

CRITERION

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2003

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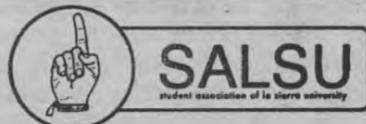
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Mrs. Jodi Cahill



<http://salsu.lasierra.edu>

The world at a glance

Compiled by Noel Nepomuceno

LONDON - Russian forces have suffered more casualties in the past year in Chechnya than at any time since war resumed in 1999, the International Institute for Strategic Studies said on October 15th in its key annual report. The report undermines Russia's assertion that it has largely pacified the mainly Muslim region it sent troops back into after a two-year period of de facto independence.

COPENHAGEN, Denmark - The Danish-born mother of Russia's last emperor, Nikolai II, is set to make one final voyage next autumn, 76 years after her death. The Empress-Dowager Maria Fedorovna, who was born Princess Dagmar of Denmark and died in her homeland in 1928, is to find her final resting place at St Petersburg's Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral, as she herself had wished.

AIN KFAR ZABAD, Lebanon - A Lebanese man confessed to killing his sister with a hunting rifle and dumping her body in a well on Wednesday, saying the woman, who had been divorced several times, had brought shame on the family. Ali Shawkat al-Sahili, 24, told investigators and reporters that he lured his sister Fatima, 27, to orchards by their village in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley and shot her twice with after she "stained the family name." So-called "honour killings" — the murder of female relatives in cases of suspected adultery, fornication or rape — are relatively rare in Lebanon, despite laws which allow courts to give reduced sentences to men convicted of them.

BEIT LAHIYA, Gaza Strip - A remote-controlled bomb exploded

Supreme Court Considers Federal Funding of Religious Institutions

By Sapna Sharma

It was just a few weeks ago that the Supreme Court came back into session, to many of us that is no big deal. Among the issues being debated this term are national security, campaign finance, and religion. One of the major cases regarding religion, this session is from the state of Washington, and concerns a college freshman who was majoring in theology.

Students studying theology is certainly nothing new at LSU, but when this student applied for financial aid he was denied government funding because his concentration was religious studies. The student had expressed interest in becoming a minister at Northwest College, a small private religious institution similar to La Sierra. The institution claimed that the student was denied federal funding because it is a violation of the separation of church and state.

The student argued that being denied financial aid on the basis of his selected area of study was a violation of his First Amendment rights to exercise freedom of speech, association, and equal

protection under the law. The student took the case to the District Court, which stated that the student was not denied his First Amendment rights. He appealed to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals and they ruled that in fact his rights were violated and that any student should be allowed to pursue their academic endeavor of choice.

The Defendant moved to rehear the case, but the motion was denied. An assistant to the Washington attorney general Bill Collins stated, according to MSNBC, "We are not paying for [him] to exercise his constitutional rights, but we are not keeping him from expressing them." The case is now being taken to the Supreme Court to decide whether the Constitution's Free Exercise Clause requires public funding to be given to religious studies majors, minors, and graduate students.

The Supreme Court's decision in this case may impact the lives of the students at LSU. There has been further speculation that the Supreme Court's ruling will affect public and private schools,

colleges and universities. The California State Legislature has been bandying about the idea of not allowing public schools to employ teachers that earned their degrees and credentials from religious universities. The reasoning behind the argument of those in favor of excluding graduates of church run colleges and universities is that teachers from religious institutions may incorporate their own beliefs into lesson plans.

Further arguments to be made in the case involve whether or not students who study religion from an objective point of view will also be denied federal and state funding. Will a Baptist working on their Masters in ancient Sanskrit be denied federal or state funding? Will a liberal studies major from LSU be denied a teaching position with the Los Angeles Unified School District? The impact of this ruling could greatly impact many of the students at LSU and colleges across the country, as well as graduates of teaching programs.

under a U.S. diplomatic convoy Wednesday, ripping apart an armored van and killing three Americans in an unprecedented deadly attack on an official U.S. target.

TOKYO - Japan answered Washington's call for help in Iraq on Wednesday, pledging \$1.5 billion in reconstruction aid next year and more down the line despite economic woes at home. The move comes on the eve of a visit to Tokyo by President Bush, who is expected to lean on the world's second-biggest economy to pull its weight in rebuilding the war-torn country. Japan was among the first to support the war in Iraq, but has been waffling on sending money or troops.

MELBOURNE, Australia - One of Australia's most notorious convicted killers is launching a legal battle for the right to wear makeup while he serves his life sentence, enraging the family of one of his victims. Paul Denyer, 31, was jailed for a minimum 30-year term for murdering three young women in the southern city of Melbourne over seven weeks in 1993. He is launching an appeal with the Victoria state Civil and Administrative Tribunal against a refusal by Barwon Prison authorities to let him buy and wear makeup.

Ginn Fourie Teaches Forgiveness

By Whitney Braun

On September 23rd La Sierra University held the first assembly of the new school year. Students and faculty were invited to hear speaker Ginn Fourie tell her story of loss, forgiveness and reconciliation. The assembly, sponsored by the School of Religion and the Stahl Center, offered attendees the opportunity to experience the inspiring tale of how one woman transformed her pain into a pledge to bring peace and understanding to her homeland.

On December 30th, 1993, twenty-three year old Lyndi Fourie died in a hail of bullets when APLA soldiers attacked the Heidelberg Tavern in Cape Town. Ginn Fourie lost her only daughter. The soldiers responsible were captured, tried and sentenced. That Lyndi was a victim of the armed struggle against whites is an irony. At the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, where the soldiers were finally given amnesty, Ginn told the APLA cadre how Lyndi worked to improve living conditions for black people. She was finishing a Civil Engineering program and had great plans of bringing water and sewage systems to the homes in Khayelitsha. Sometimes she came home in tears because of the pain and suffering she saw in black communities.

During the TRC hearing in Oc-

tober of 1997 Ginn highlighted the need to know who in the APLA command had given the order for the Heidelberg massacre. Although she had forgiven, she needed to come face to face with the architect of her child's death. More than anything she wanted to know why they hated white people so much. Ginn listened to their replies fearlessly and openheartedly. She realized her life would never be the same again. She was shocked by the accounts of pain, suffering, discrimination and violence these men had endured under apartheid.

She traveled to the village of Letlapa Mphahlele, the man who gave the orders that took her daughter's life, to attend his homecoming ceremony. She came to understand him, the conditions that had caused him to live the life he led and by her actions inspired the people of his village. Ginn Fourie was a professor of physiotherapy at the University of Cape Town. After the death of her daughter Ginn immersed herself in a new direction of study, reconciliation. She is transforming her loss, and subsequent experiences into a doctoral dissertation. She sees the need to provide spiritual support and counseling on a large scale to those that have known no other life but a life of military training, cruelty and hate.

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LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY
RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA

Are you a good patient?

By Whitney Braun, Criterion Editor-in-Chief

The Lord works in mysterious ways. A week ago I sat down to write my column for the paper and I ended up staring at the screen of my laptop for thirty minutes before I got hungry and went into the kitchen and ate a box of Triscuits. I was praying for some inspiration but as none was coming I was beginning to panic. I had writer's block and the hours until press time were slipping away. Then that evening my prayers were answered.

I went to PETCO to buy some rawhide bones for my dogs which would have been a simple enough task were it not for the fact that the PETCO near my house is the size of a small African republic. Somewhere between aisles 11 and 12, or was it 111 and 112, I spotted a giant doghouse, big enough for a Great Dane on the very top shelf. It was exactly what I was looking for. There was a sign that directed customers to ask for assistance before attempting to lift the heavier merchandise. I looked around and noticed that all of the PETCO employees appeared to be under five feet tall and approximately the same age as my grandmother. I thought it ridiculous to ask one of the elderly employees to get the doghouse down for me so I got up on my tiptoes and managed to just grasp the edge of it and pull. Apparently I underestimated how heavy the doghouse actually was and apparently I pulled a bit too hard because the doghouse falling towards my face is the last thing I remember.

The next thing I knew I was lying flat on my back staring up at half a dozen people leaning over me. A robust woman with long braids and acrylic nails came pushing through the crowd shouting that she was an assistant nurse

for the Los Angeles Unified School District and could perform CPR. She began performing neurological tests on me that consisted of asking me how many fingers she was holding. As this was going on I could hear the voice of a young man saying, "Should we move the doghouse?" I looked at my chest and realized that two thirds of my body was hidden under the massive doghouse. Then someone responded to the young man's question with, "No man, don't move the doghouse, cuz when the cops get here they'll be mad if you disturb the evidence yo."

I decided to speak at this point. "Dude! It's not a crime scene! I'm not dead!" No one seemed to notice that I was talking. I reached up and pushed the doghouse off of my chest. A lady who worked for PETCO produced a big flannel dog bed out of nowhere and told me to lay on it. Then another employee threw a dog blanket over me. I tried explaining that I was really okay except for a moderate headache but still no one seemed to register that I was speaking.

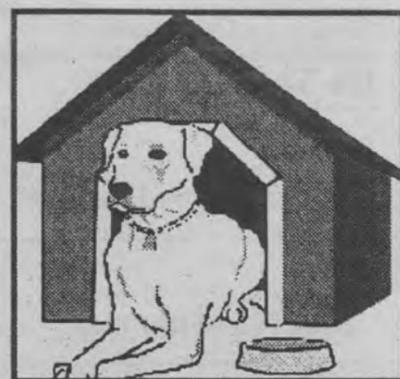
As I sat on a 50 pound bag of dog chow still trying to explain that I was just fine the Downey Fire Department showed up and the Paramedic from hell began interrogating me. His name was Moffat and apparently he was mistakenly led to believe that he was a drill sergeant in the Marine Corps because he was shouting questions at me like I was a new recruit going through boot camp. "What is your name? Do you know who you are? Tell me how you got here." I lifted my face from my hands where I had buried it to hide myself from all the spectators that had rushed in when the fire engine pulled up.

"Dude! I'm fine. Really, I'm fine. I'll just walk it off." I began

rubbing my temples. The Fireman Paramedic Moffat looked at me and very seriously and intensely asked, "Have you been depressed lately or experiencing any suicidal feelings?" I lifted my head again and raised my eyebrows at him, "Yeah buddy, suicide by doghouse, that's exactly what I was thinking. You got me."

Another fireman wrapped a blood pressure cuff around my arm while Drill Sergeant Moffat put a three lead on my chest and turned on the heart monitor. I had had enough. I asked if I could sign a paper to refuse medical treatment but the fire captain was standing there and said no because I had a head injury and the city would be liable if I was not taken to the emergency room. I didn't take this news well. I pulled the electrodes stuck to my chest off which caused the heart monitor noise to go from, a steady "beep-beep-beep," to a flatline "beeeeeeeeeep." The crowd of people standing around the scene all gasped. Someone squealed, "she's dead!" I was about to assure everyone that I was fine when Moffat began screaming at me for ripping off the three lead.

When the ambulance arrived and the Emergency Medical Technicians came running in I begged Moffat one last time not to make me go to the ER but he shut me down. I could have walked out of the PETCO but the EMTs made me get on the gurney and then wheeled me out into the parking lot. The firefighters bid me farewell and as soon as I saw them getting back into the fire engine I figured it was my opportunity to make my escape. So I thanked the EMTs for their help and unbuckled all of the straps holding me down and started running for my car. My plan was obviously



not well thought out because before I had even gotten off of the gurney the fire fighters were back and Moffat was threatening to call the police who he assured me would take me into custody and force me to go to the emergency room. I thought that maybe there was still hope that I could outrun the fireman but seeing that there were four other fireman circling me I gave up the fight and got back on the gurney.

At the hospital forty different people with clipboards asked me what had happened and each time I explained that I had been knocked unconscious by a falling doghouse they would laugh and then call another hospital employee over to hear the story who would then laugh even harder. Unfortunately for me people beamed by doghouses don't exactly get pushed to the front of the line to see the one physician on duty. So I sat and sat and sat and happened to notice that on the board where the names of patients and their injuries are written I was listed as "Braun/Curtain 1/Doghouse."

Eventually the doctor checked me out, said I had a concussion, told me not to smack myself in the head with a doghouse again and then let me go. My parents were there to pick me up. Even they made fun of me.

Letter to the Editor

From: A Love-Struck Senior

Recently an envelope with no return address was delivered to the Criterion offices. Inside the envelope was a lovely letter written to the editor of the Criterion extolling the virtues of one of the staff members.

Dear Mr. [Miss.] Editor:

Please accept my compliments and congratulation on a job well done. You and your staff have done an excellent job of providing our school with a high quality newspaper and I hope you continue this tradition of professionalism in the future.

The other day I was stopped on campus by one of your staff members. Her name is Cher Palomares. She was conducting a survey, seeking student input for the Criterion. While she was talking to me I was so busy admiring her loveliness that I couldn't think of anything relevant to suggest. It was only later that day that it occurred to me that it would be a

great service to the student body if you could feature one or two student's profiles in every issue. For starter, I suggest that you begin such a section by featuring a biography of Cher. I would like to know if Cher is single, engaged or married. Does she have any sisters? Are her sisters as lovely as she? It would be very nice to see her picture gracing our newspaper. She is the loveliest girl in a fifty mile radius. What makes her even prettier is that she is humble. She is modest. She is sweet. She has an air of innocence radiating from her like a halo of moonlight. Her eyes are a gift from heaven and her smile is the promise of paradise. Please send her around campus on assignment more often, so I may find an excuse to talk to her.

Sincerely,

A Love-Struck Senior

ain a level of decency and discretion portions of the letter have not been reprinted

SUMMER 2004 IN COSTA RICA

Get Spanish credit (up to 8 units) for beginning and intermediate Spanish while exploring the jungles or basking on the beaches of exotic Costa Rica!

FOUR-WEEK PROGRAM:
August 1-23, 2004

EIGHT-WEEK PROGRAM:
June 27-August 23, 2004.

Pick up information and an application form at the Dept. of Modern Languages (mezzanine, La Sierra Hall, Rm. 310).

Deadlines: \$250 non-refundable deposit by March 30, 2004; final payment by May 30, 2004.

DON'T WAIT-- SIGN UP NOW!!

We will be having our first informational meeting on NOVEMBER 18, 2003. Watch for announcements

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Valentine's Day Poetry Contest Winners

If you were one of the winner of last February's Valentine's Day poetry contest, please contact the Criterion at criterion@lasierra.edu to receive your prize. We are sorry for the delay and the confusion

Clay is a Better Idol

By Sam Leonor
Campus Pastor

I watched "From Justin to Kelly" this summer. Some of you just lost a lot of respect for me, I know. I was on a plane to Australia and my reading light was not working so to pass the time I had to watch all the movies shown. (I had intended to read my Bible the entire way there but without a light...) If you haven't seen "From Justin to Kelly" you really should. It's got something for everyone: Sex, sexuality, singing, sex, songs, sex, and scantily dressed people... and sex. What in the world? Is that what made these people American Idols? Is that what we all voted for? Is this about to turn into a typical pastoral condemnation of lust and the complete disregard society (led by evil - MTV) has for values? Maybe. Please read on.

Philip Yancey in his new book "Rumors of Another World: What on Earth Are We Missing?" says that "the problem with modern society is that our attempts at reducing sex between humans to a purely physical act is making us schizophrenic". On the one hand scientists insist that we are organisms like any other animal, and that sex is a natural expression of that animal nature. On

the other hand, Yancey says humans crave relationship. Human sexuality encourages relationship. Evidence of this is that humans engage in sex only when it is part of a negotiated contract between parties. Think about it. A marriage vow or a tourist paying for a prostitute's time are both consensual contracts. When there is no contract we call it rape and we punish it.

So where am I going with all this? I realized on the plane that "From Justin to Kelly" is a bad movie. (Not just because it lacks a credible plot, setting, characters and acting... Five monkeys with a camera could have made a better movie.) It's bad because it assumes that what we crave is not relationship. It implies that what we want is to express our animal nature. This assumption is everywhere in entertainment. As the very subtle (and may I add classy) line from Bloodhound Gang says, "You and me, baby, ain't nothing but mammals, so let's do it like they do it on the Discovery Channel." You still don't believe me? Next time you are in the mall spend a few minutes in Abercrombie & Fitch really paying attention to what they are selling. Hint: it's more than a wrinkled \$80 T-shirt.

Relationship is the key. God, I believe, intended for us to experience sexuality as a personal encounter, in the appropriate context: Marriage. When we defy that basic purpose for which we were given this very beautiful gift, in the words of Chris Blake, "we get wacky." Anything that leads to simply satisfying our desires and doesn't include a lasting, consensual, godly relationship will, in the end, cause us a lot of hurt.

This is why I believe that Clay Aiken is a better pop star. Not because his music is better than Ruben's. Not because he is better looking than Justin or Kelly. It's because of something he said while being interviewed for the October 13 issue of Time magazine. While talking about the overwhelming pressure to include sexually explicit lyrics in his songs he said, "There are certain words and emotions I don't want kids hearing, and I'm not changing because they think it's going to sell better!" Amen.

Romans 12:2
"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

Small Prayer Groups on Campus

Courtesy of Johnny Ramirez and Marnie McClain

If you are interested in joining a small prayer group this quarter then you are in luck. There are many options and you are welcome and encouraged to attend all. Here are a few of the groups that await your arrival:

- Monday's at 5 p.m.
In Pastor Sam's office
 - Monday's at 5:30 p.m.
In the garden
 - Tuesday's at 2 p.m.
On campus
 - Friday's at 1 p.m.
Gladwyn Hall
 - Thursday's at 7 p.m.
South Hall Lobby
 - Tuesday's at 8 p.m.
Jodi's House
 - Friday's at 1 p.m.
Eagles Nest
 - Monday's at 6:30 p.m.
On campus
 - Wednesday's at 10 a.m.
On campus
 - Thursday's at 10 p.m.
Gladwyn Hall
- See you all there!

Hiking, backpacking, rock climbing, camping, horseback riding, surfing, kayaking.....OUTDOORS CLUB!!!
Meeting this THUR.. (Oct 23) @ 8pm, or MON (Oct 27) @ 6pm at the
SALSU/Bookstore Brickyard.
Formoreinfo,contactJoy@x3215, or email letters4joy@hotmail.com

Faith in Action

"The greatest sin of our time is not the few who have destroyed but the vast majority who've sat idly by." - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

By Sapna Sharma
Senior, History Major

BODY Faith communities have long been involved in human rights work, from providing services to

victims of human rights violations, to developing and disseminating ideas about human rights and the values in which they are rooted, to promoting institutions and public policies supportive of human rights. Many human rights

defenders throughout history have been motivated by the ideals and beliefs of their respective religions. Together we can educate and mobilize concerned individuals to raise their voices to promote and protect human rights.

Twenty-first Annual Honors Pizza Vespers Held

By Hilary Sparks

The 21st Annual Honors Pizza vespers was held at Dr. Bradley's house. Approximately twenty-five honors students were in attendance, ranging from freshmen to seniors. A half dozen Honors faculty were there as well. Dr. Karlow was the speaker.

The pizza vespers is always the first honors activity of the year, because it is important to us that as we focus on academic excellence and strive to change our environments for the better that we not forget the true source of excellence and change.

The whole gang hung out in the Bradleys' beautiful backyard, eating pizza, chatting with friends, and meeting new people. Dr. Karlow spoke about the existence and consequences of freewill. He referenced John Polkinghorne's book, *Quarks, Chaos and Christianity: Questions to Science and Religion*. He

discussed the fact that to a lot of people chaos seems to be a sign of no meaning, but in reality it is a sign of freedom. We think of God as an all knowing, all powerful being, but what does that mean in regards to his intervention in our lives, particularly natural disasters? When people ask what was God's intent, particularly in regards to the earthquake on a Sunday morning in the South that caused dozens of churches to crumble; his answer is that God's intent was for the earth's plates to behave in accordance with their nature. He also spoke in regards to the 40 days of purpose project on campus.

Worship music was lead by Rob Wolcott, religious studies senior; who carried on bravely through a dozen special requests after worship had officially ended. He was accompanied by Dr. Bradley's parakeet. The

final notes were those of "I like bananas, I think that mangos are sweet, but nothing can beat the sweet love of God. . ."

After worship some drifted home, but others lingered until 11:45 when the RA's left and the rest began to think maybe the Bradleys would like to go to bed.

.....
SAM
(Sabbath Afternoon Ministry)
We're gonna sing sing sing.
We're gonna shout shout shout.
SO COME!
Visit the Old Folks at Loma Linda Villa.
Meet at the Brickyard @ 3 p.m.
Call SALSU for more info.
Transportation provided.
.....

GOT SALSU?

Courtesy of Joy Asumen
Religious V.P. of SALSU

- October 31 - November 2
SALSU Retreat
Leo Carillo Beach (\$5)
Last day to sign-up:
October 29th. 5 p.m.
October 24, 2003 last day people can get refund.
- Wednesday, October 29
Rendezvous.
10 p.m. Sharp
- Friday Night, October 24
First Service
Speaker: Vaughn Nelson
7:45 p.m.
- Midnight Cafe
Right after First Service
- Saturday, October 25
Stahl Center Sabbath
LSU Church

Tiffi's Tips

By Tiffany Cavitt

Have You Prayed Today? Prayer can heal the mind, body and soul. Prayer without ceasing is the best and healthiest way to start your day out right! LSU student Alicia Galecka is a strong advocate in asking God to work in all areas of her life. She feels, "prayer is a powerful tool that keeps people intact mentally and physically." According to physician's assistant Hobson Bryant, at Moses Memorial Hospital, God healed a patient whose body collapsed after colon surgery. He says, "If you believe, if you believe God is with you, that your medicines are going to help you, then that's the beginning of the healing process" (Nash 2). Prayer works, not only in hospitals and homes but also in the heart.

We need to incorporate it into everyday life. Jesus explained "...when you go into your room and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who sees in secret secret place; and your Father who is in secret will reward you openly" (Matthew 6:7). In a secret place it's alright to give God your deepest thought, greatest sorrows, and awkward days to the Heavenly Father because blessings come

down. He is here to listen. He has stated in his word, "For your Father knows the things you have needed of before you ask Him" (Matthew 6:7). Prayer gave Samson the strength to conquer his enemies, and it helped the Israelites defeat serpent sickness in the wilderness. God works in magnificent ways to embrace us with the gift of prayer no matter what we have done. He sent his only unigente (begotten) Son to save us so that we could come to him in prayer.

When you pray you build a strong, growing faith relationship with Jesus Christ, remember prayer and faith go hand in hand: "...without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6). The more you pray and believe, the better you will feel about life and you see yourself in a positive light. You will also notice Jesus is the kind of friend who will never let you down. He wants to be a part of your life. It's hard to find a friend who will take hold and never let go. Bring it all to Jesus, He has a plan and answer for mind, body and soul.

Scrubs Roller Skate Night @ Roller 2001

Thursday Night, October 30, 2003 (8 p.m. to 10 p.m.)

Wear your scrubs and you will not be charged the \$1 entrance fee!

Prizes that night includes:

Best decorated Scrub, Best Top worn with scrubs & Wackiest Hair-Do.

Faculty Focus: Mrs. Jodi Cahill

By Leann Jimenez

Mrs. Jodi Cahill is the Director of Homebase, as well as the Dean of Calkins Hall. Observing her in action has helped me conclude that she is one of the hardest working, women here on campus.

The first question I asked her is what challenges have you encountered? "The students I've worked with contain so much passion inside, my job is to open them up, bring out the discipleship that links within them." I couldn't help but understand that she is on a mission to reach beyond anyone's expectations. Her devotion to God has reached out to people no one would imagine. Last year she visited the Communist Party and had some amazing things to say, "I spoke with a communist leader about myself, referring to Homebase, and the students I've helped, he just stopped me from speaking and said this was a sign from God to bring me here. He said a few days ago he picked up

a bible, knowing God had called him to a new revelation that He is real." Wow! What an awesome testimony! God certainly works

"IF I CAN DO IT, YOU CAN DO IT."

**MRS. CAHILL
DIRECTOR OF HOMEBASE**

in spectacular ways. Mrs. Cahill's spiritual aspects are to continue giving God her all, carrying God wherever she may go. She points out that ministering to others of a different "faith doesn't bother her, no matter what, she can offer something that God has put in her heart."

This year Mrs. Cahill has a lot ahead of her. She prays that the students of Homebase are "empowered to think outside of the box, expressing creativity," and presenting Jesus as the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. For those freshmen out there,

Do We Dare?

By Lynneth Solis

As I take a look around this campus, I can see a few students who seem to have everything about their lives planned out. I am particularly intimidated by these students. They appear to be following this perfect plan for their lives; they're so self-assured and so wise about what is best for them. What is worse, things seem to be going along according to their plans! Now, don't get me wrong, it's not bad to have things planned out; it's not bad at all. Actually, it's great to be so sure about plans for the future. But, let's face it. For the most part, there are a bunch of students just like you and I. Without a clue about what we want for our lives. Young, inexperienced and, sincerely, scared to our toes about this year, and our future. We know we want to make a difference, leave our mark here at LSU, turn out to be these accomplished men and women. But we feel so awkward trying to fit in somewhere, anywhere. And it doesn't matter whether we are freshmen or seniors; most of us are completely blank about what it is that God put us on this Earth for. Some of us are still unsure about what it is we are passionate about studying; others of us are in search for that special someone, without a clue of who or how he or she will be; others are still questioning their beliefs and convictions; and, in general, we are all clueless about the real issues of life: God, his purpose for us, and our significance and place in this wide span of a universe.

Life got good news for you, however. We are not expected to be sure about anything right now! We are expected to doubt ourselves, mess up, make mistakes,

and learn from them. We're supposed to feel awkward, experience new things, and, then, after a long learning process, make decisions accordingly. Youth is all about being unsure about what we are doing and, then, learning from our successes, as well as our failures. No matter how much our parents, teachers, youth pastors, or friends try to guide and teach us about life, there's nothing like venturing out into the world and soaking it all in, until we are able to make life-long choices for ourselves, guided by God. This means that some will choose the wrong major twenty-seven times; others will end up dating ten different wrong people; and, yet, others will join all these different unfulfilled ministries and activities. Believe it or not, God chooses to teach and talk to us this way. He understands the many trials we go through everyday, and uses these opportunities to show us what it is that He thinks is best for us. In the end, all of these wrong choices will end up giving meaning and shape to our lives. They will be the building blocks of an unforeseen future. Though these mistakes will have an effect on us, probably cause some pain, ten, twenty years down the road, we will be able to look back and be thankful to God for their many lessons.

As we go along trying to make sense of our lives, there is only one choice we are called upon to make today, now, and that is to choose Jesus as the solid foundation of our lives. Really, there is no point in waiting, there's no risk involved. We might dive into all the wrong fields of study, relationships, or endeavors in life, but with Jesus by our side it's all good. He has promised to take us to a safe landing if we only let him be the Captain of this ship called Life. No matter how many storms of problems or self-doubt we have to endure, we can trust that, at the end of the day, Jesus will bring us to the safety of a calm ocean of peace and give us a life bigger and more fulfilling than we could ever have imagined. So, let Him hold your hand and guide you. Close your eyes in total trust in God and what He has in store for you. Believe me, it will be worth it. God has said, Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers (3 John 2). He is talking to me and you, offering things bigger and better than our dreams. He wants to bless us with a good life, do we dare accept it?

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CRITERION

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2003

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Fire Strikes Hundreds of Families

By Sujie Chang

Many Californians will not look back on the month of October, 2003 with great fondness. An Indian Summer, humidity in the single digits, a four-year drought that kiln-dried chaparral shrub lands near the Pacific Ocean and so stressed the pine trees in the San Bernardino forest that they became vulnerable to an attack by beetles, all contributed to the worst firestorm in state history. The 11 fires in Southern California have consumed almost 750,000 acres, killed 20 people



and destroyed almost 3,500 homes.

Four blazes ravaged San Diego County, burning more than 370,000 acres of land, destroying more than 2600 homes, and left more than a dozen residents dead. From Ventura County to the San Bernardino Mountains to the eastern part of San Diego County, the firestorm disaster has destroyed millions of dollars worth of property. Authorities are still conducting a detailed investigation into what caused the fires. Some suspected causes include the work of an arsonist and a lost hunter who ignored a signal fire. The loss from the fires is enormous, so enormous that President Bush declared California a National Disaster. With more than \$2 billion dollars in damage, it is going to be big challenge for Southern California to recover from the blaze that virtually wiped out four counties altogether. Governor Davis said the wild fires are the costliest disaster that California has ever faced. More than 12,000 firefighters have stepped in thus far to extinguish the flames.

Members of the LSU community found themselves unfortunate victims of the blaze. Rancho Cucamonga resident and SALSU Executive Vice-Pres-

ident Michael Kiemeney, could see the fire from his house, located just a mile away from the fire. "We were told to evacuate and had just a few minutes to pack a few precious things. It was strange to think I might not have a house to come back to." Luckily the Kiemeney's home was saved but others did not fare so well.

Possibly the most devastating situation is faced by freshman Jay Wilson, a double major in mathematics and music, whose house was reduced to a pile of rubble. Around 8:30 am on the morning of October 3, 2003 Jay received a phone call from his parents in San Diego. They told him that at 5:30 in the morning a wall of fire was fast approaching their house. They were given a half an hour to evacuate. Nothing much could be packed in an half an hour period. Wedding photos, a computer, and a camera were the only items they were able to save as they ran for lives. People were asked to head to a nearby high school, where relatives could contact them.

Jay had a chance to visit the site where his house once stood. He speaks of the surreal experience, "It certainly didn't feel like I was walking into a long-lived neighborhood. There was nothing other than black ashes and rubble." Rummaging through pile of rubble, he found a couple of mugs and a few items from the kitchen that survived the fire. His fine coin collection was completely ruined, left in a big blob of metal melted altogether. At the time of evacuation, his parents took 2 dogs with them, leaving behind 7 cats and 1 sheep. Only 4 of the seven cats and the sheep survived.

The family will begin reconstruction very soon. Their homeowners insurance will cover the cost of rebuilding from ground up and comprehensive coverage will pay for some of the items in the house that were lost in the blaze. Despite experiencing this devastating tragedy, the strong freshman likes to see the event as one of those bad things that can happen to good people. He adds, "Take it and stride. Trust that something good will

come of it."

For those who would like to take a part in the Disaster Relief, some information about various facilities listed below.

Apple Valley High School, 11837 Navajo Road, Apple Valley

Borrego High School, 2281 Diegueno Road, Borrego Springs

Hesperia High School, 9898 Maple Ave., Hesperia

Jesse Turner Center, 6396 Citrus Ave., Fontana

Sultana High School, 17311 Sultana Ave., Hesperia

Mountain Empire Junior and Senior High School 3305 Buckman Springs Road, Pine Valley

San Bernardino International Airport 294 South Leland Norton Way, San Bernardino†

SHELTERS & FACILITIES:
Crest - St. John's Church, 2005 Crest Drive - NOT a shelter but a church that is offering assistance. The Red Cross is providing food.

FOUR other Red Cross shelters are still currently open:

Borrego Springs - Borrego Springs High School, 2281 Dieguero Road

Santee - Santana High School, 9915 Magnolia Avenue

Valley Center - Valley Center High

School, 31322 Cole Grade Road Pine Valley - Mountain Empire Jr./Sr. High School, 3305 Buckman Springs Drive

VOLUNTEERS:
Quotas for volunteers have been filled. There will be no more immediate Volunteer Orientations.

DONATIONS:
Donations may be made by calling 1-800-HELP-NOW or by mailing or hand delivering a check to the American Red Cross, 3650 Fifth Avenue, San Diego, CA, 92103. Donor Designation Will Always Be Honored. Write on the check or include in the envelope what area and for what disaster you would like your donation to go to.

Donations of food, used clothing and other items are being accepted by the San Diego Food Bank (866-350-3663) and all 12 Salvation Army locations (1-800-SAL-ARMY).

Animal Rescue Operations:
Oregon Humane Society, San Bernardino Animal Control 606 E. Mill Street San Bernardino, CA 92415-0003

Humane Society of the United States Disaster Relief Donation Hotline 1-888-259-5431

Animal Disaster Relief San Diego Humane Society : 5500 Gaines St. San Diego, CA 92110 (619) 299-7012 ext. 2245

La Sierra University Church "Firestorm Victims Fund" 909)354-7095



Jay looks at the remains of his family's Jeep.

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First Town Hall Meeting



What is Ramadan?



Lessons from the Recall!



Cosmic Bowling



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First Town Hall Meeting of the Year Held in HMA

By Shaun Loo

On Wednesday, October 22 the Student Association of La Sierra University held a Town Hall meeting at Hole Memorial Auditorium. The occasion offered an opportunity for dialogue and an open discussion between the administration, faculty members and the students of La Sierra University. The administration was represented by Dr. Lawrence T. Geraty, President of La Sierra University, Dr. Ella Simmons, Provost / Vice President for Academic Administration, Jennifer Tyner, Vice President for Student Life and Pat Reynolds of university security. There to represent the student body were the SALSU officers, senators and any other students who chose to attend.

Among the issues discussed were cafeteria conditions, university land development, Learning support center test fees, rooms of residence halls, security, health services and revenue from La Sierra University land.

The operating status of the commons was discussed first. In response to the concerns about cafeteria space, Jennifer Tyner agreed that the cafeteria is crowded and outdated. Food Services have been requesting more space to enable better services. Dr. Geraty said that the university has hired master planners to renovate and expand the university cafeteria in order to accommodate more students. Currently, the main priority of the university is the development of the new science complex, which will begin soon and is expected to be completed by August 2005. There is a possibility that the plan

to renovate and expand the dining commons will be one of the priority projects as well.

The development of the road in front of the Administration Building and cafeteria has been a major concern for drivers who need to cross on either sides of the university. With the closure of Pierce Street the only way to get to the other side of the university is to use the upper driveway of the campus, or to drive all the way around Riverwalk. Dr. Geraty explained that the reason for the slow development of the connecting road was mainly because of different suggestions and negotiations raised by the master planning group.

The Path of Just, which was scheduled for completion in the spring of 2003, is still under construction due to the development of the university land as well as the overhaul of the university electrical lines.

Students have complained about the new testing fees in the Learning Support Center. Some argue that tuition fees should cover the testing fees. Dr. Ella Simmons responded by saying that the tuition fees support other needs of the university. Also, the administration has been having difficulties operating the university with the increased cost of providing services.

The 2003-2004 academic year has seen the highest enrollment at La Sierra University in 23 years, which has resulted in Angwin Hall, Calkins Hall, Gladwyn Hall, South Hall and Sierra Towers being filled to maximum capacity with approximately ten students

still living in Corona Point Apartments. Jennifer Tyner offered the explanation that the university is looking at several options for dealing with this problem, including building a new residence hall. One of the main reasons for the problem is the period of building time necessary for the completion of construction a new residence hall. Special exceptions will be taken and the age limit will be lowered again by next year in order to fulfill the living needs of La Sierra University students.

The security on campus has been a major concern among the LSU community. Many expressed their desire for the lighting of the campus to be improved for the safety of the students and staff. In response to concerns regarding the security of the campus, Pat Reynolds of University Security explained that it takes the security guards approximately three additional minutes to arrive during an emergency call which is due to the lack of manpower. Widening walk ways, installing better lighting and the formation of escort groups are in the works. However, these plans cannot move forward at this time due to the construction of the university land. In the meantime, the gates at Upper Campus Drive are secured at 8:30 pm every evening for safety reasons and a detailed list of the campus lighting and security incidents are taken every two weeks.



Health Services has been working to ensure the best care possible for the students. Last year, Health Services of La Sierra University treated over ten thousand cases. Plans to relocate Health Services are still being considered. The Health Services staff will probably be increased in order to meet the student's medical needs. Improving the resources of Health Services will be an additional priority plan along with the new science complex and the cafeteria.

Additional matters were brought up for discussion. The revenue from the university land and leased land will be used to fund the university infrastructure, endowment funds and to ensure educational quality. There is also a beautification plan in the works for the land behind the parking lot of Sierra Towers.

The Town Hall Meeting adjourned at 10 p.m. with a word of appreciation from the representatives of the administration. A closing prayer followed shortly thereafter. For students who missed this Town Hall Meeting, there will be another one held next quarter.

Drama Production

By Katie Wagner

"You should never wear your best pants when you go out to fight for freedom and truth."

Audiences at La Sierra University will hear this line, and many others from Dr. Stockmann, during fall quarter's drama production. Sponsored by the English department, *An Enemy of the People* by Henrik Ibsen will be performed in Matheson chapel from November 13-16.

The production involves numerous LSU students in one way or another. Many students are cast and crew members in the show itself. Others are excited to see the drama merely for some sort of entertainment on campus. Yet for the majority of freshmen, as well as most English majors, this production is a mandatory event.

Discussions of whether or not going to drama productions should be a required part of the curriculum cause much debate on campus. Several students, who in previous years found play attendance a requisite for

classes, feel that the experience was good for them. Bethanie Johnson, a sophomore History major at LSU, said, "I think that attending these performances gives students a unique opportunity and it also shows support for the cast and crew of the show."

Not everyone, however, thinks that students should be forced to go to the shows. Some, like Claudia Arevalo, a sophomore and a Religious Studies major, argue adamantly against the idea. "I find it difficult to enjoy the show when I'm obligated to be there," Arevalo said.

Students, however, are not alone in having mixed feelings on the matter. Cast members of these compulsory performances, as well as actual teachers, also have differing views on this topic.

Rob Wolcott, who is playing Dr. Stockmann this fall, said that he understands both sides of the problem. On the one hand, as a student himself, he is not usually in

favor of requiring students to attend certain events or activities. Yet as a performer, he says that it is nice to have a guarantee of some audience.

"I think it's a good thing to be exposed to performances by fellow students on campus. Drama is meant to provoke, not only entertain, and live theater is "active" entertainment with a 2500 year history," said Bruce Gilman, an English professor and the faculty advisor for this production. "There is something special about live theater, especially when your classmates, friends and teachers are on stage."

Aarika Chilson, an English graduate student and Freshman English Teacher's Assistant, strongly believes that attending a drama performance is a good idea, at least for students enrolled in Freshman English 111. On the other hand, she is concerned about the money aspect of things. "Even though the price is small, students shouldn't have to pay to see a required event." According

to Chilson, most of her students last year complained more about having to pay for the performances than for being forced to attend them.

Although the price is only \$3, in some classes it is more money than students want to spend. Many can afford to pay the fee but there are always a few that run into problems over this issue.

An Enemy of the People concerns political and social issues of a small town. This particular production is set in the 1950s, which, according to Jennifer Davis, "adds an interesting dimension." Another actress, Tracie Douglas, said that this show is "one of the most intense performances I've ever been in."

The cast and crew consist mainly of LSU students, although there are few who live off campus. Andrea Geli, the director, is one of them. Although she says that the commute from Los Angeles does create challenges, she is excited about seeing this show put into action and hopes to see "a full house every night!"

Learning Through Service

By Sapna Sharma, News Editor

To Seek, To Know, To Serve. It is often much easier to quote the La Sierra University motto than to put the words into practice. For many college students who try to balance work and school, squeezing community service into an already packed schedule can prove to be a challenge. But just recently the Modern Language department started a program that helps to ensure a bright future for many young children in Riverside. The Latino Educational Advancement & Research Network (LEARN) and the Casa Blanca Learning Center have teamed up to create a program for college students to help children in elementary and middle school. This program began just this year and provides tutoring services to almost 100 students ranging in age from kindergarten to eighth grade. The tutors help students in the Casa Blanca area of Riverside, which historically, has had a reputation of

low educational performance, high crime, and a high dropout rate.

Not only do these tutors help young students with homework they

also prove to be positive role models. One of the active participants in this program, Roland Juarez stated "Not only do I find this program to be rewarding, but its an exceptional feeling knowing that we've made a difference." These tutors help the

children with their English skills, including grammar, spelling, and pronunciation as well as with their mathematics studies. The major-

ity of students are Hispanic, but there are also African Americans and various students from other ethnicities.



Juniors Damien Garcia and Jesse Grismer and seniors Claudia Carmona and Rochelle Hover are students in Dr. Myrtha Pizarro's Intermediate Spanish course. Claudia found herself working with groups of six children at a time. "It is

bit overwhelming trying to teach so many small children simultaneously. The experience is teaching me patience," Damien, Jesse and

Rochelle were each given four children to tutor. Jesse Grismer told his classmates of his experience, "the kids and I are buddies."

Dr. Lourdes Morales who is the co-founder and president of LEARN stated "I've been a professor for over thirty years and never have I had so much fun!" Through their very eyes tutors have seen the progress of students who were unable to read when they first began the program, and now they are eager to read to their tutors. The skills, which these students learn, are not only helping them in school work but it goes on to help them in school. The program is designed to promote academic success and continue on to college.

For more information or an application stop by the Spanish department. Their looking for tutors on Tuesday afternoons. Not only does this look good on your resume it makes a difference is someone's life.

The Secret Life of a TA

Meet Rusty a.k.a. David Perez

By Hillary sparks

Rusty is a student in the English Department's masters program. He is also a TA (Teaching Assistant), this means that on top of taking his required classes, so that he can earn his masters, he gets to teach freshmen English. There is some confusion as to what precisely a TA is. Teaching assistants are a sort of

hybrid between student and teacher. On top of taking their own classes, a full load for a graduate student is 8 units, they teach 3 unit classes. This means fitting grading in on top of their own homework.

After they receive back a typical assignment they have to read and grade between 90 and 140 pages. This is

his second year instructing our fine freshmen in the proper use of the pen, or keyboard, as it may be. Before coming to LSU he taught high school English for seven years. I wondered how our freshmen measure up compared to his former high school students. My dear reader will be relieved to know that there is "a significant improvement" over his high school students as well as increase in genuine interest.

He is enjoying LSU. Before coming here he had never attended an

Adventist school. He said, "It's fun to be at a place where the predominant culture is Adventist and understanding of the life style I choose. Where most people understand God the way I do." He also likes the small size of LSU and the personal attention one receives here.

After he has earned his masters degree he hopes to join a Ph.D. program and end up teaching English Literature at the University level.

I asked about the cafeteria. He said he only eats in the cafeteria if he is with someone and then only on Mondays for Indian food. Another food he truly enjoys is ice cream. I

asked him for his favorite flavor and he started to give me a half dozen including Rocky Road, something with coffee, or peanut butter and chocolate.

Relish, his almost constant companion, and seeing eye dog, is passionate about baby carrots. She is also, a little human dressed up as a dog and more spoiled now than when they originally trained her. She turns 7 years old this November 7th and has been with Rusty for 5 years.



\$10 Fee for Make-up Quizzes/Tests

Sujie Chang

As of Fall Quarter 2003, the Learning Support & Testing Center has instituted a \$10 charge for make-up quizzes and exams. There was growing concern that the new service charge was justified. A SALSU survey revealed that out of 185 students asked, the number of students opposing the new policy outweighed the number of supportive students.

The idea for the service charge originated last school year when the department began to struggle to maintain operations on a low budget and with an understaffed facility. An attempt to increase the budget of the department failed while at the same time the numbers of students wishing to take make-ups in the Learning Center rose. In order to compensate for the rising need for proctoring exams, the department decided to charge for their services on make-up quizzes and tests.

In addition to make-ups, the Learning Support & Testing Center gives various types of exams such as CLEP, DANTE, TOEFL, Act, ACTFL, and much more. Currently, there is only one worker to greet students in the reception area. The testing room can accommodate a maximum occupancy of twenty-five students and has a security camera mounted near the ceiling. There were a few incidents of academic dishonesty regarding students making up missed quizzes and tests.

According to Deena R. Weiss,

Associate Director of Learning Support & Testing Center, up-close proctoring of exams is virtually impossible with the current situation. The budget has not allowed the hiring of any new employees. So as it is one desk worker may be tied up answering phone calls, or trying to set up a make-up test for another student standing in line while a student sits in the other room taking an exam. There are so many tasks to be fulfilled by a desk worker that some of the students in the testing center would often take advantage of the hectic office environment. This left plenty of chance for some of the students to engage in cheating

activity. At the worst times of the quarter, there would be 25 students to line up to take make-ups. Sometimes, they would be turned down simply because the testing room could not hold all of them at once.

The number of students utilizing the make-up test service has risen steadily in the past few years as indicated by figures below. By initiating the service charge, the Associate Director hopes to see a decrease in the number of students walking in for make-ups. If significant numbers of students do continue to utilize the service at the new cost, the department may be able to hire a new staff who will be able to engage in nothing but make-up quizzes/tests coordination while the other worker devotes his/her time to office duties.



What is Ramadan?

By Sara Hussain

Many Muslims are fasting today because it is Ramadan (the Qu'ran's Revelation). During Ramadan a Muslim is to fast, pray, give to the needy and celebrate the revelation of the Qu'ran with family and friends. Fasting involves eating nothing during daylight hours, including drinking water, chewing gum or even eating your favorite Veggie Burger. One is to do all of their eating, drinking and chewing needs before the sun rises and after the sun sets.

Ramadan, the ninth month of the Muslim calendar, began on October 27 and will end on either November 25 or November 26 (depending on when the moon is seen) fasting will end after the moon is seen and Muslims will celebrate Eid (when the Qu'ran was completed through Prophet Muhammad). For approximately 29-30 days a Muslim should fast.

However, the Qu'ran states that if one is not able to fast dur-

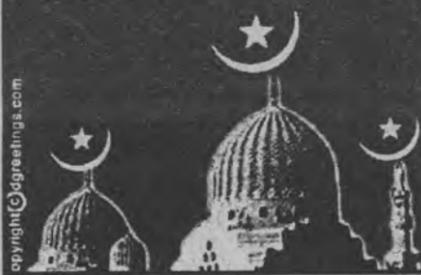


ing Ramadan due to unfortunate reasons or personal reasons, one may fast anytime during the year when it is convenient for the person or one may give money or food one needy person each fasting day of Ramadan.

Through fasting, Allah ("God" in Arabic) reveals to humans that He is most compassionate and merciful. Allah understands and knows the difficulties we face each day of our lives and so it is not condemned if one does not fast during the month of Ramadan.

The purpose of fasting during Ramadan is to show respect to Allah for giving us the best guide, the Qu'ran, and practice self-control and inner reflection. It is a time of worship and contemplation, a time to strengthen family and community ties. Muslims believe that the Qu'ran is the last and final Holy book and Ramadan celebrates its revelation as given by Allah through Prophet Muhammad (Allah's Grace and Peace be upon Him).

May Allah bless you
on the occasion of Ramadan



Oppose or Support? The Monument Case

By Leann Jimenez

Two churches in Pennsylvania are battling against each other on the right to display a monumental statue of a dead homosexual man. You may be thinking the church is going to state positive things about this man, well I think not. They want to carve in this monument that this man will be going to hell because he is homosexual, basically stating that all homosexuals are going to enter into eternal damnation. The church opposing this filed a lawsuit to prevent them from doing this. Now, it has become a known all back east, and the church that wants to display this monument is now considered a cult. I would be more detailed on the names of the church and the man, but that was held confidential.

I asked a few students to state their opinion on this story.

Porshia Baker

"I believe the statue is only a sign of hate, which is completely

opposing towards the way Jesus, would like us to like us to view each other. One should never tell someone "their going to hell"; instead, the church should embrace them and influence them through their way of life. That alone will place a larger and more positive impact on homosexuals. A biased statue is not going to solve the problem."

Lael Bertide

"With all due respect, a church's function is to win and nurture souls for the kingdom of God. I agree that homosexuality is definitely immoral, but to go to such extremes as to erect a statue is also wrong. Two wrongs don't make it right and who is the church to judge? Isn't that God's prerogative?"

Those opposed have stated their opinions, but what about the supporters? I couldn't find anyone who would support this story, but I could imagine what they would

Ask and You Shall Receive

By Cher Palomares

Dear Criterion:

I need advice. My wife and I met in high school, started college together and finally after dating for four and a half years we tied the knot this summer and got an apartment together. It has one bedroom and a little kitchen. It is nothing fancy but we don't need anything fancy.

Before we even got engaged my wife's mother was planning our wedding. When we finally announced our engagement my future mother-in-law totally took control. She picked the date, the time, the dresses, the flowers, even the flavor of the cake. None of this really bothered me because I did not care at all what the color scheme of the wedding was. If my soon-to-be wife was okay with it then so was I.

At the wedding, my wife's mother talked the most of anyone at the reception, cut the cake for us and then changed *our* song to her song. Still I was not troubled. I was just happy to be married. Our honeymoon was what I was looking forward to.

Our honeymoon was great. The day we returned from Hawaii was the first day we moved into our new apartment. It was our first time living away from home and our first time living together. We spent all day unpacking and arranging our new home. I worked for hours assembling our bed. Finally after I had tightened every bolt and screw I wandered out into our tiny little living room and collapsed onto the couch. Before I could close my eyes I heard a knock on the door.

I opened the door to see the last person on earth I wanted to see—my mother-in-law. There she was in the flesh. I thought about closing the door and pretending not to be home but intellectually I knew that would not solve anything. I pretended to be happy to see her. She came in with her suitcases and announced that she was in the neighborhood

and decided to stop by for the weekend! She lives over four hours away. I suspect she was not "just in the neighborhood."

My mother-in-law is a large woman. So large in fact, that she could not sleep on our couch. Our only option was to put her in our new bed! My wife and I took the couch and the floor. It was our first night in our new home and we didn't even get to sleep in our own bed. I was perturbed to say the least but I still could have handled it had that been an isolated incident.

Unfortunately for me, it was not an isolated incident! My mother-in-law has returned every weekend for the past three and a half months! I work and I go to school and what little free time I have is on the weekends. However I don't get to spend my weekend with my wife—at least not just with my wife. I can't take it anymore. What should I do?

Sincerely,

A frustrated newlywed

Dear Frustrated Newlywed,

Talk to your wife. Does she mind her mother's frequent visits? If she does then the two of you need to sit that mother-in-law of yours down and tell her what is on your mind. It may be that she is not even aware of the inconvenience she is causing you.

If your wife is not bothered by the visits then perhaps your mother-in-law is not really the problem. Whatever the case may be you need to have a discussion with your new wife about who is an appropriate houseguest and how often they should visit.

It may be of little comfort to you at this point, but try to remember that your mother-in-law has done one very good thing for you. She produced your beautiful wife and you can at least appreciate her for that.

Sincerely,

Cher

Criterion Advice Guru

Upcoming SALSU Events

Wednesday (12th) (9:55 p.m.)

Rendezvous

"Hispanic Ministries"

Friday (14th) (9 p.m.-11 p.m.)

Midnight cafe

Wednesday (19th)

Rendezvous

"Thanksgiving Special"

say. Freedom of speech would pop in, including the immoral acts that God has placed as wrong. The Bill of Rights may say we have the freedom to do this and that, but when it comes down to it, are opinions go in one ear and out the other. The supporters are right on one point, but God has called us to only portray His love. We have to remember that we're all sinners, and there is no bigger or smaller sin. And like the opposed said, no one has the right to judge, especially on an issue as big as this. God is the judge. Displaying a statue will chase the lost away from the Lord, and I don't think God honors that at all. What kind of church would do this? This is ridiculous, and most likely this lawsuit will pass.

SIFE Returns to Mexico

By Yohany Ingleton

Some twenty members of the SIFE team plan to travel to Baja California,

Mexico, this Thanksgiving break to continue a project the team started three years ago at Colegio Valle de la Trinidad Elementary School. The focus of this November's trip will be to teach kids in all eight grades various lessons about financial literacy. In addition, the SIFE students will help refurbish the dormitory, which is badly needing a face lift, especially inside, to accommodate the school's growing population. Since the SIFE team started working with the school, and bringing projects such as the Little Red Hen chicken business and the Internet computer lab, enrollment has increased from 35 to about 125 this year. For more information e-mail sife@lasierra.edu.



SIFE Students Support City Council Candidate Dom Betro

By Andrew Garrett

The first weekend in November found nine SIFE students taking the next step to get Dom Betro elected for City Council. The SIFE team joined other Betro volunteers to distribute literature in Riverside neighborhoods. Taking to the streets everyone involved covered the city of Riverside with materials encouraging voters to mark Dom Betro on their ballots on Tuesday, November 4th. The election will produce four new council persons to represent Wards 1,3,5, and 7.

Betro, a SIFE Advisory Board member, is running for the Council seat left open by Chuck Beaty in Ward One whom is not seeking reelection. Betro, president of Family Services Association and owner of Calabria restaurant, has lived in Riverside for 18 years. His commitments to distinctive neighborhoods, a strong local economy, eased traffic congestion and increased job availability in Riverside have highlighted his campaign efforts. SIFE has been an asset to the campaign since Betro announced his candidacy in April: creating presentations for fund-raisers, providing technical support, and consistently inundating neighborhoods with Betro materials.

California leads country again

By Anlai Jiao

California has long been known to be politically and socially progressive. We experiment, succeed, and then lead the rest of the country. And lead we did. California just proved to the country that we can sort through 135 different candidates for governor. We also proved that a candidate can become governor with only 2 months of campaigning. All a candidate has to do is appeal to the independents. After all, that's what Schwarzenegger did at the recall elections this October.

Independents are growing in California. Whoever captures the independents in California gets

to play politics in Sacramento. The political landscape is changing. Democrats don't have all the answers (look at Davis), and Republicans sure don't either (look at Bush), so what do we do? What are Americans good at? What did we do at the Constitutional Convention in 1787? Compromise!

Arnold sits on the fence with abortion. He supports gay rights, but not gay marriages. He believes in racial equality in employment. He's tough on crime. He's pro-environment, mentions nothing about corporations, supports inner-city school development, anti-big government, for gun con-

trol, against taxes, wants to insure low-income families...you get the idea. He's no Republican, but no Democrat either. He's a gift from heaven for independents in "Kalee-fwol-nya." He was a donkey in elephant's clothing.

Add that to him being a social conservative. He's sincere, apologizes when he's wrong, stands up for what he believes is right, and he states it like it is. And Americans like that. Now, of course, that doesn't mean he'll always make the right decisions. But, it does mean that Californians are willing to give him a chance. And this we did. Overwhelmingly.



Stay Healthy This Quarter

By Andrew Garrett

It's inevitable. With more than 200 viruses known to cause the common cold, sooner or later this year you'll end up with the telltale sniffles, cough, and scratchy throat of a cold. In fact, statistics show that most adults experience four to six colds each year, with children being even more susceptible -- catching on average nine colds or more.

When it comes to battling this unwelcome visitor, Wal-Mart pharmacist Lori Mendoza recommends hand washing as your first line of defense. "Colds come on gradually and spread easily, usually through hand contact or from sneezing and coughing," she says. "Wash hands frequently and be sure to keep your hands away from your eyes, nose, and mouth since these are the easiest areas for germs to enter your body."

Other ways to prevent the spread of the cold are simple:

- * Avoid close contact with people who have a cold. Stay away from crowded places. If your child has a cold, wash his or her toys after play to minimize the risk of spreading the virus.

- * Get plenty of rest. Staying well rested keeps your immune system strong so it can fight off germs. It also helps keep stress at bay, another trigger that can weaken the immune system and make you vulnerable to colds.

- * Practice common sense. It sounds simple, and it is. Change washcloths, sponges, and dishcloths on a regular basis. Replace your toothbrush frequently. Clean surfaces you touch with a germ-killing disinfectant.

- * Prepare now. Before cold season hits, stock up on the essentials -- nasal decongestant, cough suppressant, tissues, and pain reliever -- so that you are ready at the first signs of a cold.

Despite your best efforts, colds are extremely difficult to prevent entirely. If the cold catches up with you, expect to experience a stuffy or runny nose, sore throat, sneezing, coughing, and mild fatigue. These symptoms show up between one and three days after you are infected by a cold virus and typically last for about three days. At that point the worst is over, but you may feel congested for a week or more.

While there's no cure for the common cold, over-the-counter medications can provide temporary relief of symptoms. "As soon as you feel a cold coming on, start treating your symptoms," said Mendoza. "Adults with a cold might want to start with something as simple as acetaminophen or ibuprofen to help body aches."

For other cold symptoms, like coughing and congestion, Mendoza recommends a nasal decongestant

and cough suppressant like DayQuil during the day or NyQuil for nighttime use. And there's no substitute for bed rest and plenty of fluids to ensure a speedy recovery. Remember, antibiotics are ineffective against viruses, so they won't help your cold.

For help choosing the right over-the-counter medications for your cold symptoms, check with your local Wal-Mart pharmacist. If you have unusually severe cold symptoms, high fever, ear pain, or a cough that gets worse while other cold symptoms improve, call your doctor.



Lessons from the Recall!

By Jay Razzouk

It would hardly be an exaggeration to say that California will never be the same. A month after the recall election which shook Grey Davis out of his governorship, we are only beginning to experience the aftershocks. Some people fear the recall could be the beginning of political anarchy, while others believe it was democracy at its best. No one can predict the fallout of October 7 recall, but all of us can learn its lessons.

Lesson number 1: Don't get out-of-touch with the people.

Grey Davis has to be one of the most out-of-touch politicians to grace the planet. If you were to ask him who his constituency was, and get an honest answer, he would likely say himself. Even during the final days before the recall election, Davis was signing legislation which he thought would win him votes, rather than improve our state.

At least twice, Davis rejected legislation that would grant driver licenses to illegal immigrants. Yet weeks before the recall, Davis signed SB 60, a hurried bill which many legal experts agreed was worse than its predecessors which Davis had both rejected. Davis believed that signing the bill would help him win minority votes. However, Davis did not do his research. As it turns out, signing the bill to a large extent infuriated legal immigrants who had worked hard to earn their citizenship. Others found it insulting that Davis thought their votes could be bought. Further, it should be mentioned that illegal immigrants wielding driver licenses still do not have a right to vote.

Davis and his strategists also made a huge miscalculation by believing that the state of California was ready for a huge swing to the left. Catering to the worker's unions and numerous other interest groups, Davis began to dish out the taxpayers' dough as if he was Santa at an orphanage. He and his elves were no doubt shocked by public reaction to his proposed tax increases and budget cuts. Davis then managed to not only to mobilize his opposition, but also deject even some of his most blind supporters.

It appears that California was, is, and will continue to be a middle-of-the-road state. Most people I know take pride in not belonging to any one party. It seems to be a mainstream concept that belonging to a party represents narrow-mindedness and extremism. Arnold Schwarzenegger is the nearly perfect example of what Californians want. He largely opposes taxes, but understands there are times when they should be raised. He wants education to be the state's fiscal priority, yet he wants to create a business friendly environment in California. Though he may be a registered Republican, his wife

comes from a long line of devout democrats. There were probably more Democrats than Republicans standing behind Arnold at his announcement speech. Except for those who are extremely liberal or conservative, most people should find something to like about the Austrian immigrant who had a dream and made it happen.

Lesson number 2: People don't like dirty politics.

Even a blind man can smell a rat, and Davis brought politics to an all time low. Back during the 2002 gubernatorial race, Davis unleashed one of the most notorious smear campaigns seen in California. Disgusted by how low Davis was willing to go, Attorney General Bill Lockyer coined the term, "Puke Politics." With a giant slime ball, Davis had managed to knock out the former mayor of Los Angeles, Richard Riordan, from the Republican primaries. Who was left was the self-proclaimed businessman, Bill Simon, who on his own could have bumbled the campaign, but also got hit by a slime bomb from Davis. At the end of the 2002 elections, Davis squeaked by with a slim margin over Simon, but at the expense of disheartening his constituency.

Davis' "puke politics" caused many people to either despise or distrust him. No doubt the final blow came after the Davis Administration disclosed the financial status of the state only a couple weeks after the election. It was so blatantly clear that Davis had kept the financial reports sealed until after the election was behind him. Most people had voted for Davis to maintain the status-quo. It was believed that California was the state least impacted by the economic recession, and that Davis' leadership was responsible. Like a CEO who takes credit for the good times, Davis had to take blame for the bad. Many people were upset and wanted to change their votes.

I believe Davis' cover-up of California's financial crisis was the straw that broke the camel's back. The people of California became infuriated as funding to schools was slashed, money to hospitals was cutback, and taxes were raised. That was not what they had been promised, and that was not what they had voted for.

Lesson #3: People are smarter than the media thinks.

Despite the extraordinary effort by the mainstream press to wrench Schwarzenegger's political engine, Arnold still won by an overwhelming margin. The L.A. Times had a minimum of 24 reporters combing Arnold's past, looking for even the smallest pubic hair. A couple weeks before the recall, the L.A. Times published a front article revealing Arnold's use of

steroids during his bodybuilding days. The article stirred no more than a hiccup.

After seven weeks of grueling investigation, the L.A. Times made their last attempt to terminate the Governor. Just days before the recall, the executive editor of the L.A. Times, John Carroll, unleashed his onslaught of Arnold Horror Tales of women claiming to have been groped by the former playboy turned politician.

I don't know anyone who believes Arnold never acted inappropriately during his Mr. Universe days. Just too much condemning video footage exists. Yet the exact timing of the articles nearly discredits the work put into them. The only thing worse than a dirty campaign is a dirty campaign at the eleventh hour. It was too clear that the newspaper wanted to release the information when it would supposedly have the greatest impact on the voters and leave the least amount of time for Arnold to counter.

Carroll claimed he wanted to fulfill his journalistic responsibilities by fully examining every lead, and verifying every source. However, after the initial article on Arnold's groping, the L.A. Times the next day published stories of women who for the first time claimed to have fallen victim to the Terminator's grasp. One unverified story after another made it to the front page. Many coworkers of the supposed victims provided alternate stories, shedding possible light onto personal vendettas or attempts for fame. I mean not dismiss all the allegations against Arnold. However, it was evident that the L.A. Times had sacrificed serious journalism to satisfy personal politics.

The L.A. Times wasn't alone in mainstream media when it came to one-sided reporting. I can remember watching ABC News delivering the latest from the campaign trails. Davis' was always shown in front of a crowd of cheering supporters. Yet in stark contrast, reporters discussed Schwarzenegger's campaign to a background of empty chairs and people clearing away trash. From "Good Morning America" to "Nightly News," it was evident that the media was out to get Arnold.

Watching the news the night of the recall, I could tell by the tone of their voices that the reporters were shocked by the outcome. I, too, am surprised by how the people of California ignored the perpetual bombardment from the "unbiased" media. Californian's demonstrated that they don't rely on the ABC's or NBC's assessment of California's problems. Californian's also showed that they are skeptical of what they hear and don't take everything at face value. I am impressed with my fellow voters, and they make me proud to live in California.

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The Criterion is a biweekly publication of the Student Association of La Sierra University (SALSU). The opinions expressed herein are specifically those of the writers and do not necessarily represent the views of the editors, the sponsors, La Sierra University, or the faculty and staff.

The Criterion welcomes submissions from its readers. We reserve the right to edit them for content and space.

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PHAIR

(Promoting Healthy Attitudes in Individuals and Relationships)

By Kristal Tonstad

PHAIR is a student group that aims for a healthy, aware and accepting environment at La Sierra University. Our name, PHAIR, describes our mission: Promoting Healthy Attitudes in Individuals and Relationships. We want our campus to be one where people are able to actualize their full potentials, where every person feels free and safe to express their rights, and where people communicate honestly and freely. Specifically, we seek to raise awareness of damaging personal and relational issues (such as poor self-esteem, eating disorders, abusive relationships), to prevent harmful attitudes and behaviors, and to foster positive self-images. We are not a feminist or fringe group, these issues affect everybody in some way. We are excited about getting started again this year, and would love to have more members with ideas and energy! If you are interested, E-mail us at dearphair@yahoo.com. Also, look out for our posters with upcoming events.

DEAR PHAIR,

PHAIR is also starting a special section in the Criterion where you can send us questions about things you are dealing with in relationships with your friends, family or boyfriend/girlfriend. Both guys and girls are asked to submit their questions to dearphair@yahoo.com and you will be anonymous unless otherwise requested. Members of PHAIR will respond in the Criterion (or to you personally if preferable). We will make the effort to connect you to any resources and help with transportation if you need to access something outside what our campus offers. However, we are not licensed therapists and thus cannot ourselves address serious personal problems. Rather, we want to open a dialogue on campus where we can hear what people are experiencing and thinking about. We want to learn from each other and the best way we can do that is by communicating. You are also welcome to respond to things other people say in this column. Your question may get people talking, and you may find that you are not alone!



The Baghdad Blues: Time to Go?

By John Razzouk

On Wednesday, October 29, the number of American soldiers killed in combat since May 1 (when President Bush declared the end of major fighting) reached 117, surpassing the 114 who died during the official campaign. This same day, the Red Cross and Medecins Sans Frontieres (another aid organization) made it known that they were "reducing" staff in Iraq for "security reasons." This decision was made in the wake of a recent upscale of violence in an already troubled area. Two days earlier a coordinated suicide attack on the Red Cross headquarters and three stations of the U.S.-backed police killed thirty-five people and wounded over two-hundred others. Also, the day before that, another U.S. soldier was killed in a rocket attack on the hotel where U.S. Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz was staying. Some use all of this as an argument that it is time to pull out of Iraq, that it was a mistake to be there in the first place. They claim that the time has come to give the power back to the people of Iraq. This sounds like a glorious event, but how long would the Iraqi's keep that power?

Imagine, for a moment, that we did pull our troops out of Iraq. In a beautiful display of peace-loving friendship, we would inform the Iraqi people that their country now officially belonged to them; a successful conclusion to Operation: Iraqi Freedom. Within the first few hours, we would see the news full of dancing in the streets and jubilant Iraqi citizens. Then things would really begin heading downhill. Reports of looting and gangs roaming the streets would begin. Baghdad's finest would of course get right on top of the situation. In all the confusion, Baathists, other Saddam loyalists, and foreign militants would begin pouring out of the woodwork as rumors of the return of Saddam Hussein spread like wildfire. Many Iraqis would choose to do nothing out of fear. Others, who wouldn't feel the need to let go of their newfound freedom, make a stand. Soon finding themselves out matched and outgunned, they give up or die. Those who give up are given the honor of refilling Saddam's prisons, torture chambers, and mass graves.

This is just one possibility of what could happen in Iraq if we pull troops out now. There are several other possible and likely situations that could take place if we do so. A

lack of American presence leaves an incredibly large power vacuum to fill. Leaving now could only spark the return of Saddam, invasion by Iran, and/or an attack by the Kurds which would, in turn, cause an invasion by Turkey. Can we possibly expect foreign militants and Saddam loyalists to respect the new direction the Iraqi government is going in? Have they respected their fellow Iraqi's any time in the last few decades. They cannot even respect their own Holy month. No; they would not stand by and resist the opportunity to seize control of Iraq. Without continued American presence for a little while longer in



the country, I fear Iraq would simply go to the man with the most firepower.

Iraq currently does not have the proper infrastructure to keep from collapsing upon itself. Iraq's new military and security forces are currently being trained how to protect their country. They now learn how to serve the people of Iraq instead of protecting the interests of one tyrant. Pulling anyone out right now, military or relief staff, can only be detrimental to the interests of Iraqis. What do you think goes through the mind of the terrorist(s) who planned the attack on the Red Cross a short time ago when he sees this very organization pull much of their staff out to "rethink and restructure"? The U.N. recently addressed their decision to remove staff as well. "It is not a withdrawal; it's a consultation process," stated UN spokesperson Marie Okabe in a recent press conference. It doesn't matter what we call it, to the terrorist(s), these organizations are simply running away. This can only bring stronger and more frequent attacks. The enemy cannot be allowed to gain momentum in a war as important as this.

I recently spoke to a friend of mine about the staff reduction of aid groups in Iraq. "This is being handled completely wrong. For every staff member killed, two more should be sent to Iraq to show the terrorists that the Iraqi people are worth the effort," he stated. Colin Powell recently told reporters that the Red Cross and others trying to help the Iraqis rebuild must remain in Iraq for it to work. "They are needed. Their work is needed. And if they are driven out, then the terrorists win." After receiving a phone call from Powell, Pierre, director of operations for the International Committee of the Red Cross, confirmed that the organization would maintain a presence in Iraq. However, he went on to say that staff would be reduced from its already meager amount of thirty international staff members. I wonder if they would pull all their staff out if the Geneva Conventions didn't require the Red Cross to stay in Iraq since it is considered an occupied country.

The Red Cross continually fails to realize what the military has begun to understand. These terrorists / militants do not follow the guidelines of the Geneva Conventions; they do not behave with the typical "civilized bureaucracy" approach. Words like "restructure and reassess" do not have the same effect on a Saddam loyalist as they will on an American. Rather they are all seen as one word, "Victory." President Bush addressed this issue in a recent speech. "The enemy in Iraq believes America will run. That's why they're willing to kill innocent civilians, relief workers, and coalition troops. America will never run," Bush said.

It is time to set aside impatience and look at the big picture. This simply is not the time to just pick up and leave Iraq. It would be detrimental to the people of Iraq, the stability of the Middle East, and America itself. Troops will be removed when the time is right, but now is not that time. This world is running out of room for bystanders, we cannot afford any longer to watch from a distance and pretend to care. Martin Luther King Jr. once said "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Troops must remain in Iraq until its government is stable enough to stay in the hands of Iraqis. Then, and only then, will it be wise to remove troops and restore power to where it truly belongs.

Help those in need. Be a volunteer.
Come to the

American Red Cross Volunteers Orientation!!!

Thursday, November 13, 5 p.m.

@

the Student Center

Sign up in OSA ext. 2383
or Campus Ministries ext. 2090

For more info e-mail Joy at
ilovesalsu@hotmail.com

Bored in Riverside?

By Andrew Garrett

Welcome to Stomping Grounds, the first official guide to Riverside written by college students, for college students. This summer the City of Riverside hired five college students, representing the four major colleges and universities in Riverside, to scope out fun things to do in the city. They spent the month of July writing the guide, hoping to answer the all too common question of "What is there to do in Riverside?"

What did they find out? Riverside has plenty of unique hangouts, interesting shopping and a wide variety of eats to anyone's desires (and budget). Whether you are looking for a night out on the town or just a good place to go hiking, this guide will show you where.

So, next time you're bored out of your mind and need something to do, don't waste your time or gas going out to LA or the beach, grab this guide at the Student Life office and find out something new about Riverside. For more information call the Student Life office at extension 2100.

Brain Ticklers

Compiled by Andrew Garrett

The word cemetery derives from the Greek word "koimetirion" which means: dormitory.

A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.

This one is for Jossy and Dyan: The official state sport of Alaska is dog mushing.

The Czech Republic has the highest per capita beer consumption in the world at 40 gallons. The United States is ranked 11 at 24 gallons per capita.

The Bible in its complete form or portions of it is now available in 2,233 languages.

The practice of eating insects is called entomophagy.

The apparatus used in alcohol distilleries for freeing the spirit from water is called the dephlegmator.

Ducks are never male. The males of the species are called drakes.

The biggest frog is the Goliath frog of Cameroon. They reach nearly 12 inches and weigh as much as 7.3 pounds, approximately the size of a baby deer!

A group of geese on the ground is a gaggle - a group of geese in the air is a skein.

SALSO SOCIAL EVENT:

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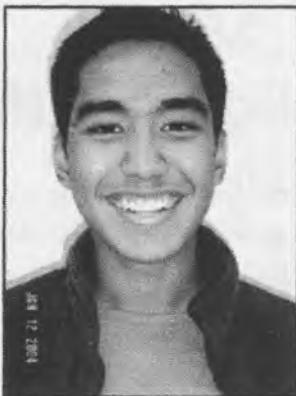
CRITERION

Spotlight: Student Speakers of Spiritual Emphasis Week

By Joy Asumen, SALSU RVP

Welcome back to the fun and eventful winter quarter: full of events you just can't miss out on! One of these interesting events is the Student Emphasis Week (SEW), brought to you by the religious life on campus. SEW culminates with the Church on Campus (more info on the next criterion issue). The theme is "Living Your Purpose", an application of last quarter's "Discovering Your Purpose." Probably the most unique and exciting fact about this SEW is: it is student led! Yes, that means your friends and fellow students will be speaking, so come and support them! Since you will be hearing from them, we thought you should get to know them better, so here's your speakers of the week:

Tuesday: 11 a.m., Chapel



Clayton Shu Chang Kaoh

Nicknames/ pet names: "...Ah Clay, Ah Pat, (Malaysian thing) or just Clay.."
Hometown: Johor Bahru, Malaysia (but I moved to Loma Linda at age 3)
Age: 18
Birthdate: April 21
Social status: single
Any brothers or sisters? Big brother- Shawn Koh
Major: Liberal Studies
Minor: Biology

Favorite song/band: GLAD
What is something many people probably don't know about (not even some of your friends?): I'm really forgetful
Favorite sport: "...jogging? That's not really a sport, huh? Maybe swimming, then."
Favorite pastime: Talking, exercising, watercolor painting
Favorite city or place you've visited: Of course, Loma Linda (California) =)
Where do you want to visit someday (besides Heaven): India & China (since I'm half Indian & half Chinese)
Which of the many purpose for your life are you trying to achieve/ fulfill? "...sharing God's love, joy, and peace with those around me."

Wednesday: 11 a.m, Chapel



Jocelyn Asencio

Nicknames/ pet names: Josie, jojo, Grosie
Hometown: Costa Mesa, CA, USA
Age: 21
Birthdate: May 28, 1982
Social status: single
Any brothers or sisters? "officially, I have one sister,(unofficially, I have five brothers and four sisters)
Major: Religious studies
Favorite song/band: "I Shall Not Walk Alone" -Ben Harper

What is something many people probably don't know about (not even some of your friends?) Nothing really.
Favorite sport: Volleyball
Favorite pastime: Singing like I can alone in my room.
Favorite city or place you've visited: Kahili, Hawaii
Where do you want to visit someday (besides Heaven): New Zealand/Fiji
Which of the many purpose for your life are you trying to achieve/ fulfill? To make people smile.....simple but VERY important! =)
Wednesday: 10 p.m., Rendezvous



Kristel Manal Tonstad

Nicknames/ pet names: None
Hometown: Oslo, Norway
Age: 22
Birthdate: November 7
Social status: soltero
Any brothers or sisters? yes, my big sis Linn
Major: Psychology and Religion/ Pre-Med
Favorite song/band: that varies but I've always loved "This One To Do My"
What is probably even some afraid of do
FOUR-legg



Spiritual Emphasis Week *continued*

also broken FOUR bones in my body. What a coincidence...and I do not like to get up at FOUR (am)..."

Favorite sport: swimming and skiing

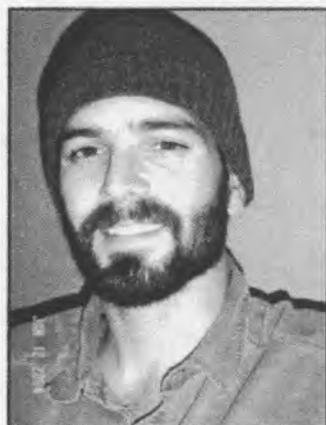
Favorite pastime: cooking, eating, laughing, talking and writing

Favorite city or place you've visited: Jerusalem, and then Riverside of course...

Where do you want to visit someday (besides Heaven): Baghdad, Iraq, where my mom is from.

Which of the many purpose for your life are you trying to achieve/fulfill? working on being "present" at all times, and how to make my ideals become my life

Thursday: 11am, Woship



Joshua Matthew Thompson

Nicknames/ pet names: Bear
Hometown (state and country): Modesto, CA, USA

Age: 25

Birthday: January 19

Social status: single

Any brothers or sisters? One married older brother

Major: Religious studies

Minor: NA

Favorite song/band: PAX 117

What is something many people probably don't know about (not even some of your friends?): "...my first car was a 1957 Chevy station-wagon with a 3-speed column shift..."

Favorite sport: Mountain-biking

Favorite pastime: Hanging out with friends

Favorite city or place you've visited: Ubud, Indonesia

Where do you want to visit someday (besides Heaven): India

Which of the many purpose for your life are you trying to achieve/fulfill? "...building relationships..."

Saturday: 10:45 a.m., Campus



Mark Robert Tatum

Nicknames/ pet names (like when you were a kid): Monotonous, Tatumowski

Hometown: "...beautiful Riverside, California..."

Age: 23

Birthday: February 20

Social status: single

Any brothers or sisters? "nope...does a dog count?"

Major: Religious Studies

Minor: Psychology, Education

Favorite song/band: "Ugh! I couldn't narrow it down to my favorite 100 songs!"

What is something many people probably don't know about (not even some of your friends?) "...I have a song in my head ALL THE TIME. It bugs me sometimes. I try not to sing or whistle it out loud too much (it bugs people) but there's always one up there. Call me OCD..."

Favorite sport: Tennis, Football Americano

Favorite pastime: "...irritating people by philosophizing, listening to/making music..."

Favorite city or place you've visited: Yosemite (California)

Where do you want to visit someday (besides Heaven): Australia

Which of the many purpose for your life are you trying to achieve/fulfill? "...prayerfully considering what in the world I'm going to do once I graduate in June! (congratulations!!!) AUGH! How can I choose just one option?..."

We hope you enjoyed meeting your fellow students, we're looking forward to seeing you during Spiritual Emphasis Week, and DO NOT FORGET about Church on Campus.

"..that in your search for God and your purpose, you might find yourself..."

SALSU Religious Life update:

RENDEZVOUS.10pm.

RENDEZVOUS.10pm.

RENDEZVOUS.10pm.

Spiritual Emphasis Week starts next week on Tuesday, February 3 and goes through Thursday, February 5.

The students will meet in the church at 11:00 a.m. **Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.** Please consult your calendars and join them.

Spanish Scholarship Available

The Don Quijote In-Country Spanish Language School based in Salamanca, Spain has recently awarded the Department of Modern Languages their "Don Quijote Scholarship," a scholarship for ONE PERSON to study Spanish FREE OF CHARGE in any of its schools in Mexico or Spain.

The scholarship includes a two-week intensive Spanish course consisting of 20 classes per week plus free and optional cultural classes each week.

It also includes accommodation in a double-occupancy room in a shared student apartment during the two-week period.

If you choose Mexico, you will stay with a family.

Contact Dr. Morales (x2120) for details.

ACA Director to visit LSU

Dr. Odette Ferreira, director of Adventist Colleges Abroad, will be on campus Tuesday through Thursday, February 3-5, 2004. On Wednesday, Feb. 4 at 5 p.m. she will be in the Cactus Room (Dining Commons) showing videos of the various programs in Europe and Latin America. ALL ARE INVITED. She will be available for individual appointments beginning at 10 a.m. on February 4. Sign up at the Dept. of Modern Languages (x2257) beginning Monday, January 26.

Books and Keeping Your Sanity

By Anonymous

As I was just about to enter the bookstore, my friend walked out with a very strange expression across his face. "Guess how much I spent for my books today? 400 bucks!" Wow! But you know what? That is not that extraordinary. I'm sure we all have had our close encounters with the very same situation. Don't let it happen to you. If it happened already, then just keep these tips in mind for next quarter.

Plan ahead. Register early, even before the quarter ends. By doing so, you know for sure what classes you will be taking. First, hunt up the teachers who will be teaching your class and inquire which books you will be required to possess. You can obtain this information by looking up the classes and who will be teaching it, then call or email the professor with your inquiry, they are usually more than helpful. With that information in hand, you can either:

1. Hunt people you know who have taken that class, or are in the class during the present quarter and ask them if they are interested in selling or renting their books. This is a very good option because they know that they will have to get rid of their book sooner or later (if they are selling it). Renting is also a great option, if you do not want to keep the book, and you know someone who has the book but wants to keep it (Majors).

2. Order the book online for about 20%-50% off. It usually takes a good 4-14 days to receive your books, especially if you pick the option "free shipping". So if you start early, it's possible to get it by the first week of school, even on the first day.

3. Share a book with someone.

I hope these information will be helpful for you. Good luck on your classes this quarter!

Run for a SALSU Position TODAY!

By OSA/SALSU

Student Association of La Sierra University (SALSU) is looking for dedicated and energetic students who are willing to be leaders on this campus for the 2004 - 2005 school year. If you are interested in serving your fellow students by being involved in SALSU, please stop by the OSA office near the bookstore. You will need to fill out an application and get two recommendations preferably from a professor or a

faculty/staff. Last day to turn in your application and recommendations is February 11, 2004.

Available positions are:

President, Executive Vice President, Religious Vice President, Social Vice President, Financial Vice President, PR Secretary, CABL (Health and Fitness), Criterion, and Perspectives.

For more information call: OSA (2383) or SALSU (2005).

Center for Entrepreneurship Seminar SELLING YOUR PRODUCT

Speaker: David Damazo

Tuesday, February 3, 2003 - 5:00pm SBM 204

Dinner will be provided.

Having trouble thinking of a product to sell? Or, if you already have a product, don't know how to market or sell it? This seminar will give you the knowledge to do all this and become a successful entrepreneur. After all, business is all about selling. So, if you are planning a business career, you have to come to this seminar!

BROOMBALL

@

Ice Town

TONIGHT

10:00 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

\$1 / person

Got questions?Call SALSU ext. 2005
or OSA ext. 2383

Time for a party!

Festival of Nations is hosting all of the Holidays around the World. If you or your group/club would like to make some money on Sunday the 22nd of February contact the Office of Student Activities at ext. 2383 or osa@lasierra.edu Remember the theme is: **"Holidays Around the World"**, and you must hurry because there is limited space available.

UPCOMING SALSU SOCIAL EVENTS:

- 2/5: CHEAP DATE NIGHT (9 P.M. - 11 P.M.)
 - 100 SEATS AVAILABLE (\$3/PERSON)
 - SIGN-UP BY CALLING OSA OR SALSU SOON!
- 2/12: MOVIE NIGHT (10 P.M. - 12 A.M.)
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Homecoming Week

February 1 - 7, 2004

Sunday: Super Bowl @ Towers

Monday: "Backwards Day"

*Obstacle Course Relay (Backwards)

Tuesday: "Cultural Day"

*Cook Off

Wednesday: "LSU Pride Day"

*Best Eagle Cry

*Men's Basketball game

Thursday: "Formal Day"

*Fashion Contest

*Cheap Date Night w/ SALSU

Friday: "Sports Day"

*3 on 3 Tournament

*First Service @ 7:45 p.m.

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Event honors Dr. Geraty's 10th anniversary as president

By Nita Gandhi

Community leaders and guests gathered at the Mission Inn in Riverside Wednesday, February 25, for a luncheon honoring Lawrence T. Geraty's 10th anniversary as president of La Sierra University.

The 250 guests included La Sierra University faculty and staff, as well as Riverside's Mayor Ron Loveridge, presidents and chancellors of Inland Empire colleges and universities, and delegations from the Riverside Chambers of Commerce, area congressmen, the United Way, the LSU Board of Trustees, the California League of Nations, and many others.

Although the luncheon was initially intended to be a surprise for Geraty, he learned of the plans a few days ahead. He was surprised, however, by the magnitude of the event. "I was certainly overwhelmed at the event," said Geraty. "I had no idea the room

would be filled with the 'movers and shakers' of Riverside."

"It was a great day for La Sierra University to see so many people



Dr. Larry Geraty receives award at his 10th Anniversary

from

Riverside feel that passionately and appreciatively about our president," said Jeff Kaatz, vice

president for advancement and university relations at LSU. "It was great for La Sierra."

The event was great for La Sierra

Complex.

The event was opened with an invocation by Jerry Lauder, president of the United States Pastors' Association. Various tributes to Geraty followed, including speeches by Thomas Mostert, LSU's Board Chair; Richard Osborne, president of Pacific Union College, and some of Geraty's personal friends. A musical selections played by the La Sierra Brass Quintet and a special video presentation also commemorated the occasion.

According to the man of the hour, the event was a celebration of both 10 years of service and positive interaction with the community. "I am particularly gratified that the gap between LSU and downtown is narrowing; we have a lot to offer each other," Geraty said. "I really believe that the best days for LSU lie ahead and that we are just beginning to see the good things that are going to happen as a result."

"I really believe that the best days for LSU lie ahead and that we are just beginning to see the good things that are going to happen as a result." -Larry Geraty

HMS Richards Library opens at LSU

By Katherine Parson

The HMS Richards memorial library was opened at La Sierra University on Sabbath, February 28, during the alumni homecoming weekend.

Fostered by the School of Religion, the library holds a collection of books and tapes from HMS Richards Sr.'s personal and family collection.

The grand opening was followed by the inaugural HMS Richards lecture in Creative Ministry at Matheson Chapel. The lecture, titled "Communicate Effectively," was given by Richards' son, Kenneth, a pastor-evangelist.

The lecture began at 3 p.m. to a chapel packed with alumni and a sprinkling of LSU students. John Jones, Dean of the School of Religion, gave opening remarks, and V. Bailey Gillespie, professor of Theology and Christian Personality, introduced the speaker. The introduction paid homage to the impact of the

Voice of Prophecy on Gillespie's family. His sister Janet Mallery, professor of Curriculum and Instruction at LSU, had found a Voice of Prophecy card in the gutter one day, sparking interest in Adventism.

Richards spoke of his father's dedication to the scripture, and the sacrifices that he made to put the Adventist message on the radio. HMS Richards was met with much opposition for the use of radio as a medium for the gospel, yet he stood by his convictions and helped to make the transmitted word one of the most effective tools of Adventist evangelism. Richards admonished the audience to keep up God's work, and to look to the Bible as a source of spiritual inspiration and guidance.

Kenneth Richards is a pastor in California; he has worked on the Voice of Prophecy broadcast and was a Bible teacher at Newbold College in England and at LSU.

ra in other ways as well. Friends and donors of the University took the opportunity to contribute over \$3.6 million to various school projects, most notably the proposed Thaine B. Price Science

LSU holds annual alumni banquet

By Eva Spiratos

A beautiful and inviting tiki torch-lit walkway awaited guests at 6 p.m. on Thursday, February 26. Upon entering La Sierra University's Alumni Pavilion, visitors were transported to the Caribbean with a lovely seascape and tropical plants capturing the serene mood of the occasion. The musical entertainment and menu were also Caribbean-inspired, with the Griffiths performing "Jamaica Bob" and guests' palates tantalized with tropical salad and coconut sorbet, among other foods.

La Sierra University celebrated its annual Alumni Banquet where various awards were given to honor the outstanding achievements of some alumni. Tyson Chung, Duleep Rodrigo, and Tamara Russell were given Rising Star Awards, which commemorate those who excel and epitomize the university's motto, "To seek, to know, to serve."

Jay Damazo, Kenneth Bauer, Norman Powell, and Charles Sandefur II received Honored Alumni Awards for individual

contributions in their fields and dedication to their alma mater. Ira E. Bailie was presented the Alumnus of the Year award "For his countless efforts on behalf of others around the world, and ongoing support of his alma mater."

The class of 1954 celebrated its golden anniversary by presenting President Larry Geraty with a \$212,000 donation designated to refurbishing Palmer Hall. Also, the class of 1950, gave \$20,600 to the university's scholarship fund. Larry Becker, executive director of university relations said, "The part of the Alumni Banquet that surprised me most was the amount of the check from the class of '54, that was quite a lot of money."

During the event, Geraty was honored in commemoration of his 10th anniversary as president of the university.

The event was hosted by the LSU Alumni Association and was attended by 300 guests whose graduation dates ranged from as far back as 1930 to last year.

Surgeon makes the final cut

By Geneva Mertens

"I forgot to mention my claim to fame," said Ira Bailie, M.D., F.A.C.S. and 1951 graduate of La Sierra University. "Around 1960 or 1961, I delivered a young lady at our hospital in Asuncion, who later became Miss America in 1985. A year after she was selected, Vanessa Williams, Miss America, had to give up her crown for having posed in the nude earlier. So I had a little fun with an article in the local newspaper, the Turlock Journal. The headline read: Turlocker has seen new Miss America in the buff!"

Bailie is an 80-year-old surgeon with a sense of humor and a wealth of wisdom that he shares freely. "My four children and their spouses had a dinner for me on my 80th birthday," he recalls. "They presented me with a Rolex watch inscribed with these words: 'IEB the real McCoy. What you see is what you get.'"

Characterized by his compassion and dedication to helping others, Bailie was given the Alumnus of the Year award by President Larry Geraty on February 26.

Bailie was born on September 17, 1923 in Compton, Calif. He has been married twice, has four children and keeps up with all of them. "Until I blew the meniscus in my left knee," he says, "It was water skiing in the summer, snow skiing in the winter, and tennis and jogging whenever." He was active in amateur radio for many years, "but the computer has edged that out for the time being," he says.

After serving 19 months in the 9th Air Force as a radar operator-

navigator in Europe, Bailie enrolled at LSU in January 1946. In December of that year he was

-more-baptized by Elder Varner Johns, in the old Recreation Hall.

"As a young boy I read 'Canal

"As a medical student, Ira Bailie was a very pleasant and outgoing fellow," says Roy Jutzy, a cardiologist and former classmate. After graduation, Bailie had to postpone his dream of being a country doc-



Dr. Ira and his wife Rita Bailie.

Town," a book about a country doctor during the development of the Erie Canal, and that peaked my interest in becoming a doctor," says Bailie. After graduating from LSU, he enrolled in the Loma Linda University School of Medicine.

tor in the United States, in order to respond to a call he and his first wife Clara received to start medical work in Paraguay.

"On furloughs I took residency training in Ob/Gyn and general surgery, leading to a board certification

in surgery. It was an evolutionary process as the needs shifted in our hospital in Paraguay." Since then, Bailie served in various countries including Nepal, the USSR and Romania, as well as the U.S.

"One day it occurred to me that most of our diseases were self-inflicted by our lifestyles and eating habits and, therefore, preventable," says Bailie. Thus his mission became to put more emphasis on educating people on how to make better choices in lifestyle and diet, leading him to author a book titled, "An Ounce of Prevention," which is a layman's guide to the prevention of cancer, heart attack, stroke and other preventable diseases.

In July of 1992, Bailie lost Clara to cardiomyopathy. In 1993 he married Rita Farrar Norton.

Bailie admonishes LSU students to live the message relayed in Mike Mason's book, *Practicing the Presence of People*, which states that many people have become Christians only because someone loved them with a pure, safe, human love.

"I was the recipient of that kind of love from the Mulder family, which eventually led me to La Sierra," says Bailie. "Here, I learned about the glory of God's grace and about a church that was manifesting love through a worldwide healing ministry. More importantly, however, this church has an educational ministry that has improved the lot of millions in this world and given them hope for the world to come."

To LSU students he says, "Join those who have gone before you. Go forth and do likewise."

Raving Ran*tees are all the rage

By Geneva Mertens

What can you wear that doesn't leave you broke? What can you wear to class, the gym, and everywhere in between, without breaking the bank? Ran*tees. Ran*tees are the hottest thing since Louis Vuitton, and are at more than half the price of the exclusive handbags.

Ran*tees are more than your average boy beaters. These tanks are high quality, hip, and best of all, they say what's on your mind. These tanks come with messages on them ranging from "Born in West LA," to "Mrs. Kutcher." Most importantly, these high fashion must-haves are versatile enough to wear to class for finals, or to the beach for a Sunday afternoon stroll.

To dress the tanks down, Ran*tees designer Randi Wishnow recommends mixing them with track pants or, if you are really late to class, a pair of sweats. To dress up the wordy tees, simply wear them with a pleated skirt and flip-flops. If, however, the occa-

sion requires a more chic look, add a pair of vintage jeans, and a pair of Jimmy Choo stilettos.

What's great about Ran*tees is that, paired with a blazer and a dark-colored pair of slacks, they can be worn appropriately to a more conservative event.

With the prices of Ran*tees ranging from \$24 - \$30, they are affordable enough to buy more than one

at a time and still have money to buy the expensive books required at the beginning of the quarter.

If, by a rare chance, you have some money to spare, you can splurge on spring's best-dressed bags. The "it" multi-colored bag by Dooney and Bourke, comes in off white and black to match all your spring trends, and at less than \$200, it's an investment

worth your while. A good pair of sneakers to pair

with your Ran*tees are vital for running to class. Puma offers lightweight leather tennis shoes called Mostro Mesh, and for about \$90, they sure make running to class much easier.

Be prepared as spring rolls around. Stock up on Ran*tees without sacrificing the gas in your car. Also, have fun with what you wear, whether it's sneakers or stilettos. If you look good, chances are you'll feel good too.

Ran*tees and other items mentioned in this article can be purchased at the following stores:

- Arden B., Fashion Island
- Urban Outfitters, Santa Monica
- Jimmy Choo, South Coast Plaza
- Nordstrom, Galleria at Tyler
- Bebe, Fashion Island



Model shows off Ran*tee

Dead Week survival secrets of the Ten Commandments

By Samuel Leonor

That is one heavy title, I know. But, my friend, the secrets about to be revealed to you will make the agony of dead week (with its sleepless nights, last minute cramming sessions, and hands shaking from overdosing on caffeine) a thing of the past. God gave the Decalogue to a people who had been slaves with the promise that it would preserve their new freedom. In the same way, the following list will ensure that you will never look upon dead week as a slave to it, with fear and dread. Instead you will welcome it and celebrate it like you do Christmas or Easter.

1. Have no other gods before me. Be committed to one thing. During dead week it is easy to find a million things to distract you. For example, why are you reading this when you should be studying?! God's plea with the people of Israel was this: If we are going to have a relationship that works, I have to be your only God. Try telling your boyfriend or girlfriend that you are going to have a relationship with two or three others as well. Sure, that might have worked in the days of King David (If you were male, and if you were the King.) Anyway, if you are not committed to one thing during dead week, namely your studies, you will probably not get the results you are hoping for.

2. Make no images of God. Remembering the above commandment, do not make a good grade in a class be the end all. Happiness is not necessarily getting an A in Organic Chemistry. It might seem like it while in the throes of dead week

and when applying to graduate school, but in the end that's not what brings us real happiness. That is an image of happiness. Getting a C in a class is not the end of the world.

3. Don't take God's name in vain. Don't invoke God's name in the middle of a test you didn't study for. I think you know what I am talking about. It is four o'clock in the morning--you stayed up watching a movie and talking to friends while fleeting visions of an un-typed paper for your 8:00 am class pass in and out of your mind. It is now 7:45, "God, help me please!" In vain, my friend, in vain. Why is it we plead with God to get us out of the trouble we get ourselves into?

4. Sabbath Rest. Take time to remind yourself that you are not a slave to what you do; you are a child of God. If you study 24 hours, seven days a week, not only will your brain hurt, but you will become a slave to studying. That is not a good state to be in. The Israelites had been slaves in Egypt making bricks for the Pharaoh. God wanted to reestablish their real identity--they were not brick makers, they were God's children. So when God said one day a week you will stop what you are doing, He was in essence saying this: "One day a week you need to stop and remember you are not a student (or professor, or president of a university, or Starbucks worker, or janitor, or farmer) you are first a child of God." Rest, my friends.

5. Parents. Honor them. Not too long ago you won a very

important race. There were millions of other contestants, but you won! So, from now on you can not say you never win anything. You won the very important race that brought you into this world. There are a couple of people who were responsible for making that race possible, why not take a moment during dead week to thank them in some way. Especially if those people are in any way facilitating your being a student. It isn't cheap, you know.

6. Don't Murder. Jesus said that things like murder start in the heart. So, no matter how mad you are, don't have evil thoughts about your professor--that's really not going to get you anywhere. Jesus also said love your enemies. So try this: do all assigned readings and more, ask really thoughtful questions in class, frequently compliment your professors on their brilliant lectures, act really interested in every word they say, occasionally bring cookies or fruit or gold bullion to them. This, my friend will go way further than hate. Remember, hate the game not da playa... yo.

7. Don't Commit Adultery. During dead week you are married to your studies. You can't be completely committed to two things at the same time. For one week say no to trips to Alberto's and Norm's, say no to another impromptu round table discussion about the Democratic primaries, say no to the free tickets to see the Black Eyed Peas featuring Justin T... no, no, don't turn that down, are you crazy? Seriously though, through this commandment the Rabbis believe God was

communicating the importance of oneness. So in essence when we try to be *one* with more than one, we become fragmented and unhealthy. Jesus called it hypocrisy. During dead week, be one with your studies.

8. Don't Steal. For example: Don't download papers from the Internet. That's really stealing from yourself, you know. But, you wouldn't do that so why even mention it.

9. Don't Lie. Feel free to make excuses for not having that paper done, just don't lie. Tell the truth, there were so many really important (I mean cosmic level) things going on this quarter: the Super Bowl, the Grammys, the Oscars, the release of Grand Theft Auto for Playstation, lazy days walking the beach with that special someone, and the list goes on. Your professor will most certainly be lenient. Or maybe not, but at least you won't have lied.

10. Don't Covet. On a serious note, make sure that your motivation for studying hard and earning a degree isn't just so you can own the things you see that other people are enjoying: The cars, houses, traveling, pretty teeth, chiseled features, power, prestige, etc. College is preparing you for a life of service to humanity. Looking at your experience here as a stepping stone to a comfy life of Lexus, TiVo, frappalattechinos from Starbucks and a house in Laguna Beach is missing the point. Study hard this week with an understanding that the better you do, the better equipped you will be to serve.

SIGI aids in career choices

By Geneva Mertens

In high school Nathan Ramasamy took honors classes in hopes of pursuing a career in medicine. By the time he got to college, he had changed his mind and declared a computer science major. "I couldn't see myself doing that either for the rest of my life," he said. "So when I discovered business I said, aha, that is where I want to be."

"I know I want to write, preach, and go to Africa, but I don't exactly know how it is all going to come together," said Scott Arany, a sophomore religious studies major.

Sound familiar? Maybe SIGI PLUS can save you some time and frustration. SIGI PLUS is

career-planning software that is made available to La Sierra University students by the Counseling Center via the Internet. Students who are baffled by career options can stop by the Counseling Center and get a password to use at www.lasierra.edu/counseling.

This software provides the link between where you are now and how to get to where you want to be. "Most students feel that it is very informative and an accurate indicator of who they are and what jobs would be fitting for them" said Paul Hunter, assistant to the counselors. "It is important because it's a test that helps students get to know themselves better and, based on that knowledge,

it presents them with information on all the careers that would be compatible with their personalities."

SIGI PLUS allows the user to be his or her own career counselor. If you don't have any idea what career you want, this software offers self-assessment that helps you learn what qualities in a job are important to you. You can search a list that will give you the definition, description, education, training, income, personal satisfaction, job opportunities and job outlook. You can click on a college major and a list of matching occupations will appear. If you are running low on time, you can do a quick

search for a profession that you are interested in and it will give you a summary.

SIGI PLUS allows you to customize the software to fit your needs. For example, you can choose what work factors are important to you such as income, flexibility, or prestige and it will pull up a database of only the options you chose. You can also specify the features you don't want in a job.

"My goal is to be a lawyer," said Joseph Yoo, senior business major. "This website helped paint a picture of what the profession will be like. I recommend that students search the site to learn more about their future careers."

Teacher strikes a chord with students

By Jessika Tucker

Students huddle around the baby-grand piano in room 133 of La Sierra University's Hole Memorial Auditorium. These students are not practicing for a performance or listening to someone play. They are learning.

A tall, slender man clad in black leather leans over the piano keys gladly helping his students with the previous night's assignment. In a matter of minutes the befuddled looks on the students' faces turn into relaxed expressions of understanding.

Meanwhile, more students trickle into the classroom. Some chatter amongst themselves. Others continue to rub the morning sleep out of their eyes. But they are soon interrupted by René Ramos' thick Argentinean accent, and their hour of higher education begins.

Ramos has dedicated his life to teaching La Sierra University music students. For the past twenty years he has served as associate professor of music in music history and music theory at LSU, becoming well-known for his passion for helping.

"He is a master teacher who cares about his students and the knowledge he imparts to them more than anything else," said Barbara Favorito, director of wind and percussion studies and professor of music at LSU.

Every morning Ramos rides his '94 Honda Gold Wing motorcycle to school, looking forward to another day of teaching. He strives to make his students truly appreciate the wonders of music, and to gain a love for all aspects of music, as he puts it.

"He wants his students to be successful," said Dave Kendall, who is working on earning a Performer's

Certificate on euphonium at LSU.

In the hour allotted for each class, Ramos generally begins with musical illustrations that demonstrate what the students learned previously. Afterward, he explains the day's lesson, and he then allows the students to obtain hands-on experience. Each student receives

a black dry-erase marker, and finds an open spot on the whiteboard. Next, Ramos asks the students to show him a particular part of the lesson that they have learned.

He constantly asks the students during the class period if they have questions, making sure that they understand. By showing his concern for the subject matter and for his students, he engages them.

"He is an interesting person, so you just don't nod off in class," said Carolyn Anderson, a junior voice major, who studies theory with Ramos.

His perception of the students' understanding allows him to push them, but also lets him know when to stop. "He doesn't have a set schedule. He works with how the class is going," Anderson said.

Ramos was born in Peru in 1944. At the age of 15, he moved with his family to Argentina. He first

realized his love for teaching while obtaining a music degree from the National Conservatory of Music in Buenos Aires. After graduating, he worked for three years as a teacher of secondary education. He came to the United States in 1972 to obtain a master's degree in piano performance at Andrews University.

Because he had lived most of his life in Argentina, he knew very little English.

"Three weeks after I arrived, I said to myself, what am I doing here," Ramos recalls.

Through diligent reading he learned English and went on to

earn a Ph.D. in music history from Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind. While substituting for a professor at Andrews University and working on his dissertation, he wrote letters to other universities inquiring about open positions. LSU was one of the first to respond. He began his career at LSU in 1983 while still working on his dissertation. Once he completed his dissertation, he chose to stay at LSU, because he had already established himself as a dedicated teacher.

His long teaching career has further added to his wealth of knowledge, allowing him to better communicate with his students.

"He really makes it a point to know everything on the topic," Kendall said.

But Ramos' pool of knowledge sometimes plays against him as he finds himself quickly running out of time in his classes. He never feels that he has completed his lesson plan, and consequently feels that he is shortchanging his students. Nevertheless, he still encourages his students to talk to him. "If you have a question, he always says come and see me, come and see me," Kendall said.

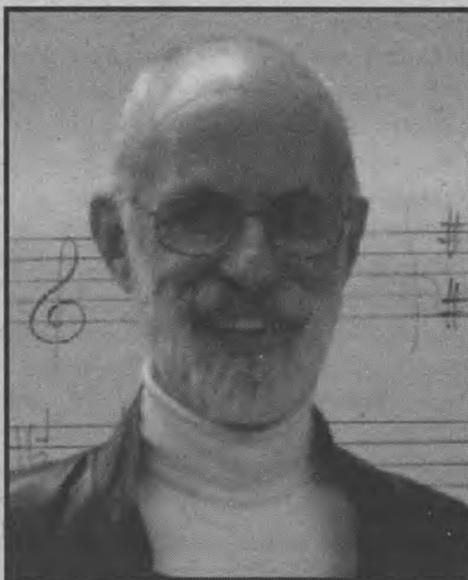
Ramos says that his drive for perfection often keeps him awake at night. He constantly tries to improve his teaching by assessing how well his students understand the day's material. When he should be asleep, his mind is more active than ever, trying to solve his daily problems and helping him develop better ways to relate to his students.

The topic of music theory can be especially tedious at times, and can be just as difficult to teach. Yet he still teaches his students the most challenging subjects, always keeping their reactions in mind. "If you are confused, I don't blame you," he told a roomful of theory students.

Conceding the ambiguity of some subjects provides him with a connection to his students. "If you don't understand it, he is okay with it," Anderson said.

Ramos says that he plans on continuing to teach at LSU indefinitely. What is definite, however, is the lasting impression he has made on his students and colleagues.

Dan Murrell, a senior music performance major said, "I have never learned so much about music from one teacher."



Dr. Rene Ramos

Getting burned at the pump?

By Nita Gandhi

Are refined gasoline prices giving you a crude awakening? If life requires you to drive anywhere, chances are the soaring gas prices are affecting you significantly.

In Southern California, gas prices range anywhere from \$2.01-\$2.23. Unfortunately, it does not look like prices will come down soon; as a matter of fact, consumers are warned to expect more price hikes before the summer is over.

In the meantime, La Sierra University students, among others, are suffering additional financial burdens with the rise of gas prices. Nancy Hinojosa, a sophomore communication major, drives 50 miles per day from her home in Perris in her '03 Volkswagen Jetta. She has to pay for her car expenses from her own money. "The increase in the gas tax is really difficult for me, especially since I drive everywhere," she says.

Andreas Andreau, on the other hand, lives three blocks from campus and drives a '94 Buick LeSabre. He pays for his gas out of his own pocket and uses regular gas because it's cheaper. "I have to travel less because of the gas prices. I try to stay local."

The last time Jeremy Kelstrom

filled up his '03 Honda Accord, he paid \$26.75 for regular gas at the Chevron station. "These prices are outrageous," says the junior business, pre-dent major.

Why do gas prices go up? According to Howstuffworks.com, the California state government has its own set of reformulated gasoline rules that are stricter than the federally mandated clean gas law. Californians pay a higher price for cleaner fuel. We pay a local sales tax of 7.25 percent, an 18.4 cent-per-gallon federal excise tax, and an 18 cent-per-gallon state more-excise. California's distance from the refineries near the Gulf of Mexico can add to the cost of gasoline, as well.

Another reason for the increase in gas prices is the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). The eleven countries in this organization are responsible for 40 percent of the world's oil production and hold two-thirds of the world's oil reserve. When they want to raise the price of crude oil, they reduce production. Three weeks ago, OPEC announced that it will cut production by 1 million barrels per day, about 4 percent, starting April 1.

Drivers sometimes find it necessary to compromise on the quality of

the gas they purchase, risking lower performance. "I can feel the difference when I fill the car up with regular gas," says Hinojosa, "but I can't afford premium these days; there's not really any way around it."

As you grin and bear this crisis, and especially if you have Spring Break plans that will necessitate driving long expensive distances, CaliforniaGasPrices.com offers these ten fuel saving tips:

1. Avoid High Speeds. As your speed increases, your aerodynamic drag increases in an exponential fashion. Driving 62 mph vs. 75 mph will reduce fuel consumption by about 15 percent.

2. Do Not Accelerate or Brake Hard.

By anticipating the traffic and applying slow, steady acceleration and braking, fuel economy may increase by as much as 20 percent.

3. Keep Tires Properly Inflated.

Keep tire air pressure at the level recommended by your manufacturer. A single tire under inflated by 2 psi, increases fuel consumption by 1 percent.

4. Use A/C Sparingly.

When the air conditioner is on, it puts extra load on the engine, forc-

ing more fuel to be used (by about 20 percent). The defrost feature on most vehicles also uses the air conditioner.

5. Keep Windows Closed.

Windows open, especially at highway speeds, increases drag and results in decreased fuel economy of up to 10 percent.

6. Service Vehicle Regularly.

Proper maintenance avoids poor fuel economy related to dirty air filters, old spark plugs or low fluid levels.

7. Use Cruise Control
Maintaining a constant speed over long distances often saves gas.

8. Avoid Heavy Loads. Remove the sand bags from your trunk in the spring and pack lightly for long trips.

9. Avoid Long Idles.

If you anticipate being stopped for more than 1 minute, shut the engine off. Restarting the car uses less fuel than letting it run.

10. Purchase a Fuel Efficient Vehicle.

When buying a new vehicle, examine the vehicle's rated fuel efficiency. Usually choosing a small vehicle with a manual transmission will provide you with great fuel economy.

The value in a vote

By Drew Powers

Shopping for a new president? Like the one that you've already got? Are you sure you know why?

Look for just a moment at the two current front-runners in the most anticipated of political races—President George W. Bush and Senator John Kerry. Bush is a Republican and Kerry is a Democrat. Bush already has experience in the White House in addition to being a career politician and Kerry is more of the same, sans the big white house. But he does have those tours of duty in Vietnam as a bonus. Both men are competing for what is arguably the most powerful position in the world and both are Yale graduates. However, there is one thing that disconcerts me. I'm not entirely sure that either of these men would make it through my college English courses.

Bush might not make it through for lack of ever getting to a real point—professors hate that. He mostly rambles and uses words to reflect what America has been saying. I knew someone like that once. He was in one of my literature classes. He said those things because he never did the reading and it was his only way to sound smart. Bush also talks so slowly that he might need a second term

just to finish what he's saying.

Kerry suffers from the exact opposite problem. He has nothing to say, except for main points and he has no finesse. And apparently the only way he can convey anything is through bulleted lists. If we could only get him some sentences to put in between those points then we'd have a real speech. Some of this might be left over from boot camp, where they often shout short and direct phrases in your face, but little else of substance.

So, Bush's construction is a little bit off and Kerry needs some expression. How about if they served as co-presidents? Apparently, being the president of the United States of America doesn't require you to be a good communicator, but rather, just a communicator.

Keep these key issues in mind when you take to the polls:

Bush's agenda is not to tear down America or to put it on unstable economic footing. No, in fact, according to the GOP agenda our current president has plans in his next term to "build a safer, stronger and better America." I wonder how long it took them to come up with that one. But just in case you thought the surprises ended there, the GOP is also urg-

ing on Republican team leaders with the slogan, "Keep America Moving in the Right Direction." Just to clarify, this is to encourage people to go in the...never mind.

Bush also has goals for Homeland security—protecting the American people. Not only this, but he is also fighting for a national security strategy that "Meets the challenges of our time," instead of the challenges of another time. Isn't it nice to have a president who cares?

And don't you worry about our president being too busy, because he's already given us his list of priorities so that everything gets done right. Homeland security definitely comes first—"The President's most important job is to protect and defend the American people." Or maybe it was education that was at the top—"President Bush promised to make educating every child his top domestic priority and reform a system that has failed..." Or maybe it was *national* security—"Defending our nation against its enemies is the first and fundamental commitment of the federal government." I'm not sure if I like the President being so busy.

And for those who think that

the Democratic party frontrunner has something useful to say, take a seat and get comfortable. While Bush is the slow learner, Kerry has already mastered the art of plagiarism and deceit.

Kerry uses the fact that he was a soldier, and a decorated one at that, to convince people that he's a leader. Plus people always seem to like rallying behind a real war hero. Unfortunately, this is not the case. After Kerry received his million-dollar wounds that sent him home, he went and protested the war. He even threw medals on the White House lawn. Not his own, mind you. He needed those to run for president some day. It's been said that Kerry is guilty of doublespeak and that he goes with the flow as it suits his career. People are only saying this because, well, because it's true. Kerry is filling our nation with just as much useless information as the next politician, but he is far craftier than most.

We make fun of Bush for his often laughable presentations, but if the Democrats win, it might be Kerry who has the last laugh. All jokes aside, make sure your vote counts on this next ballot. Do your research and find out what's behind all those fancy campaign slogans.

There were few who doubted

By Jay Razzouk

"Earlier today, I ordered America's armed forces to strike military and security targets in Iraq. They are joined by British forces. Their mission is to attack Iraq's nuclear, chemical and biological weapons programs and its military capacity to threaten its neighbors."

Who said that? If you said George W. Bush, you are wrong! That was how Bill Clinton opened an address to the nation on December 16, 1998. And this was not the only time Bill Clinton said that Saddam Hussein posed a huge threat to the world. He, Al Gore, and members of his cabinet all warned of a threat growing in Iraq. Did we forget this?

There were few of us who doubted Saddam still had weapons of mass destruction. If Bush knew Saddam didn't have weapons of mass destruction, why did he spend the millions of dollars to put our men and women in the protective suits? How come France, Germany, Russia and those other countries agreed that

Saddam had the weapons? They believed Saddam had the weapons; the argument was over how to disarm the megalomaniac.

It is libel to say Bush "lied" about the WMDs. I truly believe he thought they were there, like most of the world did. It is still possible that we will find weapons of mass destruction. However, if Saddam is smarter than we think he is, he would have destroyed the weapons just before the invasion to make sure Bush would look like an idiot.

Bush should not be accused of lying. But I will admit this, Bush and his administration suffer from "groupthink." They all think alike, and will unconsciously filter information. We all filter information. Just like most people filtered out Clinton's many speeches about Saddam.

-more-And be wary of the media, they all have an agenda whether they admit it or not. Think for yourself, and don't fall prey to groupthink as well.

Health Service provides coverage to students

By Jefferie Goh

Friday hours are from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. The center is closed on weekends and holidays, but on-call staff members are available and can be reached through Campus Security at ext. 2222.

The plan works on an excess basis, which means that other forms of coverage, such as insurance obtained personally, must be used first. This is helpful if the expenses incurred are not completely covered by the student's private insurance, as the school will cover the excess costs. However, even without insurance, the school covers charges of up to \$5,000 per year per student.

The university's insurance covers medical needs that are deemed necessary and are commonly accepted by the medical community. All expenses must have the proper claim forms filled out and submitted immediately after the incident requiring treatment. Although immunizations and physicals are not covered; however, Health Ser-

vice does provide those services for a small fee.

Emergency surgery and hospitalization are covered by this insurance and 80 percent of ambulance services are covered as well.

Health Service is located in the little white house next to Cossentine Hall. Because of the high demand, appointments are recommended.

Fact box:

Services and treatments not covered by the university insurance include:

- * Elective abortion
- * Experimental drugs
- * Long-term care
- * Weight management
- * Acupuncture
- * Allergies
- * Chiropractic care
- * Cosmetic surgery
- * Glasses/contacts
- * Injury from war, sky diving, hang gliding, kiting, and/or sports
- * Learning disability
- * Prescription drugs not offered on campus
- * Preventive medicines
- * Routine physicals
- * Acne other than cystic

Intramurals affected by poor sports

By Larry Pena

On the basketball court, in the heat of the moment, tempers can flare and things can get out of hand.

Collegiate intramurals have long been seen as the less tension-charged counterpart to formal competitive sports. But on the La Sierra University basketball court, with emotions running hot and a game on the line, the competition can get just as ugly.

"You see a lot of talking back to the refs on a call that's made, either they're arguing with it or they're arguing that there should be a call," said intramural referee Isaiah Rojas. "There's some bad language, violent behavior, aggressive behavior, throwing of elbows, throwing the ball."

Displays of poor sportsmanship can go in many different ways. Most often, negative incidents happen between teams or among

players and referees. "Evil looks at the refs when the players feel like they got an incorrect call, there's been plenty of that," said referee Nick Jackson. "Trash talking between teams, I'm hearing lots of that."

Another prevalent form of court aggression happens among members of the same team. "Within the teams, people will be getting mad at each other for the mistakes they make," said Kevin Dator, a player for the team Blue Wave.

Coach Joel Haldeman of the LSU Athletic Department agrees. According to Haldeman, most of the problems occur when players "don't know what they're doing...they don't know the game or its rules very well and sometimes that makes them upset."

Despite the problems, however, most of the time the games stay fairly tame. According to the

referees, notably poor sportsmanship is the exception rather than the rule. "You have people occasionally that will say something stupid, but it's nothing like it used to be," said Haldeman. "The sportsmanship has gotten better each year I've been here."

When it comes to behavior on the basketball court, the issue is often one of interpretation. What some may call overly aggressive behavior, many others call enthusiasm and passion for the game. According to Lemar Sandiford, known as one of the more intense players in La Sierra's intramural league, "I wouldn't call it being hotheaded. I don't have any animosity toward the other players; I'll still be your friend the next day. It's just that there's a lot of intensity, a lot of testosterone. When you're in the game, you're just in the game."

But while many behaviors may be just a natural part of any competitive game, occasionally an incident will occur that clearly crosses the line. "The worst case with cussing was directed toward a female," said Rojas. "The players used some derogatory remarks against a female. She got pretty mad because it was sort of a sexist thing that he did."

These sorts of incidents, thankfully, are rare. Most of the time players are just out to have a good time. "Everyone just loves to play the game," says Dator.

"Usually, as most of them should, they'll just take it as a game. When the game's over they just go back to living," says Jackson. "It's not that big of a deal, you're not playing for a trophy or anything. Pride can be hurt, pride can be broken. You'll gain it back."

Stifled and strained by stress

By Eva Spiratos

"If I get one more homework assignment today I'm going to scream!"

"I'd love to do something after class, but I just don't have time."

"Studying for finals is impossible! I give up!"

Have you ever found yourself saying these words? If you have, you're probably suffering from stress, which is a common complaint among college students, according to the University of Florida.

Stress is the strain our bodies undergo as we try to adapt to the constantly changing environment, according to the La Sierra University counseling center.

Sasha Sterling, a senior education and Spanish major says of her stress symptoms, "I feel so sad and I want to be alone. I can't concentrate and I'm overwhelmed."

What is it about school that gets you so stressed? There are a number of things that could be to blame. Erin Davis, senior education major says, "Time management. I never have enough time to do all the things I need to do."

To successfully manage your time it's necessary to develop long-range goals, according to University of Florida research. These long-range goals will help you plan smaller goals and prioritize necessary activities based on how they contribute to your goals. By setting goals for yourself, you will have to face the things you've

been putting off.

What should you do to manage your stress? The Massey University counseling center suggests maintaining a healthy lifestyle, which includes regular physical exercise, enough sleep to recharge your body, and good nutrition. With a healthy lifestyle, your stress tolerance will increase. Also, find what helps you relax and do it. Make sure to take regular recreation breaks throughout the day.

Moreover, build a support network of friends and family. Practice rational thinking, control your reactions, have realistic expectations

for yourself, accept mistakes and failures as a normal part of life, and don't base self-esteem on them. Finally, if you're having difficulties, don't be afraid to ask for help.

Sharon Gilman, a junior psychology major, cleans to relieve her stress. It helps her unwind and she says, "Once a room is clean, it's clean." She then experiences a sense of satisfaction knowing that there's no more she can do and that she is finished.

Crystal Marquez, a senior liberal studies major, on the other hand, takes a more relaxed approach to relieving her stress.

As soon as she feels that she is under stress she immediately stops what she's doing and tries to relax. She sometimes listens to music, speaks with others on the phone, or prays for guidance.

Keeping a stress diary is another way to effectively manage stress. Record what stresses you've been experiencing on a regular basis. This way, the stressors can be identified in more detail. You will also come to see the levels

of stress you need in order to function well, how you react to stress, and if these reactions are practical.

So the next time you find yourself stressing, try to follow

some of these useful tips and remember that, according to LSU's Counseling Center, people need stress in their lives in order to take action and gain a new perspective on things.

Fact boxes for stress story

Physical symptoms of stress:

Sleep problems
Lack of concentration
Exhaustion
Anxiety
Sadness/depression
Stomach ache, butterflies, ulcers
Digestive upset, loss of appetite
Hypertension
Indecision

Asthma/skin rashes
Absenteeism
Shortness of breath, chest pains
Headaches/migraines
Social withdrawal
Poor work or study performance
Hot/cold flashes

Causes of stress:

Lack of sleep
Large workloads
Extreme physical exercise
Moving away from home
Employment changes or uncertainty
Living in a different culture
Climactic extremes

Activities to relieve Stress:

Arts and Crafts
Trivia and card games
Sports
Pets
Jokes and riddles
Gardening
Outings (parties, movies, etc.)
Cooking
Reading
Music
Visit with family or friends

For every journal entry include:

Date and time
Stressful event
How happy you feel (scale of 1-10)
How stressed you feel (scale of 1-10)
How effectively you're working
Stress symptoms
Cause of stress
How you handled stress

**"Depend on the
Lord. Trust Him,
and He will take
care of you."
Psalms 37:5**

Hispanic Ministries improves worship through workshops

By Raquel Villavicencio

Hispanic Ministries is slipping on a new hat of professionalism by incorporating training at La Sierra University as a requirement for all members starting with spring quarter 2004.

The new training includes bringing in professionals from all over the Southeastern California Conference and providing workshops to supply the members with new ideas. Youth pastors like Saul Barceló, Collegiate pastor at Campus Hill Church, and a current drama teacher at Loma Linda Academy, are only a few of the many trainers who will be teaching Hispanic Ministries members in order to enhance their speaking skills when preaching, or empower the drama for the upcoming events.

The leaders of Hispanic Ministries are excited about this change that will be thoroughly implemented in the spring quarter. "I think the whole minis-

try needs to take another step forward: better dramas, better singing, better everything," said Mario Ramirez, a leader in Hispanic Ministries.

With a youth rally sponsored by Hispanic Ministries slated for April 17 at La Sierra University, the director and leaders of Hispanic Ministries are developing some fresh ideas that will impact the youth. There will be some sermons and many new praise songs, as well as two powerful dramas.

According to Hispanic Ministries Director, Samuel Acosta, the mission will now be "training today so they can connect to their local churches tomorrow." To him, the training is not only to improve the capabilities of the members in the areas of drama, Bible study and preaching, but also to equip them with the skills needed to become active in their own churches after they graduate from college. The

groups that Acosta is targeting are those students who belong to the Hispanic Ministries, not just those working on a religion major, because to him, "the great gospel and great commission also belong to them."

Hispanic Ministries started off with a small group of 20 inexperienced college students who were excited about serving God and waking up the youth. This unrefined passion touched many hearts and changed the lives of young people in the infancy of Hispanic Ministries. The students traveled to the different churches presenting them with inspiring youth programs. Today, members are still providing programs for the local churches, but they are also involved in programs on a larger scale such as the Southeastern California Youth Conference for Hispanics, which was held last summer at the Crystal Cathedral in Santa Ana, with approximately 3,200

Hispanic youth and their leaders in attendance.

Some members fear that the original passion felt by this ministry might vanish as a result of the new training and the new changes being brought into the ministry. Others worry that the focus of some members might be on perfecting their techniques and glorifying themselves instead of God. Ramirez, despite his delight in this new program, is aware of the possible conflict this might bring. "There will always be people who will do it for themselves, but people who are involved for God, will set their personal issues aside. They will do it not for their own praise, but for God's praise."

However, Acosta thinks that his program will make a bigger impact on the youth, "just because you're being trained does not mean you lose passion. With passion and training you make a more powerful impact."

46th Annual Concerto competition winner

By Drew Powers

La Sierra University's Hole Memorial Auditorium was filled with guests waiting to hear the La Sierra Symphony Orchestra and featured soloist Alva Waworoendeng on Saturday night of Alumni Homecoming weekend.

Waworoendeng, senior music, pre-dent major, was the winner of the 46th Annual Concerto Competition, entitling her to be the soloist at the Annual Concerto Program, according to LSU's Music department.

This year the selected piece for Waworoendeng was Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor, Op. 18. "When

Dr. Elvin Rodriguez, my professor, suggested playing the last movement of Rachmaninoff no. 2, I agreed in a heartbeat. It is quite important to like the piece I choose—it has to be one that is passionate, exciting and grand. This piece has all the right ele-

ments I appreciate and enjoy," Waworoendeng said. Waworoendeng has been playing the piano since she was 4 years old and she has been expressing



Alva Waworoendeng signs autograph for Lemar Sandiford

herself through her music ever since. "To bring out a harmonious sound or to be able to play great musical compositions gives me great joy and satisfaction," says Waworoendeng. "Music, if played well, has the ability to lift the human spirit and emotions."

been successful at my job." Rodriguez also said, "These types of experiences are invaluable for students to get as early in their education as possible...I'm happy that La Sierra University's Department of Music makes this a priority."

Elvin Rodriguez, professor of music and director of keyboard studies and music technology at LSU said that he was pleased to see one of his students win. He

said that he doesn't go into a competition thinking that his student will win. "What Alva and I focused on was making sure that she delivered the best interpretation possible for her piece at that time. If she accomplished that, then I feel I have

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SIFE connects LSU to Ethiopia

By nita Gandhi

So you bought a Dell desktop with the latest features last year. But to your dismay, Dell has come up with newer features and advancements, making your "old" computer obsolete. In order to keep up with the technology, you have but one choice: Out with the old and in with the new. But what should you do with your old computer?

Recycle it. Your junk can be someone's treasure.

La Sierra University's Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) is organizing a free computer collection program that will provide Ethiopian students first-ever access to computers and the Internet. This program, known as the Connect Ethiopia Project, aims to bring the developing world into the

21st century.

The Connect Ethiopia Project evolved from Junk Yard Techs, a



Computers waiting to be shipped to Ethiopia

project for which the SIFE team collected computer monitors, keyboards, printers and towers last year. This year's project, however, will provide computers to 600 public and community schools in Ethiopia that don't have any computers, let alone access to the Internet.

A collection drive was organized in January and February at Gold 'N West surplus. This company fixes and recycles the computers

and then SIFE disperses them to the schools in Ethiopia.

SIFE received help from the Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce's Keep Riverside Clean and Beautiful office, as well as the SIFE team at the University of South Dakota, which collected and donated 500 computers and developed software designed to help the children learn business skills.

According to Andreas Andreou, SIFE's project director, an estimated 120 tons of

Because of the high interest in this project, more collection dates have been slated. This will provide people with the opportunity to get rid of their old computers and help Ethiopian students at the same time. On March 12, a collection is planned on the LSU campus between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. On Friday, March 19, another collection will be held at Gold 'N West Surplus located at 346 American Circle in Corona between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

"This year Ethiopia, in the future, another country," says Heather Miller, Sam Walton Faculty Fellow of SIFE and director of special projects for the LSU School of Business and Management. "What we do with the Connect project is one small

**"What we do with the Connect project is one small way of helping children in Ethiopia and other places catch up to the rest of the world."
Heather Miller**

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Hispanic Ministries improves worship through workshops

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Editor's note

By Jessika Tucker

This is not your typical *Criterion*. This special issue was put together by the Advanced Reporting and News Editing class. We have worked tirelessly to produce an issue of the *Criterion* that the student body of La Sierra University can be proud of, and we think that we have accomplished that feat. My name is Jessika Tucker and, as managing editor for this issue of the *Criterion*, I sincerely hope that you enjoyed the stories that you read. You truly are the voice of LSU, and I hope that we adequately fulfilled our task of representing you.