

The Bottom Line

NEWS & VIEWS FROM COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS **SPRING 2002**

President's REPORT



Dr. Dianne Van Hook

College of the Canyons has always had a special relationship with the community. It enjoys the support of many friends and benefactors who have given generously of both their time and resources during the last 30 years. That long-standing commitment validates our mission of providing academic education and workforce training to all who can benefit. It also proves that what we're doing has great importance and a value that goes beyond dollars and cents. It is true that with tuition rates below those of state universities, attending

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Expansion Gets the Go-Ahead

The stage has been set for yet another exciting era of advancement at College of the Canyons, whose landscape will be transformed over the next eight years as new facilities are

built and new educational opportunities are added.

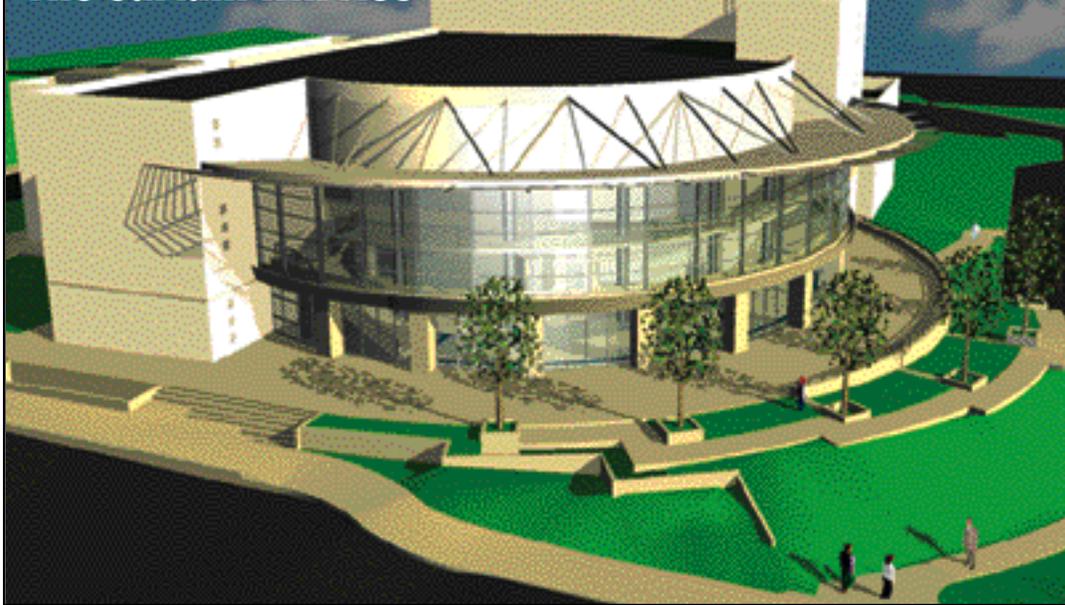
A host of positive and significant changes will occur because of the success of Measure C on November's ballot. Santa Clarita

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The curtain will rise



Construction has begun on the Performing Arts Center (as shown in rendering), which will open next year. See Page 3.



Lou and Rita Garasi look over plans for University Center at its proposed site on the southern edge of college property.

University Center Moves Forward

The University Center project at College of the Canyons is quickly gathering steam, with seven institutions already signed up, still more in negotiations and an interim facility constructed to meet demand.

The concept behind University Center is one that is embraced by all segments of

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Nursing Program Charges Ahead

A new partnership with Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital will allow the College of the Canyons nursing program to do its part to help alleviate the shortage of skilled nurses.

The arrangement is designed to attract more people to the nursing field and allow the college's nursing program to expand.

The hospital has donated a 1,400-square-foot building at its McBean Parkway campus to be used as a teaching lab, and it will pick up the cost of a full-time nursing instructor for two years.

The partnership will become even more lucrative from the perspective of nursing students. The hospital will pay for students' tuition and other costs, as well as hire them at 80-percent pay for 67-percent time – allowing many students who otherwise could not afford to pursue their education to become trained nurses.

"This is a very exciting and positive development for the nursing program at College of the Canyons," said Sue Albert, dean of allied health. "It will allow us to expand and sets a great precedent in the state for industry-educational collaboration to address the need for high-quality nurses."

The hospital-based nursing lab, to be called the HMNMH-COC Health Education Center, is expected to be ready for the start of classes this fall. The facility will be shared with the Wm. S. Hart Union High School District's Regional Occupational Program.

In other developments, the nursing program received final accreditation approval from the California Board of Registered Nursing in February. One of the board's recommendations was for the college to provide more skills lab space for students – a challenge that will be met when the nursing lab opens at the hospital.

Van Hook

From Front Page

classes at COC is affordable for almost everyone. But College of the Canyons has proven itself to be a significant community resource. By adding innovative programs and facilities designed to meet the needs of Santa Clarita Valley students, employees and businesses, the college has become a vital resource to a vibrant, thriving community. We now serve more than 13,000 students, offer 92 degree and certificate programs, enjoy partnerships with nearly 200 local companies and continue to meet the community's needs.

Like our students, we are always striving to grow and improve the college. As Franklin D. Roosevelt once said, "The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today. Let us move forward with strong and active faith." So it is with College of the Canyons. As we plan for the future, we must account for two things: continued enrollment growth, and our commitment to meeting that challenge in a strong, purposeful manner. We must never stand idle. The plans we are nurturing are conceived and implemented with a keen eye on the future, a continuing spirit of innovation and an unwavering belief in our mission.

With that in mind, we decided to pursue a bond campaign last year. Santa Clarita Valley voters overwhelmingly passed an \$82.1 million general obligation bond on Nov. 6, lending further testimony to their strong belief in this college and its importance to this community.

We must now capitalize on that momentum and move forward with our growth. The bond allows us to build out our Valencia campus, but it also enables us to extend our reach farther into the community. We already have a satellite facility at the new Canyon Country Library. However, we are now researching locations on the east side of the Santa Clarita Valley in anticipation of constructing our own 50,000-square-foot building that will make education more convenient and accessible to residents in that area.

Just as exciting as our expansion plans are our ongoing efforts to augment our program offerings. We recently finalized a partnership with Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital to expand our nursing program, train existing and new nurses, and acquire nursing lab space. Our Center for Applied Competitive Technologies partnered with the City of Santa Clarita to bring Specialty Labs, a medical testing firm currently based in Santa Monica, to the area by agreeing to develop a training program for medical laboratory and clinical laboratory technicians. And most exciting of all is our University Center. When fully developed, the center will offer 35 bachelor's, master's and doctorate programs offered by 12 participating colleges and universities on our campus.

We are working hard to make sure your community college is as strong and vital as it can be, that it overcomes all challenges and that it thoroughly meets or exceeds your expectations.

Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook is superintendent-president of College of the Canyons.



► April was **California Community College Month** to recognize the important contributions of the state's 108 community colleges. "This month is a time to celebrate the colleges' commitment to providing high-quality, affordable education and opportunities to all Californians," Chancellor Thomas Nussbaum said. "We are the largest system of higher education in the world, and even though we're facing a tough budget situation in this time of economic downturn, we're playing a key role in revitalizing the economy as we serve millions of students."

The Bottom Line

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Editorial submissions are always welcome.

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The Bottom Line is published by the College of the Canyons Public Information Office to inform the community of news and developments in the Santa Clarita Community College District.

Visit College of the Canyons on the World Wide Web at
<http://www.coc.cc.ca.us>



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Hundreds of people participated in the fall and spring job fairs.

► More than 100 employers attended the **Spring 2002 Job & Career Fair** at College of the Canyons on May 1. Co-sponsors of the event were the **SCV Chamber of Commerce**, **A-1 Party** and radio station **Star 98.7 FM**. The next job and career fair will be held this fall. For more information call (661) 362-3286.

► The popular **Intensive Spanish Institute** will return to the college this summer, offering five days of near-total immersion in Spanish language skills and cultural experiences. Scheduled Aug. 5 to 9, the program is especially useful for teachers who have a second language requirement, nurses and emergency services personnel. Students can earn 3.25 units of credit. For more information call Claudia Acosta at (661) 362-3530.

► It was a dream come true for **Ben Davis**, a College of the Canyons student who was chosen to sing the national anthem before a Los Angeles Lakers game at Staples Center on April 11. The 20-year-old is studying business administration while pursuing a career in music. He has been a featured performer in the college's annual Holiday Voices show, as well as others. He plans to continue his studies at Pepperdine University or USC.



College and city officials join Superintendent-President Van Hook for the ceremonial groundbreaking on Dec. 10.

Arts Center to Debut in 2003

Hundreds of people attended the groundbreaking ceremony Dec. 10 for the Performing Arts Center at College of the Canyons. Construction work associated with the nearly \$15 million complex has begun, with completion projected by the summer of 2003.

Dignitaries from College of the Canyons, the City of Santa Clarita and various state and federal offices attended the event under sunny skies at the future site of the new center. The structure, whose architectural design will resemble that of the Library, will be built just east of the Student Center off the main access drive, and it will be set back but prominently visible from Rockwell Canyon Road.

The project is a joint effort between the college and the city, which is contributing \$2.4 million to expand the main performance hall's capacity to 950 seats. The addi-

tional seats will allow a greater number and variety of performances to be held – by both students and community-based performance groups.

"The Performing Arts Center will let the various groups grow and create more opportunities for all of our students," Superintendent-President Dianne Van Hook said.

Music, dance and theater students took to the outdoor stage to perform during the ceremony.

"I'm so excited about this, I'm tempted to enroll in some classes just so I can get some extra time in this wonderful new structure to come," Councilwoman Laurene Weste said.

"This Performing Arts Center and the city's partnership with COC is a significant component of the city's Cultural Arts Master Plan," Weste said. "And it will only enhance the outstanding amenities and the quality education this college has worked so hard to

See PERFORMING ARTS CENTER on Page 4



Workers are preparing the land on which the center will rise at the corner of Rockwell Canyon Road and the main entrance.

Basham Rocks the Audience

The clues that illustrate the lives of California's original inhabitants are all around us. You just have to know where to look.

Anthropology Professor Roger Basham has spent a good part of his life tracking down those places, researching the Indians who once dominated our landscape and photographing the rock art they left behind.

And on Nov. 8 he shared his experiences and his knowledge with a standing-room-only audience as part of the college's Scholarly Presentation series.

Soon after he began teaching a class on California Indians in the early 1970s, he discovered there was very little in the way of audio-visual material to back up his lectures.

"So I started photographing everything I could find that related to the study of California's native inhabitants," said Basham, not content to rely on museums' archaeological displays.

Then, in the late '70s, a student from Frazier Park approached him with the news of a rock art site at nearby Mutau Flat.

"It didn't take long for arrangements to be made to visit the site, and I found the primitive paintings on the massive outcropping of sandstone to be fascinating."

Mutau Flat would soon become a frequent destination for Basham and the students enrolled in his long-



Anthropology Professor Roger Basham (left) is congratulated by Frank Kleeman following the scholarly presentation on "The Art of the Shamans."

running class on the Indians of California.

In 1984 he led a group of faculty, staff and students to a small, heavily painted rock shelter on the Rocketdyne property near Chatsworth. The images decorating the shelter were created by Chumash shamans.

"This was a rare treat, as the property was to soon be closed to outsiders," Basham said. "We were one of the last groups allowed in to view this site."

Understanding and in-

terpreting rock art is difficult because we approach it from a far different world of experience than the shaman artists, he said.

"But we can appreciate and sympathize with their desire to understand the meaning of life and their attempts at controlling the naturalistic world in which they lived."

Basham donated his \$1,000 honorarium by splitting it between the college's Library Associates and the University Center project.

where guests can stroll or relax while viewing three-dimensional art mounted on concrete pads.

In the main performance hall, the first level will accommodate the main orchestra seating for approximately 550 people. Also on this level will be the stage, sound and lighting control booths, a hydraulic orchestra pit, and makeup, dressing, costume and locker rooms.

The second level will hold balcony seating for about 400 patrons, as well as costume storage and mechanical rooms.

► The **Biotechnology Program** at College of the Canyons continues to move forward. The third meeting of the **Santa Clarita Valley Biotechnology Alliance** was held March 22, and the proposed biotechnology certification program was submitted for state approval in early March. These developments come as the biotech industry continues to expand locally. **Specialty Laboratories** announced it will move from Santa Monica to Valencia in 2003, bringing more than 750 jobs and making it one of the top-10 local employers. The company has expressed interest in developing training programs with the college. Other biotech companies that have relocated to the SCV are **AlleCure Corp.** and **Advanced Bionics**.

► The college is expanding its **Manufacturing Technology Program** and reaching out to high school students who might pursue careers in the field. A four-week summer program called **X-Plore Manufacturing** will give 11th- and 12th-grade students an overview of a variety of manufacturing jobs and the skills they require. Students planning to pursue engineering degrees also will benefit. Classes will be held 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday beginning June 18. The program is a joint effort with the college's **Center for Applied Competitive Technologies**, which has created an accompanying informational CD-ROM about the X-Plore Manufacturing program. High school students pay no tuition at the college, and will receive high school and college credits. For information call Ken Rapose at (661) 362-3096 or Pete Ballas at (661) 294-1865.

Performing Arts Center

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provide."

Included within the two-level, 42,898-square-foot complex will be a smaller "black box" modular theater that will provide space for more intimate, experimental productions. This theater will seat approximately 125 patrons.

The complex also will encompass an outdoor sculpture garden in front of the lobby



► Want news and information about College of the Canyons right now? Log on to the college's **Public Information Office** home page for the latest news, sports updates, events and calendars. You can find all of this and more by pointing your browser to <http://www.coc.cc.ca.us> and clicking on the "News" button.

► College of the Canyons students **Nicole Bennett** and **Ashley Short** were selected to the **2002 Phi Theta Kappa All-California Academic Team**, beating out hundreds of other hopefuls across California. Bennett and Short received cash awards and were recognized during a ceremony at the State Capitol on April 11.

► College of the Canyons students in the **Model U.N. Program** made quite an impression during the **48th Annual National Model United Nations Conference** at Harvard University in February. The students of political science professor **Tamarah Hardesty** represented the only community college at the conference and went up against the likes of Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth, MIT and Cornell. The students were **Leslie Hayden, Ayesha Saletore, Loreen Bakoo, Ethan Landesman, Ryan Skaggs, Karen Bedsworth, Corey Williams, Jackie Ganuza, Leslie Alvarenga, Jacklyn Yahiayan, Suzette Martinez, Donna Wire** and **Janaya Roberson**.

Sofian Wins Guggenheim Award



Sheila Sofian displays some of her work in the college's animation studio.

Sheila Sofian, chair of the College of the Canyons Animation Department, has been awarded a prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship for an ongoing film project about James McCloskey and his crusade to free from incarceration people wrongly convicted of capital crimes.

"It's really exciting to have my work recognized this way, and I'm still having a difficult time believing it's true," Sofian said of the award, which will allow her to make significant progress on "Truth Has Fallen," a feature-length film that will tell the story of McCloskey through interviews with three people he helped free. So far, McCloskey has reversed 25 convictions that never should have occurred.

"James McCloskey does incredible work, and the people I've interviewed were very honest and forthcoming," Sofian said. "Their stories deserve to be heard."

The film will blend live action with animation in an effort to connect with audi-

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Van Hook is Newsmaker of Year

Superintendent-President Dianne G. Van Hook was honored as the Santa Clarita Valley's Newsmaker of the Year for 2001. The award was announced during The Signal newspaper's Sixth Annual SCV Newsmaker Awards Dinner on Feb 1.

"It is an honor indeed to receive the Newsmaker of the Year award, and I accept it on behalf of the people who make up the community of College of the Canyons," Van Hook told the crowd at the Hyatt Valencia.

The event raised about \$35,000 for the Randy Wicks Memorial First Amendment Scholarship, named after the

paper's popular political cartoonist who died in 1996.

"It is particularly an honor to be associated with an event designed to honor the work of Randy Wicks," Van Hook said. "Our college was the beneficiary of a number of Randy's cartoons - from squirrels to swap meets to swallows - and they are all on my wall. What the college does and what makes the news is the result of a collective enterprise that is dedicated to excellence, as was Randy, and to creating opportunities to grow and learn."

College of the Canyons sports teams also figured prominently in the newsmaker

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Dr. Dianne Van Hook following the Newsmaker of the Year announcement.

Board Names Oversight Committee

The College of the Canyons Board of Trustees appointed 12 people to the Citizens' Oversight Committee for Measure C bond funds. In making the appointments, the board was required to have at least seven members on the committee but chose to appoint all 12 of the citizens who applied.

Measure C passed with 68 percent of the vote under the accountability rules of Proposition 39. The law requires formation of a committee to provide oversight, ensuring that bond revenues are expended only for the purposes authorized by law, on those projects specified in the bond measure, and that bond funds are not spent on teacher or administrator salaries or operating expenses.

By law, members must represent at least five categories: recognized community business organizations, senior citizens' organization, bona fide taxpayers' organization, Santa Clarita Community College District Associated Student Government or student

Committee Members

Kyle Baron, Canyon Country, COC student government member

Michael Berger, Newhall, College of the Canyons Foundation

Monika Bucknall, Valencia, community / business & senior citizens' organizations

Rita Garasi, Canyon Country

Erick Garcia, Castaic, COC alumnus, member of business community

Jill Harper, Canyon Country, member of senior citizens committee

Mike Lebecki, Stevenson Ranch, member of business organization

Deborah Roberts, Valencia, college student decision-making body

Joe Robinson, Canyon Country

Doug Sink, Valencia, Chamber of Commerce

Roy Weygand, Bakersfield, bona fide taxpayer association

Sheldon Wigdor, Canyon Country

governing body, and a Santa Clarita Community College District advisory committee or foundation board member. The law excludes from service any employee of the district or citizen with a potential conflict of interest, such as a vendor or contractor.

Measure C was approved by voters on Nov. 6, providing \$82.1 million for much-needed construction of new facilities, renovation of the campus and development of needed educational programs.

Members of the committee shall serve an initial term of two years.

The committee held an organizational meeting April 19 and appointed Sheldon Wig-

dor chairman and Doug Sink vice-chairman. Members were briefed on future building plans. Meetings will be convened at least twice a year and reports issued at least once each year.

Meetings will be open and the dates, times and locations publicized. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend.

that a majority of voters agreed that College of the Canyons needs to be able to raise funds to offset erratic, and often untimely state construction funding.

The college district will now be able to issue bonds to pay for new or expanded buildings, educational and training programs, and infrastructure upgrades to meet the community's expectations and the challenges of the future in a timely manner.

The existing college campus, as envisioned by the original master plan of more than 30 years ago, was designed for a maximum of 5,000 students. The college surpassed that mark years ago and had a student enrollment of nearly 11,500 in the spring 2001 semester

and nearly 13,000 in the fall of 2001.

Projections indicate that 20,000 students will attend by the year 2010.

The tentative Facilities Master Plan, which is based on needs outlined in the recently completed Educational Master Plan, details the district's needs through 2010 and beyond.

The plan calls for the build-out of the campus and identifies the need to develop an additional educational facility, most likely in Canyon Country. The college opened ACCESS, a five-classroom center in the new Canyon Country library building for fall 2001 classes. It is designed to meet the area's educational needs until a permanent facility can be developed.

Project List

- **Science Laboratory Building Addition:** Building to expand science facilities.

- **University Center:** Building(s) to provide space for universities offering advanced degrees.

- **Classroom Building Adjoining Performing Arts Center:** Instructional building.

- **Health Education/Cardiovascular/Physical Ed. Center:** Building of approximately 15,000 square feet for instructional and sports programs.

- **Vocational Technology Building Addition & General Purpose Classroom Building:** Buildings for vocational training and general program offerings.

- **Classroom Building/High Tech Lab Center:** Instructional building for technology training.

- **Library Addition & Warehouse:** Buildings to supplement library and provide storage for supplies, equipment.

- **Canyon Country Education Center:** Land acquisition, construction of second site.

- **Job Training/Community Education Building:** Building for job training and continuing education programs.

- **Media Arts Technology Addition:** Building to expand media arts programs.

- **Student Services/Counseling & Administration:** Building for support services for students.

- **Repair & Renovation:** Upgrading of facilities and campus infrastructure.

Measure C

From Page 1

Valley voters approved the \$82.1 million bond measure by an overwhelming 67.65 percent majority, paving the way for much-needed new facilities, facility improvements and renovations, and new educational and training programs.

Passage of Measure C was governed by the new rules of Proposition 39, which require a 55-percent-plus-one-vote majority for passage. The previous rules required a higher majority threshold of 66 percent plus one vote. Final vote tallies reveal Measure C would have passed under either set of rules.

Election results indicate



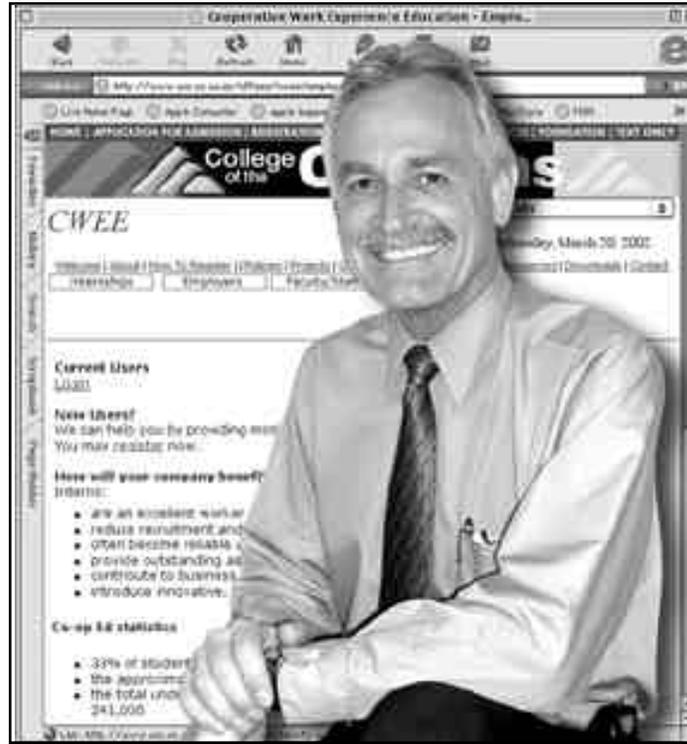
The CEO Forum for the Future helped business leaders anticipate future needs.

► Leaders of local business and industry came together to anticipate future workforce development, training and retention issues during the **CEO Forum for the Future** at the Hyatt Valencia on March 14. Participants met in groups to address future needs in terms of workforce training, issues affecting success locally and globally, employee attraction and retention, and ways for employers and employees to share responsibility for professional development.

► College of the Canyons participated in **Groundhog Job Shadow Day**, kickoff to **Job Shadowing 2002**. Hart High students got an up-close look at how skills they learn are used in the workplace as they rotated through three campus departments and shadowed mentors on Feb. 1.

► The second-annual **Making Business Better** breakfast workshop was held at the Hyatt Valencia on March 1. Sponsored by the **Employee Training Institute** at College of the Canyons and the **Ventura College Center for Excellence**, the event focused on the latest approaches in preparing the workforce with effective systems and an organizational culture that supports continuous improvement.

Internships Available Online



Stan Wright, director of Cooperative Work Experience Education..

College of the Canyons has introduced a new online feature that allows employers to quickly fill internship opportunities and students to obtain valuable work experience in their chosen fields.

Offered through the college's Cooperative Work Experience Education program, the Internet-based service matches college students with a wide variety of paid and unpaid internships throughout the Los Angeles area.

"This is a truly valuable service we're offering to both employers and students," CWEE Director Stan Wright said. "It allows employers to post internships in 5 minutes or less, and it allows students to jumpstart their careers in a dramatic way."

Thirty internships are available now through the

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Child Development BS, MS Offered

The University of La Verne will offer both bachelor and master of science degrees in child development on the College of the Canyons campus as part of the continually expanding University Center concept at the college.

The bachelor's degree program is designed to prepare students for careers in fields such as early childhood education and children's programs in social agencies, as well as public and private schools. The university plans to launch the master's degree program at the college this fall.

"This is going to raise the bar of child care in our community dramatically," said Diane Stewart, director of the Family Studies & Early Childhood Education Center at the college. The bachelor's program is a welcome and logical next step for students who are enrolled in the college's Early Childhood Education program and for those seeking an affordable child-development program that leads to a bachelor's degree, she said.

Students can save money by taking the first two years of child-development classes at College of the Canyons, then "transfer" to the University of La Verne's bachelor's program – all without ever leaving the Santa

Clarita Valley campus. The college's child-development program will seamlessly transition into La Verne's.

"This commitment by La Verne is an example of the eagerness with which universities have embraced the University Center concept at College of the Canyons," said Sue Bozman, director of public information.

A number of advanced-degree programs have already begun at the college, even though the planned University Center has yet to be built. An interim building for University Center programs was completed in January to meet demand. Other participating institutions include Cal State Bakersfield, Cal State Northridge, Chapman University, ELS Language Centers and Nova Southeastern University.

La Verne's accelerated bachelor's program is designed primarily for working adults, featuring 10-week terms in which students attend classes one night a week. The typical student should graduate with a bachelor's in about two years, said Gabriella Tempestoso-Bednar, marketing director for La Verne's School of Continuing Education.

For more information call (800) 695-4858, Ext. 5231.

University Center

From Page 1

the Santa Clarita Valley populace. The idea – to bring a wide variety of bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate programs to the local campus – has already begun.

It happened quietly and without fanfare. Just before Christmas, unfinished prefabricated building sections arrived on campus. By Jan. 22, the interim facility was ready.

It is one of the first concrete steps toward making the dream a reality. Physically the building is just so much concrete, particle board, plastic and sheet metal. Inside are 10 classrooms, faculty offices and other amenities. Psychologically and philosophically, its significance to the community is huge. It will make a quantum leap in the availability and accessibility of higher education.

Eventually a permanent, 50,000-square-foot University Center will be constructed (see back page).

The idea is the brainchild of Superintendent-President Dianne Van Hook. “We have surveyed the community on three separate occasions, and we know that businesses want and need the skilled graduates the University Center will provide,” she said.

Many universities are so excited by the concept that they have not only signed on as partners, they’re already offering classes. A number of other universities have expressed interest, and negotiations are under way (see back page for participating universities).

A fund-raising campaign is now under way, with local business leaders Tom Lee and Lou Garasi heading the effort under the



College officials escort state Sen. Wm. J. “Pete” Knight (left front) on a tour of the Interim University Center.

auspices of the COC Foundation. Fully 99.9 percent of the college’s own staff and faculty have committed to supporting the campaign with their dollars.

“We are confident that this community will not only meet but exceed our goals,” said Kathleen Maloney, executive director of the foundation.

“This is a project that makes good sense for this community. When this building is complete, it will be a valuable regional resource and an important expression of how seriously this community values education and our children’s futures.”

Internships

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CWEE program, which has more than 50 students already placed in internships. Opportunities reflect the diverse range of employers in the region, from advertising to computer information, from government to welding, and from radio/television broadcasting to film production.

Most of the internships are located at companies within the Santa Clarita Valley, while others are based in the San Fernando Valley and Los Angeles metropolitan area.

The program also allows students to earn college credit while simultaneously participating in the program, Wright said.

Students and employers alike can participate in the internship program by visiting the CWEE web site (on the Internet at <http://www.coc.cc.ca.us/offices/cwee>) and following either the “Internships” or “Employers” links.

Students can view a list of available internships, choose one that interests them

and apply for the position online. Similarly, employers can register and offer their internship opportunities online. The CWEE staff reviews all applications, helps students prepare their resumes and forwards qualified applicants to employers.

Students who participate in the program are required to work toward specific objectives agreed to by their respective employers. Employers are asked to collaborate with the interns, track their progress and evaluate their performance.

“We view this partnership as one that truly benefits both students and employers,” Wright said. “It’s an opportunity for students to utilize the skills they’ve learned in the classroom to move forward in their careers by making a worthwhile contribution in the workplace. And it’s an opportunity for employers to make a significant contribution to an employee’s education in a way that benefits them.”

For more information call the CWEE office at (661) 362-3309 or visit the web site at <http://www.coc.cc.ca.us/offices/cwee>



The always fashionable John Hoskinson during his roast.

▶ Former College of the Canyons Trustee **John Hoskinson** was skewered – verbally, that is – during the **Fourth Annual Elks Club Roast** on Jan 19. Superintendent-President **Dianne Van Hook** was one of those given the pleasure of roasting Hoskinson, who serves as president and chief operating officer of **Gruber Systems** in Valencia. Along with the expected but good-natured disses, Van Hook gave Hoskinson a pair of angel’s wings (seen above) in appreciation for his help with the college’s Measure C bond campaign. The event benefited the **Samuel Dixon Family Health Center**.

▶ **Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA)**, a statewide program that operates a center at College of the Canyons, was one of just five recipients nationwide of the prestigious **Innovations in American Government Award**. MESA was one of more than 1,200 nominees – and the only California winner. A project of the **John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University**, the **Ford Foundation** and the **Council for Excellence in Government**, the award recognizes public programs that exhibit outstanding problem solving and creativity.



"Romeo and Juliet" will be performed on three nights in May.

► Shakespeare's immortal tale of forbidden love and unrelenting hate comes to life in **Shakespeare on the Green's** presentation of "Romeo and Juliet" May 17 to 19. Comedy, revenge and murder interweave and build to that fateful end in this production featuring students and professional actors from the **Shakespeare and Friends Foundation**. Shows will be presented at 6 p.m. in the amphitheatre.

► Dozens of unique pieces of art will be on display in the **Art Gallery** through May 11 as part of the **2002 Student Art Exhibition**. The gallery is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Admission is free. For more information call (661) 362-3613.

► Three of the college's choirs will come together for a **musical extravaganza** May 17. The concert – exploring a wide variety of languages, styles and composers – will feature **Voices of the Canyons**, the **Chamber Singers** and **Les Chanteuses**. The show will be held in the campus dining room at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for seniors, children and students. Purchase advance tickets by calling (661) 362-3254.

Gallery Spotlights Fashion



Sue Wong (left) takes to the runway during the finale of the special preview showing of her "Nocturne" line at the College of the Canyons Art Gallery.

She has helped dress the likes of Goldie Hawn, Bianca Jagger and Victoria Principal.

It was College of the Canyons' turn Feb. 23 as noted designer Sue Wong's fashions adorned the Art Gallery during a special preview of her "Nocturne" line.

A fundraiser for the Friends of the Fine Arts support group, the show drew some 100 people. An accompanying exhibit of Wong's fashions graced the gallery through March 25.

The show evolved as a result of the longtime friendship between Wong and Art Department Chairwoman Joanne Julian.

Four dresses donated by Wong were raffled off. The winners were Vi Berteaux, Charlotte Kleeman, Cindy Napoli and Lisa Willen.

Wong, who escaped Communist China in 1949, has attracted a celebrity clientele and international acclaim for her designs.

Student Snares Steppenwolf Honor

Freshman theater major Eva Vandergiessen won a scholarship to study acting with the Steppenwolf School of Summer Arts this June.

The unexpected honor came while Vandergiessen was performing at the American College Theater Festival at Fresno this past February.

Vandergiessen captured the attention of John Mayer, theater department chairman at Cal State University Stanislaus and a member of the Steppenwolf Theater Company with her 10-minute performance as "She" in a student work entitled "Simply Beautiful."

At the performance's end, Mayer offered her a scholarship on the spot.

"Total jaw droppage," Vandergiessen said of her reaction to the offer.

"I wasn't even supposed to be there, but I decided to make the most of it so I went all out."

Wine Classic to Benefit Orchestra

Wine connoisseurs and those who just enjoy great wine, gourmet food and fine orchestral arrangements should consider attending the SCV Wine Classic, which this year will feature as many as 50 wineries offering their latest releases and a host of local restaurants providing culinary delights.

The popular event – a fundraiser for the SCV Youth Orchestra and the Santa Clarita Symphony – is scheduled 7 to 10 p.m. Saturday, June 1, at California Institute of the Arts, 24700 McBean Pkwy.

Those who purchase tickets before May 31 will receive discounted prices of \$60 per person or \$110 per couple. Prices at the door will be \$70 per person or \$120 per couple. Group sales for a minimum of 10 people are available until May 17 for \$50 per person. Designated drivers may obtain tickets for just \$35.

Tickets can be ordered by calling (661) 362-3415. More information is available at www.scvinsider.com/wineclassic.html.

Hockey

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CSUN, Sacramento State and UC Davis, among others, who had been playing together for years.

It showed – the Cougars lost 10 of their first 11 games.

Yet, not a single player abandoned the program. In fact, more students joined. By midseason, the half-empty team was full, practices were running smoothly, drilling was taking effect and the team was playing – well, playing good hockey.

“The referees and coaches I spoke to said they’ve never seen such a rapid improvement in any team in such a short amount of time as they’ve seen in the Cougars,” said Jim Schrage, advisor to the team and father of the team captain.

The Cougars played their final games of

the season in March against San Jose and Sacramento State Universities.

The Cougars had skated to a 4-4 tie against the Sacramento Hornets, and were humiliated 8-0 by the San Jose Spartans in their previous match-ups in November. More than 200 fans packed the stands at Ice Station Valencia March 22 to watch them win their first game, defeating the Spartans in a thrilling 3-2 victory.

Sophomore winger Tyler Ojala scored all three goals, and sophomore defenseman Dereck Stepnaski had three assists. Sophomore goalkeeper James Morales turned aside 22 shots for the win.

The next night the Cougars exploded on offense, thrashing the Hornets 6-3.

“The foundation has been laid,” said the younger Schrage. “We’ve got more coaches coming in to help next season. We have new players ready to join.

“I hope this team lasts for a long time.”



Some 75 people drummed up support for early childhood education during the Drum Circle.

▶ About 75 people beat a path to College of the Canyons for the **Second-Annual Drum Circle**, a fundraiser for the **Family Studies & Early Childhood Education Center**. All who attended the March 9 event took part in a huge jam session with various drums, all tuned to perfection and provided by **Remo Inc.** of Valencia.

▶ The **Canyon Call**, the college’s student newspaper, was recognized for general excellence by the **Journalism Association of Community Colleges** in April. Several staff members also received awards for their journalistic skills.

▶ College of the Canyons will soon have a nearby neighbor. The **Packard Humanities Institute** purchased 60 acres of land immediately south of the college for the future campus of the **UCLA Film and Television Preservation Center**. The center holds one of the largest such collections in the world, second only to the Library of Congress. “This wonderful property provides a unique opportunity for us to develop a new ‘preservation campus’ where experts from UCLA and elsewhere can devote themselves to studying and preserving our motion picture heritage,” said David W. Packard, president of Packard Humanities Institute.

Newsmaker

From Page 5

nominations, but the top awards went to others.

The nominees included the Cougar football team, which won 10 consecutive games, finished the 2001 season with a 10-1 record and emerged victorious in the Western State Conference Bowl held at Cougar Stadium; the Cougar women’s golf team, which not only won the state championship but finished the season with a 52-0 record – the first perfect record in the team’s history; and Susan Latch, who led the women’s

‘To have accomplished what they did ... is a success that they can be proud of for the rest of their lives.’

golf team to the state title and was named Western State Conference Player of the Year for the second-straight season.

“To have accomplished what they did with such a short startup time is a success that they can be proud of for the rest of their lives,” Van Hook said of the nominated athletes. “Individually and collectively, they have exhibited dedication, determination, courage, team-

work and a belief in possibilities that is rarely seen among college students.”

Money raised for the scholarship program is given to local students who plan to take college courses related to the First Amendment and the free dissemination of information.

Scholarships generated by the Newsmaker Awards and valued at \$22,000 were awarded to Santa Clarita Valley students last year.

Sofian

From Page 5

ences in a creative and empathetic way while exploring the circumstances that allowed such injustices to occur, Sofian said. The film also will delve into issues such as the death penalty, racism and the state of our justice system.

“It’s always interesting to allow people to see things differently,” Sofian said of her decision to go with the live action/animated format. “Blending live action and animation is a major undertaking; I’ve never done this before.”

She does, however, have a wealth of award-winning short films to her credit, among them “A Conversation with Haris,” a

painting-on-glass animated film that describes an 11-year-old Bosnian boy’s personal experiences with war, and “Survivors,” an experimental documentary animation about domestic violence.

Sofian acknowledged she is naturally drawn to social issues that affect people’s lives in dramatic ways. Likewise, her work reflects topics about which she is passionate.

Sofian studied at The United World College of South East Asia in Singapore and Old Dominion University in Virginia before receiving her bachelor-of-arts degree in film and painting from the Rhode Island School of Design. She completed her master of fine arts at California Institute of the Arts. Her work has been used in a wide range of media – from feature films to television series to Internet sites.



► Sports is an important part of the overall experience at College of the Canyons. You can find coverage of athletics by visiting us on the Internet at <http://www.coc.cc.ca.us> and clicking the "News" button, then "Athletic News."

► **Kristine Marbach**, with 22 goals and 20 assists, became the first player in the history of the **women's soccer** program to receive All-America honors.

► **Phil Marcellin**, who led the women's **soccer** team to its third consecutive WSC championship and its best record ever, was named WSC Southern Division Coach of the Year.

► The women's **volleyball** team finished third in the WSC and landed five players on the 2001 all-conference first and second teams. **Tara Coe** and **Stephanie Cisneros** made the first team; **Sara Lupu**, **Stacy Holbrook** and **Julianna Diaz** made the second team.

► The men's and women's **basketball** teams entered the 2001-02 season full of hope and promise – and each delivered by reaching the WSC playoffs before elimination.

► The **football** team has enjoyed tremendous success since being reinstated in 1998, finishing last season with a 10-1 record and a **WSC Bowl** victory. The players, too, are being noticed, with 14 of last year's squad having transferred to division I-A or I-AA colleges. Watch for an even more explosive offense this season with the addition of **Dean Herrington** as offensive coordinator. He helped lead Hart High School to 10 championships in the 1990s.

Golfers on Top of Their Game

The College of the Canyons golf team has been a terror on the links. The Cougars clinched the Western State Conference championship on April 19. And, six of the top 10 WSC players are Cougars.

And, if that wasn't enough, the team shot a college record 11 strokes under par against Moorpark College at Tierra Rejada in Simi Valley March 8.

Led by freshman Jay Montes, who finished first with a four-under 68, the Cougars outshot second-place Moorpark by 27 strokes.

Montes, who currently holds the top spot in the conference, is no stranger to pressure. In his senior year at Sylmar high, he took first place in the L.A. City Championships.

Freshman Daniel Marsh has been a tremendous addition to the team from half a world away. Marsh hails from Perth, Aus-



MARSH



MONTES

tralia, and discovered the success of the Cougars golf program via the Internet.

Marsh shot a 2-under par on March 8 to help Canyons complete a record-setting performance. Marsh currently holds the No. 3 spot in the Western State Conference.

Golf coach Gary Peterson said this may be the best team

he's ever coached. But he's not letting it go to their heads.

"Until they win the state championship, they can't make the claim that they're the best," said Peterson.

But that's a goal that definitely seems to be in reach. The 2002 Cougars are hitting, on average, 15 to 17 shots better than any previous Canyons team.

"The difference between winning at the conference level and winning at the state level is consistency," said Peterson. "This is what this team has started to do."

Hockey Team Builds for Future

Practices began at 10:30 p.m. Road trips lasted six hours – one way. Games were played against four-year universities with established hockey programs. And line changes?

"We only had seven guys on the bench when we started the season," said Jimmy Schrage, COC's ice hockey club president. "We would do double, triple shifts. By the end of the game, the team was so tired no one could move."

Except to move back into the rental van for a post-game six-hour road trip back to Santa Clarita from San Jose or Sacramento.

Starting an ice hockey club team seemed like such a great idea. Recruit young, talented players, join the high-intermediate skill level Pacific Coast Hockey Association, play games at Ice



Although the Cougars had a tough first year, the players stuck together for two thrilling, season-ending victories against San Jose and Sacramento.

Station Valencia – what could go wrong?

Plenty. The worst part may have been the losing.

The Cougars were the only community college in the PCHA, facing squads from

See HOCKEY on Page 10



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University Center Fact Sheet

Below is an artist's rendering of the Santa Clarita Valley University Center, an idea whose time has come.

See story on Page 1

Why build it?
The demand for advanced degrees available locally is here. Fully 98 percent of businesses surveyed are favorable toward the project.

Where will it be built?
On a bluff at the southernmost edge of College of the Canyons property.

The concept has proved so popular that an Interim University Center has been built to meet demand.

What is it?
A facility housing a consortium of universities where people can earn bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees without leaving the SCV.

Which universities?
The list continues to grow. So far, the following are already signed on:
Cal State University Bakersfield
Cal State University Fresno
Chapman University
ELS Language Centers
Nova Southeastern University
Woodbury University
University of La Verne

For more information log on to www.universitycenter.cc