. The starting infield included Dave Cripe at third base, Leyva at shortstop, Dan Clark at second and Jim Hawse at first. The outfield featured Willie Norwood in center and Jim Beal in left, with Jim McNamara and Bob Jones splitting time in right. Monse Estrada, Lou Randall, Steve Hemenover and Ralph McDaniel also provided key contributions throughout the season.

Offensively, the Leos lineup was blessed with quality and confidence. Norwood led the way with hitting prowess and power that eventually landed him a major league career with the Minnesota Twins. Beal contributed hitting consistency and speed, which fueled a personal 33-game hitting streak — one that ended only when the season itself was done.

"Jimmy was a very, very high-intensity

player. Willie was more low-key with better pop, so his pro potential was a lot higher than Jimmy's," Hines said. "But because Jimmy was so intense, it allowed him to take advantage of every tool he had."

La Verne opened against Winona (Minn.) State, a team that came in batting just .261 but owned a team earned run average of 1.73. Ochoa, a Garey High School graduate and the ace of the Leos staff with a 13-4 record, got the start. The Leopards won the game 4-3, beginning a trend of close games featuring DiCraсто in late relief. It took Beal throwing out Winona's potential tying run at the plate in the ninth inning to seal the victory.

"You know what was good about that play? (Catcher) Lou Berthelson really (decoyed) that kid. He stood there, stood there, and even when he saw the ball coming in he showed no possibility of a play," Hines said. "He had that guy deked into thinking there was no play and then, BOOM, he catches the ball, blocks the plate and tags the guy out."

The Leos' second World Series outing was a back-and-forth battle with Frostburg (Md.) State. La Verne won in the bottom of the ninth when Clark singled, took second on an errant pick-off throw and scored when the Frostburg shortstop made a bad throw on McNamara's infield grounder. DiCraсто, who relieved starter Calzia in the sixth inning, earned the win.

The next game matched La Verne with David Lipscomb College (Tenn.). After reaching the 1971 championship game, the Bison were considered one of the favorites for the '72 title. But control problems plagued

Lipscomb pitchers, who combined to issue 11 walks. Starter Danny Burns walked five consecutive batters in the second inning to give La Verne a 2-0 advantage.

Leos starter Bowser also struggled, walking five and hitting one batter while scattering seven singles. DiCraсто took over in the eighth inning with no outs and the bases loaded and immediately surrendered a two-run single that turned a 5-2 lead into a 5-4 thriller. But the hard-throwing right-hander shut down the Bison the rest of the way to garner his second save.

According to Bowser, a moment from that game provided an insight into Hines, his coaching style and his competitive fire. To understand Hines, Bowser said, you must first understand one basic fact.

"Ben doesn't like pitchers. He's a hitting coach and he believes pitchers were put here just to frustrate him," Bowser said with a laugh. He pointed to a previous game in the Area playoffs when he'd pitched well and even hit a home run. But when Bowser issued a leadoff walk the next inning, it invoked a fiery visit from Hines.

"He walks out and is ripping me up one side and down the other," Bowser said. "The plate umpire is out there, too, looking stunned, and finally asks, 'Does he always treat you like this?' And I tell him, 'Yeah, pretty much.'"

Fast forward to the World Series and Bowser's start against Lipscomb. As he struggled to hold the lead, Hines called time and strode to the mound.

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Tom Zasadzinski photo

The 35th anniversary of the 1972 team's NAIA national championship was commemorated in a special reception before the Alumni Dinner/Dance during Homecoming Weekend in October. Standing, from left,

Nick Leyva, Dan Drake, Craig Bowser, Lou Berthelson, Frank DiCristo, Willie Norwood and Jim McNamara. Seated, Ben Hines and Wanda Hines (BA '63, M.Ed '74).

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"I'm ready for the treatment. But when he gets out there I could tell something was different. Here's Ben, always so out-of-control with his emotions, and he's struggling to keep it all in check and give me a boost," Bowser said. "All of a sudden it dawned on me, 'Oh my God, Ben really wants to win this thing!' It really shook me up."

While DiCristo remembers always being treated well by his coach during games, he agreed that Hines was certainly focused that week on not letting the 1972 title slip away.

"But that's typical of Ben. Even now he talks about how it was never about him; it was always about us, his players. But we all knew he really wanted to win it," DiCristo said. "To a man, we all respected him to the hilt. If you asked each of us today to do it all over again, we all would. We have that much love and respect for the guy."

With a victory over Sam Houston State (Texas) in the next game, La Verne clinched

a berth in the championship round. Drake, whose 5-0 season record included a win in the Area I championship game, got the start on the mound. Offensively, the Leos enjoyed a huge night, Cripe finishing with three hits and Norwood adding two hits and three RBI. La Verne led, 7-1, at one point and Drake appeared on his way to a complete-game gem. But when he surrendered four straight two-out singles in the ninth inning, Hines summoned DiCristo, who struck out the lone batter he faced to end the game and collect his third tournament save.

So it was an undefeated La Verne team that faced David Lipscomb again in an 8 p.m. start on Friday, June 9. A win by the Leos would clinch the national title, while a loss would force one final showdown between the two teams the following day.

Ochoa, in his final appearance in a La Verne uniform, struck out 13 and gave up just four hits in a masterful performance. He held Lipscomb hitless through the first five

innings as the Leos built a 2-0 advantage. Hawse's RBI single scored Cripe in the first inning and Leyva added an RBI single in the sixth to drive in Clark from second, providing all the runs the Leos would need. So when Ochoa struck out the game's final batter, it sealed the victory and gave La Verne its first national championship.

For his efforts, Ochoa was selected the 1972 World Series' Most Valuable Player. Beal, Norwood, Cripe, Hawse and Berthelson joined him on the all-tournament team. Missing from the list was DiCristo, who had appeared in four of La Verne's five series games and recorded a win and three saves.

Looking back, Hines said he believes there should have been co-MVPs, Ochoa and DiCristo. But at the time, relievers didn't receive the attention they currently enjoy.

"Ben (Ochoa) deserved it. He started and won two of the five games we played," said DiCristo. "Back in '72, attitudes in baseball

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ATHLETICS

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were different. Relievers didn't get the respect you see them get today. And I was OK with it because my role was to help the team."

"Looking back, I guess I was born too soon," he added. "I loved it. I miss it to this day. To be able to come in needing to get one or two outs with runners in scoring position and the game on the line, THAT was pressure."

DiCrao's performance may have been overlooked by others, but not his teammates. Even today his efforts elicit praise and respect.

"When it comes to the (1972) World Series, I don't remember that much," said Leyva, "but if it hadn't been for Frank, we'd never have been able to do what we did. He was lights out all series long. Personally, I hope this helps give Frank the credit he deserves. I always felt he was shorted. He came in, he challenged hitters and he overpowered them. He was the Trevor Hoffman of his time."

Added Bowser: "Frank's style was much more (Eric) Gagné with real heat. Without Frank, we don't win. Period. All of us knew that, and all us pitchers knew you could throw a great game and give it everything, because you always could turn the ball over to Frank and he'd finish it."

The championship celebration stretched into the wee hours of the morning in Phoenix. The throng of fans – a mixture of parents, girlfriends, longtime program supporters and local baseball enthusiasts – gathered around the pool at the team's motel. Leading the festivities was La Verne College President Leland Newcomer, a fervent baseball fan who attended many of the team's games, home and away.

"We had a good following, as loud as anyone's that year," said Leyva. "President Newcomer and his wife, they were always at the front of the crowd. He had a real passion for baseball. The players, we could tell it meant a lot for him to be the president of a school with a national champion baseball team. It made us want to win it for him."

It's been 35 years since that group of young men brought together by a respected leader and united by shared dreams and desires attained a common goal that to this day defines them as special. And that 1972 team will always hold the distinction in La Verne history of being the first of the first.

"Winning that title, that's a statement," DiCrao said. "It means you were good enough. Winning the World Series at La Verne is something that will stay with me my entire life."



Rusty Evans photos

Ben Hines left La Verne in 1981 to be an assistant coach at Arizona State, then moved on to the Major Leagues, where he was hitting coach for four teams, including the World Champion Los Angeles Dodgers in 1988. Through it all, Ben and Wanda Hines have lived in the same house on Second Street in La Verne.



Making Herstory

Donna Nasmyth is sworn in as the first female to sit on La Verne's City Council

By Matthew Loriso

A personal decision to get involved with her community recently resulted in Donna Nasmyth (BA '88, MS '98, Ed.D '07) making history in her own hometown.

When Dan Harden announced his retirement from the La Verne City Council last August, it left the council needing to decide how to choose Harden's successor. After considering holding a special election, the council voted to appoint a replacement for the remaining months of Harden's term.

Nasmyth, a University of La Verne alumna and employee with previous experience in city government, had already given thought to running for a council spot. The decisions by Harden and the city council just altered her timing.

"My plan was to run at the next election," Nasmyth said. "Then, when this opportunity came about, I figured it was a good opportunity to indicate my interest without an election."

During its September 17th meeting, the council reviewed applications for nomination. After a short discussion, the council made Nasmyth the unanimous choice to fill the position, in the process making her the first female in the city's history to become a council member.

While she welcomed the unexpected distinction, Nasmyth insists she was not seeking to set a precedent but rather to assist the city's residents.

"My main reason," Nasmyth said, "was to serve the community in this capacity."

After being sworn into office at the October 1 City Council meeting, Nasmyth officially began her duties on a multitude of committees. She is a member of the Youth and Family Action Committee, the Youth Sports Committee, the Fourth of July Committee, the Fairplex Liaison Committee and is an alternate for the Mobile Home Park Liaison Committee.

"I asked to be put on all of those," Nasmyth said. "In most cases, I am replacing Dan Harden."

The local landscape has been a constant throughout Nasmyth's life. She grew up Donna Redman in La Verne, with her parents and grandparents all La Verne College graduates. Her decision of where to continue her education after high school was both easy and obvious.

"I pretty much knew I was coming here," she said. "I didn't even apply anywhere else."

The ensuing relationship proved long and successful for both Nasmyth and the university. She earned a bachelor's degree in English, a master's degree in Leadership & Management, and last spring received a doctorate in Organizational Leadership.

Her doctoral degree also played a major role in her decision to try



Seanette Garcia photo

ULV assistant professor of education Donna Nasmyth is sworn in as the city of La Verne's first female council member.

for a spot on the city council. "A lot of my coursework in the program prepared me for my political career," Nasmyth said.

In 1988, Nasmyth began working in University Relations, first in fund raising and as Director of Alumni Relations. After leaving the university to spend time with husband, Peter, and daughters Summer and Chloe, she returned to ULV five years later to serve as an academic advisor.

These days she's academic advisor for the ULV Online Program, regularly helping more than 300 adult students complete their courses through the Internet. It's a challenge and much different from working with traditional-aged college students.

"Most of (the advising) is done via telephone and e-mail because many of them are out of proximity," Nasmyth said. "They haven't done (school) in so long, so they are nervous. I really try to make them comfortable. It's important to me that I continue to give them personal attention because we never meet face to face."

In addition to advising, Nasmyth also teaches the Foundations of Education class for the University's Liberal Studies program.

"I'm really enjoying it," Nasmyth said. "If I had more time to teach more courses, I definitely would."

While she realizes juggling time between her professional and political careers and her family will be challenging, now that she's been given the opportunity, Nasmyth intends to make the most of it.

"It's wonderful," she said. "I'm glad that I can serve the community that has served me for the last 41 years."

Special Guest

Theatre director Georgij Paro, who enjoys superstar status in his native Croatia, has come to ULV each spring for two decades to work with theatre students

By Lisa O'Neill Hill
For the Voice

For two decades, Georgij Paro has found a spiritual shelter at the University of La Verne.

He loves being close to the mountains, the ocean and the desert, he says. He enjoys working with students in a small, tightly-knit university. It's all a refuge from his other life, the life that has won him accolades and earned him the reputation as one of Europe's greatest theatre directors.

Here, he is simply Georgij, the professor from Croatia whose charm and strong ideas entrance students. At home, he is Paro, the icon.

"He's like a national treasure in Croatia, more visible and well-known than Steven Spielberg would be in American culture," said David Flaten, Chair of the Theatre Arts Department, who first invited Paro to La Verne 20 years ago.

In January, Paro will again return to his home away from home. The Senior Adjunct Professor of Theatre Arts will stay until school ends, teaching and directing, as he has done for 19 out of the last 20 years. In April, the university will present his production of "Hamlet."

Paro says he looks forward to coming here every year and escaping the stresses of his life in Eastern Europe.

"For me, it's a spiritual shelter," Paro, 73, said recently from his home in Zagreb, Croatia. "I'm alone but not lonely. I can read. I can write. I can meditate."

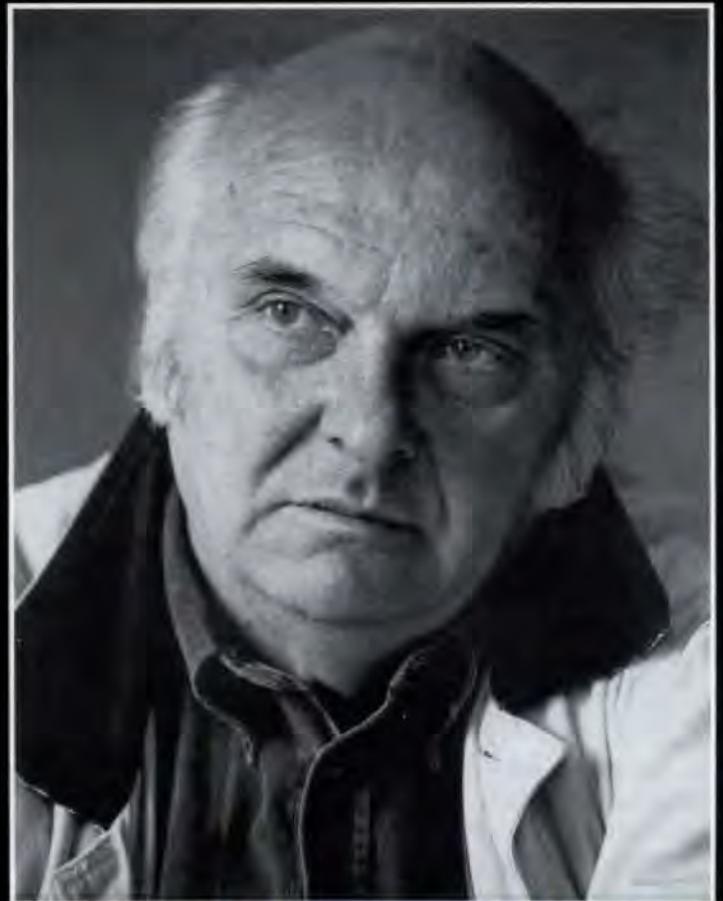
Students and faculty also look forward to having Paro close by for a few months.

"I think Georgij is very much a craftsman as much as he is a director," said junior Sam Guzik, 20, who has worked with Paro in two shows and will play the title role in "Hamlet."

"The way he stages a show, when you are looking at it, when you are not in a scene, it seems to me it's just as intricate as the Sistine Chapel or just a piece of Mozart's work," Guzik said. "It all somehow unfolds. It's very hard to describe but it just unfolds and it's very beautiful."

Paro said he didn't set out for a life in the theatre. He first studied philosophy, but found it too abstract. He wanted to do something real, he

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said, that could combine his hands, his brain and his emotions.

He also wanted to do something meaningful.

"Theatre in Croatia is far more important than film, than movies," Paro said. "There are some shows and productions in my country (that) audiences will come to see in larger numbers than movies. Can you imagine that? Theatre is relevant. Theatre is always communicating some social, political issues and it's relevant because it influences life. It's being discussed. It's being judged. It's being rejected or accepted."

"Theatre is part of life," Paro said. "It's almost unimaginable that somebody will close the theatre."

Even if a small group of amateurs produce an interesting project, it will be exposed to the whole country, Paro said. "It's a completely different approach."

Flaten and Paro, united in their passion for theatre, first met more than 40 years ago.

In 1966, Paro brought a group of students from Croatia to the University of Minnesota, well-known for its theatre program. Flaten was a graduate student there.

The group, with Paro at the helm, "knocked the socks off everybody in Minneapolis," Flaten said. Paro was later invited as a guest to direct at the University of Kansas and then at UC Santa Barbara, where Flaten had just begun doctoral work.

Flaten began teaching at Pomona College in 1969 and later became head of the theatre department. When Flaten became chair, he brought Paro in to direct at the school in the mid-1970s. He also accepted Paro's invitation to take a group of American students to Yugoslavia.

"At that time, he was the most prominent director in Yugoslavia," Flaten said.

Paro was receiving wide praise for a production about Columbus in which he built a large reproduction of the Santa Maria.

"He was doing very interesting, very powerful work," Flaten said.

In 1987, Flaten, by this time the chair of the theatre department at La Verne, invited Paro here. Paro's first production was "All's Well That Ends Well" starring Ryan O'Neal's son, Patrick O'Neal. Ryan O'Neal attended the show with his wife, Farrah Fawcett. Patrick O'Neal is now a professional sportscaster.

Paro has returned every year but one.

Paro was offered positions in the United States, both with universities and with professional theatre companies, Flaten said. But he kept coming back to La Verne because of its size and the connection to the students, he said.

Paro said he has seen the theatre department blossom.

"What we have now at University of La Verne is a respectable undergraduate theatre department with excellent teachers," Paro said. The teachers know how to approach and get the best from their students, he said.

Sean Dillon, Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts, first worked with Paro in 1987 when he acted in "All's Well That Ends Well." Dillon later went to

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Georgij Paro, right, has a drink with Jurij Ljubimov, the famous Russian director, on the balcony of the Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb, Croatia.

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Croatia to direct with Paro during the Split Summer Festival. He said the experience was eye-opening. At La Verne, he had known Paro as an accessible teacher. In Croatia, Dillon experienced first-hand just how revered Paro is.

"He has such a great reputation and commands so much respect and because I was working directly with him, by extension people thought I was something special," Dillon said. "Because it was Paro doing this thing, it had some importance far beyond what I expected."

Paro is now head of the acting program at the Arts Academy in Split, the second-largest city in Croatia.

He has worked as a director and art manager for some of Croatia's most renowned theatre companies and academies. The list of honors and distinctions is long and varied. He was the theatre director and theatre manager of the Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb for 10 years – the longest amount of time anyone has held that post. He has directed about 200 productions, including 20 operas, and has won numerous awards. His critical works and essays have been featured in books, magazines and literary revues.

He and his actors have practiced their craft under conditions that have been less than ideal. In May 1995, while Paro was teaching at La Verne, warning sirens went off and bombs were dropped on the roof of the ballet building near the Croatian National Theatre. Sixteen ballerinas were wounded, some seriously. The man who is responsible is now being tried in The Hague, Paro said.

"The Croatian National Theatre was a deliberate target because it's a symbol of the Croatian way of life," he said. "But the war is behind us. I don't even want to think about it."

At La Verne, Flaten and Paro will teach the directing studio together. And Paro has definite ideas about how to stage "Hamlet."

"The thing about Georgij coming here is

"You have to be half of a step in front of the audiences' expectations, to move them with your show. You need to provoke the audience, not only to do something to satisfy your audience but to do something to challenge your audience. I'm not doing my theatre for the sake of entertainment."

— Georgij Paro

he's not only felt welcome, he's been able to do work that he has just loved doing," Flaten said. "He's had a huge impact on generations of our theatre students. He loves this place, he loves Southern California."

Despite his success, Paro is unpretentious, humble and charming, Flaten said. He also has complete authority.

"He knows what he's doing. There's no ambiguity. I would say it's been such a great

privilege for me to work with him. He's one of the great directors of Europe."

The secret to his success, Paro says, is hard work. He says he gives all of himself to a project.

"I'm very passionate about my work and I think it shows," he said.

For him, success means that the production has an impact, that the show is being discussed at home. It's theatre with purpose.

"You have to be half of a step in front of the audiences' expectations, to move them with your show," he said. "You need to provoke the audience, not only to do something to satisfy your audience but to do something to challenge your audience. I'm not doing my theatre for the sake of entertainment."

When asked what's next for him, Paro says he just wants to keep doing what he has devoted his life to, and doing it in the best possible way.

"All my life, I was waking up in the morning and getting ready to go to rehearsal. As long as I'm invited to work, for me, that's the greatest achievement," he said.

He says he will work as long as he is able.

"Life is a journey and every journey has an end and we need to be prepared for that," he said. "I don't see anything pathetic or unjust or bad in all of that. I'm only grateful I was able to live my life in the theatre, which is my life. I love my work."

In typical Paro fashion, he jokes that, when death is near, when there are no more rehearsals to attend, he has already figured out which final word to utter.

He says he will say, "Already?"

New School

Modern marketing helped Marissa DeRosa Buckisch resurrect a family business

By Dustin Smith

Now that she's a highly decorated businesswoman, Marissa DeRosa Buckisch can relish the success she's helped bring to the family business. But it didn't come without a few of the sparks that occur when new age thinking meets with Old World tradition.

Buckisch, who earned a marketing degree from the University of La Verne in 1995, is a board member of the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce whose catering operation earned distinction as Business of the Year in 1999 and 2005 from the city. In 2003, she was named Business Woman of the Year by the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce.

She's also the daughter of Vincent and Maria DeRosa, who have proudly built Picasso's, a café/bakery/catering service, from the ground up. The "mom and pop" business was already a success when Marissa came along with her degree and new-fangled ideas.

"I had to earn their respect," said Buckisch, Executive Vice President of Marketing of the family-owned and operated restaurant in Irwindale. "I had to prove myself and earn their trust."

Before Buckisch joined the Picasso's team, there was no marketing department. Her father ran the store and her mother did the payroll. Now, 10 years later, Picasso's is more successful than ever, and Buckisch has been widely acknowledged for her contributions.

"Marissa is up on the trends," said Maria DeRosa, who admits she experienced the normal difficulty of handing over some of the decision-making to her daughter. "We had to find our niches and know where our talents were."



Seanette Garcia photo

Once Marissa DeRosa Buckisch ('95) sold her parents on modern marketing, their "mom and pop" café hit new heights, even after it was nearly destroyed by a car that crashed through it.

Within two years, Buckisch expanded Picasso's to bring in more customers and new opportunities. She enlarged the seating area, added wireless Internet, and persuaded Starbucks to launch one of its "We Proudly Brew" programs. Folks at Starbucks were skeptical. But once they saw the booming sales at Picasso's they decided the time had come for them to open their first store in that neighborhood.

Buckisch credits her parents with believing in her and having the faith to relinquish some of the business decisions to her. From there, she followed her instincts, gained experience and relied on her training in the University of La Verne's College of Business and Public Management.

"ULV is warm; you know it when you step on the campus," Buckisch said. "I am grateful to ULV, for shaping me, my belief system, morals, and the way I run my business."

All of her skills were tested in 2006 when tragedy struck Picasso's. A car crashed into the front side of the building, made its way through the café and parked in the bathroom. The front of the store was severely damaged, and the pipes in the bathroom burst, causing substantial water damage to the interior of the café.

But the vehicle did not destroy the kitchen, and Picasso's catering operation — which constitutes more than 75 percent of the business — was not affected. The tragedy actually enabled the family to

redesign the inside of the building.

The new black-and-white tile flooring brings a creative and modern feel that blends nicely with the Starbucks character in the café. While the tables and chairs from Italy were lost, Buckisch called on her creativity for options. Now, flat screen televisions are in the corners, adding a modern feel, but the old family feel of the place is still ingrained in its walls. When visitors enter, a coat rack signals that they may stay as long as they please.

Through the disaster, Picasso's continued to pay its employees. Instead of waiting tables, they set up canopies outside and offered coffee and pastries to customers who had not heard about the accident. They were proud to announce that no employee lost their job due to the accident.

"The accident created a bonding experience for our employees," said Leah Gutierrez, who DeRosa calls the "third lady in charge."

The resurrection of Picasso's is credited to the hard work of its employees. Buckisch, was recognized by the YWCA of the San Gabriel Valley as a "Woman of Achievement." She employed modern marketing techniques and an education from ULV, and blended them with a family spirit of cooperation and Old World determination.

"Picasso's has come back bigger, stronger, and better than ever," Buckisch said.



A Happy Fun Time

Two inseparable La Verne icons, Dwight Hanawalt and the Old Gym, are paid tribute at a special celebration

By Matthew Loriso

More than 80 years of history were celebrated in May, as University of La Verne alumni, students and community members gathered to honor the Old Gym as well as famed La Verne personality Dwight Hanawalt ('41).

When remembering the historic building, most former students also fondly convey their feelings toward Hanawalt.

"Dwight was wonderful. We just loved the man," said Deanna Fry (formerly Deanna Price), who attended what was then La Verne College in the late 50s. "In fact, I told him that I fell in love with the name Dwight because of him, so we named our son Dwight."

Hanawalt is well known among the La Verne community. As a professor, coach and dean, he interacted with many people and usually left a good impression.

"Dwight's a great guy. He's just super," said former La Verne College student Jean Brennecke. "You could talk to him anytime you wanted to and he was always willing to help you. [He is] just an enjoyable person."

Hanawalt's ability to get along with people helped him in his teaching and coaching. Students recognized and appreciated what he was doing for them.

"I had Dwight as a coach in soccer," said George Keeler, former student and current chair of the university's Communications Department. "He was this lovable Disneyland character to us. He had this soft way of coaching; this soft demeanor about himself, but he loved to win. He loved to motivate us and he did it with his style that can't be imitated by anybody in the present day."

Hanawalt is also renowned for his good humor. Former student Warren Kirkpatrick recalled a time that he was riding with the team back from a game at Cal Tech. They were driving through San Marino and looking at the mansions in the area.

"I said to Dwight, 'What do these people do for a living to have homes like this?' Without even a hesitation he said, 'They don't teach school.'"

Though remembered for his sense of humor and amiable personality, Hanawalt was still able to keep the respect of the students when he had to be more of an authority figure.

"He was an important part in athletics but also he was the dean of men at that time as well, so you didn't mess around," said Bill Neill, who earned both his bachelor's (1962) and master's (1977) degrees at La Verne. "You didn't go to the bars in Pomona if you knew what was good for you, because he'd call you in and say, 'You had a

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Under the same Old Gym roof where he staged what he called "Happy Fun Games" and dance classes for students restricted in their physical contact, Dwight Hanawalt was honored by adoring alumni. It was the building's final function before being removed to make way for the new Campus Center building.

Tom Zasadzinski photo

EVENTS

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La Verne jacket on and you were seen outside the bar. Don't do that again, or you're gone.' So he was a disciplinarian, but a wonderful person."

Hanawalt is well known for his popular folk, square and social dance classes which, of course, were held in the Old Gym. For many, these were the highlight of campus social life during their time at La Verne.

"I learned how to dance," Keeler said. "It was my favorite class."

ULV President Steve Morgan, himself a 1968 La Verne graduate, values his fond memories of Hanawalt.

"Dwight Hanawalt really epitomizes the values of the University of La Verne," Morgan said. "He's got a great sense of humor that we've all appreciated, but he also is a person who keeps his eye on excellence...I can't think of anybody who better symbolizes ULV than Dwight Hanawalt does."

Like Hanawalt, the Old Gym played a huge role in life at La Verne. Attendees at the May event enjoyed relating some of their favorite memories.

"I remember the Gym because... (of) when Bob Richards was here pole vaulting into the stage from the floor," said Virgil Welch, a 1953 La Verne graduate.

Known as the "Vaulting Vicar," Robert Richards served as a professor at La Verne beginning in 1952. He is best known for being the only two-time Olympic gold medal winner in the pole vault as well as for being the first athlete to be pictured on the front of a Wheaties box.

During his time in La Verne, Richards would often use the Old Gym as his practice spot for indoor pole vaulting.

"He would come down C Street with the pole in his hands," La Verne native Robert Rodriguez said. "He would pole vault and land on the stage. The whole city would be on each side of the street and in the gymnasium watching him practice. That was exciting."

While many memories of the Old Gym recall its heyday, current faculty and students have stories to tell as well.

"For us, it was a great place to come in and play some indoor soccer," ULV men's soccer coach Crescencio Gonzalez said. "Now we have to find a way to make indoor soccer work somewhere else. We'll miss the gym a lot."

Although the Old Gym may best be known for housing every imaginable type of event, alumna Mary Hollinger and many others remember the Old Gym for its personal touches.

"I remember seeing games in the gym here," Hollinger said. "I don't think I was too much interested in the games. I was interested in the people."



Above, Dwight Hanawalt, took center stage one last time in the Old Gym and called out the moves to "The Hokey Pokey," and "The Chicken Dance," and officiated a quick game of musical chairs at a celebration to honor both Hanawalt and his playground, the Old Gym.



Left, the Old Gym, when it was the new gym, circa 1930.



Below, "Happy Fun Games" such as "Duck, Duck, Goose" were sometimes played in physical education classes. Many who attended the tribute reminisced about the people they met at La Verne College more than the Old Gym itself.

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