ONE’S EDUCATION IS FOR IMPROVING THE AND FOR LEAVING THE WORLD BETTER THAN BEFORE.

USD MAGAZINE

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO / SPRING 2006

THE ABCs OF VOLUNTEERING

LIVES OF OTHERS
Bring any of the above words to life — using an image that epitomizes the spirit and mission of the University of San Diego — and you could win a grand prize package and the adulation of your peers. Your task is deceptively simple: Take a photo that evokes one or more of the key values of USD, describe how it fits our theme, and submit your photo and description by July 1, 2006.

Your photo can be contemporary or an old snapshot. It can be of the campus itself or a place that reminds you of USD. It can be of alumni or students. The winning photo can be almost anything, as long as it illustrates the spirit of the university. The best photos will be published in an upcoming edition of the magazine, and the grand prize winner will receive a VIP package, which includes round-trip airfare for two people to and from San Diego from anywhere in the U.S. for the weekend of Homecoming 2006 as well as accommodations for two people for three nights at Humphrey’s Half Moon Inn and Suites, a rental car and a complete passport to Homecoming 2006 activities. Runners-up will receive Sony digital cameras.

Alumni of USD who are amateur photographers are invited to submit no more than three photographs. To enter, either fill out the form on the following page or go to www.sandiego.edu/photocontest, print out the form and mail it to the address provided.
Competition Guidelines
The competition is open to all alumni of USD who are amateur photographers (people who do not earn more than half of their annual income as photographers). University of San Diego employees and their immediate families (spouses or children) are ineligible. Entries must have been shot by the entrant and must be owned by the entrant.

Each entrant may submit no more than three photographs to the competition. Each photograph must be accompanied by a registration form. Photographs may be created with any style or format of camera, and photo composites or computer manipulation and enhancement are allowed. Entries cannot be returned, so please do not send irreplaceable photos.

Entrants will receive an e-mail acknowledgement that their entry has been received. Submissions must be postmarked no later than July 1, 2006; the winner will be notified by Aug. 1, 2006.

A photograph may be submitted in one of three ways:

Digital: You may submit a digital file on a CD or computer disk, JPEG format, 8”x10” at 300 dpi. (The winner and runners-up may be asked for higher-resolution files.)

Print: You may submit an unmounted print that is no larger than 8”x10”.

Slide: You may submit a paper- or plastic-mounted 35mm slide.

Entry Procedures:
Submitting a photo to the contest constitutes an acknowledgment that the entrant has read and agreed to the rules as posted online at www.sandiego.edu/photocontest.

To make a submission, please fill out the registration form for each photo submitted and send it with your photograph(s) to USD Magazine, Photo Contest, 5998 Alcalá Park, DeGheri Alumni Center, Room 320, San Diego, CA 92110-2492.

By entering the contest, the entrant acknowledges USD Magazine’s right to display the winning photographs in an upcoming issue and on its Web site.

Since entries cannot be returned, please do not send any original slides or prints you want returned. The winner will be notified by Aug. 1, 2006.

Airline tickets must be used for travel from another city to San Diego for the weekend of Homecoming 2006. The contest entrant and/or others who reside in San Diego may not use the tickets to travel to another city.

Photography Competition 2005-2006 Registration Form
Please use the space below to tell us, in no more than 100 words, how your photo brings one of the “university of” key words to life. (The words are as follows: DISCOVERY COMPASSION WONDER PROMISE FAITH IDEAS TRADITION HONOR JUSTICE SUCCESS DREAMS HOPE PASSION PEACE.) Use additional pages if necessary. The University of San Diego and/or USD Magazine may use your story in print or on our Web site. We reserve the right to reprint, use and/or edit your story as we deem appropriate.

Name
Address
City State Zip
Phone Number(s)
E-mail

Description of entry in 50 to 100 words:

Obligatory Legal Mumbo Jumbo
I do hereby make the following statements, releases, assignments, and assurances to the University of San Diego and USD Magazine, their employees, agents and contractors (the “Released Parties”):

I am the person who took the photograph(s) submitted herewith, and I have not assigned any of my rights associated with these photographs to any third party.

All models or persons depicted in the photograph(s) have given me their unrestricted, written consent to use their likeness or image.

I release the Released Parties from any liability whatsoever that arises from their lawful use of these photographs.

I agree to work in good faith with the Released Parties to promptly resolve any problems or disputes that may arise due to my submission of these photographs.

I certify that I, or the person I designate, own the image(s) or any copyright to the photograph(s).

USD Magazine has non-exclusive rights to use, publish and sell products based on the photograph(s).

The University of San Diego and USD Magazine may use photograph(s) in publications to promote the university and the magazine, such as on Web sites, in brochures, in magazines, and for other similar marketing and promotional uses.

Signature Date
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He started out as a surfing Texan mall rat, came to USD and accidentally got serious about what mattered to him. Now, Tim Lynch ’95 has found his true calling as reigning Buddha of the film set, working with award-winning directors and artists.

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Teaching 9/11 widows how to date again is all in a day’s work for Louise Stanger.

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Students turned out in force to celebrate the dedication of the new heart of the campus, the Plaza de San Diego.

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In remote Guatemalan villages, medical teams set up camps to help locals, some of whom have never seen or visited a doctor.

al-tru-ism \ n : UNSELFISH INTEREST IN THE WELFARE OF OTHERS.
Since the first time a kitten crawled up in the crook of my neck and tried to nurse my earlobe, I knew I was a cat person. After all, what could be sweeter than a ball of fluff nestled on your lap, gently digging tiny claws into your flesh? Over the years, I’ve had tabby cats, fluffy cats, shy cats and cats who thought they were famous. I’ve invented games like Kitty Disco Love Fest — which involves wee spinning mirrored balls, young kittens and windows full of sunlight — and rushed to the kitty ER when one particularly dim feline tumbled out of a four-story window to land head-first on the concrete below. (He was fine. A bit slow for years afterward, but fine.)

Dogs, on the other hand, were a mystery. I never quite knew what to do with Lady, the middle-aged poodle mix who showed up on our porch when I was a child and refused to leave until she was invited inside. She never really wanted to go outside again, content to follow my mother from one end of the house to the other, suffering in martyred silence when left alone for minutes at a time. Frankly, I didn’t see the attraction.

It took years for me to even pretend to entertain the idea of living with a dog. In the end, it was the constant pleading that did it. “Please? Pleasepleasepleaseplease? Please can we get one? I’ll take care of it! I promise!” And then my husband would let his lower lip quiver, just a little. “If you let us get a dog, we’ll do anything.” Even pick up doggie-doo? “Anything.”

Just like having a baby, when the day came, I wasn’t quite prepared.

“Mom. We found him.” My daughter was breathless, yet calm. “We found our dog. He’s a white puppy with spots and he’s so cute and can we get him please oh please can we?”

I paused. Thought. Mentally shrugged. Gave in. “All right. Get him.” I had to hold the phone six inches from my head to avoid having my eardrum punctured by her screams of joy, but her delight made it worth it. Mostly.

Well, the somewhat unimaginatively named Buddy has been a member of the family for nearly a year now. And it turns out that I was right: Dogs are nothing like cats. Buddy needs walks and love and lots of exercise, and more often than not I end up being the one to pick up the doggie-doo. Funny thing is, I don’t really mind. He’s our big, goofy boy, and I can’t imagine our lives without him. When I come home, I’m greeted with pure joy every single day. And — much like the altruists we celebrate in this issue — he doesn’t expect a single thing in return. The cats, on the other hand, still hope we’ll come to our senses and evict him. Dream on, kitties.

— Julene Snyder, Editor
Moving Memoir
I am writing regarding the article “Finding Daniel” (Fall 2005). I, along with several of my fellow students, was incredibly moved by this story; we discussed the power of his story with several of my fellow students, “Finding Daniel” (Fall 2005). I, along with several of my fellow students, was incredibly moved by this story; we discussed the power of his story with several of my fellow students, “Finding Daniel” (Fall 2005). 

I was so moved that I sent a donation of my home and other gifts to USD (“Loving Gift,” Fall 2005). I, along with several of my fellow students, was incredibly moved by this story; we discussed the power of his story with several of my fellow students, “Finding Daniel” (Fall 2005).

USD is no longer considered one of the top 100 national universities in the nation, based on U.S. News & World Report rankings. Although USD’s student profile matches or eclipses a number of academic institutions ranked higher, the school suffers from a dismal alumni giving rate. While some administrators in academia may have their reasons for having mixed feelings or even dismissing these rankings, they matter to prospective students and potential employers. If USD is going to regain its rightful place as one of the best 100 schools in the country, it needs the financial backing of more of its alumni.

I just wanted to drop you a line in praise of the excellent job you did with the story “Finding Daniel.” This is a story that could have easily become trite, insensitive or paint-

I’m glad that USD Magazine included the section about Catherine Dicey, a non-USD alum, donating her home and other gifts to USD (“Loving Gift,” Fall 2005). Hopefully, it will inspire those who actually attended USD to contribute to the school.

— Chris Boyd ’00 (M.A.)

Keep the Faith
After reading your article on Brady Clark (“Put Me In, Coach,” Fall 2005), I wanted to write and say that I’d really appreciate it if you would let him know that many of us think that what he’s accomplished is amazing and we wish him the best. His is a great lesson in perseverance.

— Tara Allgood ’92 (J.D.)

Really, Really Likes Us
I am staying up late to congratulate you on one of the finest publications I have ever seen. The fall 2005 issue of USD Magazine is superior in every facet. I have been the volunteer editor for my dental society publication for about 15 years, and have attended seminars on how to produce a better publication. I find yours fascinating and actually exciting for many reasons.

I really like your choice of paper. It feels good when I touch it. It is crisp and clean. It lends itself well to the excellent photography you have chosen. The quality of the photography is outstanding. Your layout is full, yet balanced, with plenty of well-placed white space. The subtleness of the colors you chose make the publication classy. Photography has become important in dentistry, so I have some experience with at least close-up photography. When I look at the picture of Daniel inside the magazine, I marvel at the dimension projected on a flat page. And author Krystn Shrieve’s efficient style conveys her message in a minimum of verbiage. I love it.

Honestly, I can’t say enough about this magazine. I will be resigning at the end of this year, and will pass this publication on as the best example of what we want to emulate that I have seen. My daughter Jenny (Class of 2006), who has had journalistic experience via editing her high school newspaper, will also appreciate what you have done so well. Surely she will appreciate the article about her Gamma Phi Beta sorority sister.

— Rick Cohrs, D.D.S.
TIME TO LAUGH AGAIN

Louise Stanger helps 9/11 widows move on with their lives

by Kelly Knufken

On the streets of New York, Louise Stanger found reminders of 9/11 everywhere. Firehouse doors. The incessant sound of sirens. Ground Zero. Just about any place Stanger went, 9/11 was close enough to reach out and touch. And she knew those reminders remain particularly poignant for the women whose firefighter husbands died as heroes on Sept. 11, 2001.

It was those women that Stanger — USD’s director of alcohol and other drug services — was in New York to help. She spent some time this fall giving workshops to help them explore what they might want from their dating life. While there, she got a look at New York as the 9/11 widows see it. Stanger is fond of saying, “Once a widow, always a widow,” but in the Big Apple, she learned there are even more complexities involved for these particular widows.

“They’re a wonderful group of women trying to live ordinary lives in extraordinary times,” Stanger says. Her workshops were aimed at helping them re-enter the dating pool, but she also brought knowledge that could help them feel less isolated.

Some of what Stanger knows about being a widow comes from talking with hundreds of widows while researching her doctoral dissertation on resiliency among those left behind. Based on those interviews, she is developing a book titled Good Grief for Widows and Their Families. She credits her doctoral adviser, USD business professor Johanna Hunsaker, with allowing her to research the topic she was most passionate about. But most of what Louise Stanger knows about being a widow comes from deep within herself: It comes from being the daughter...
Course: Natural Disasters
Instructor: Eric M. Cathcart

DESCRIPTION: An examination of natural disasters and their impact on humans; emphasis on earthquakes, hurricanes, landslides, volcanic eruptions, asteroid impacts and mass extinctions.

PROFESSORIAL DEMEANOR: It’s entirely possible that professor Cathcart is the most enthusiastic geologist on the planet. Dressed in shorts, sandals and a T-shirt, he bounces with infectious glee when pointing out details of spectacular photos of erupting volcanoes.

FUN FACTS: When Mount St. Helens erupted in 1980, the professor was only 10 years old. Enough ash fell to cover a football field 150 miles deep. These two items are unrelated.

OMINOUS SENTENCE FRAGMENT: “When water and ice meet in a deadly combination.”

GRIM STATISTIC: Disasters happen on a daily basis in every one of the United States. This works out well for students, who each are assigned a state to track during the semester. Those who were assigned Louisiana and other Gulf Coast states have been particularly busy.

LOOK OUT!: A pyroclastic flow is a high-density mixture of dry rock fragments and hot gases that move away from the vent that erupted them at high speeds. “If one of these is coming at you at 200 miles per hour, you need to get out of the way,” advises Professor Cathcart.

WOOLGATHERING MOMENT: Why is it that the model of a volcano we all were assigned to construct in elementary school never erupted properly, offering up a wimpy “poof” rather than oozing magma? Even Peter Brady couldn’t make it work.

IN CONCLUSION: Mount Ranier is potentially the most dangerous volcano in the Cascades due to its proximity to large numbers of people. It erupted 2,300 years ago, 1,100 years ago and, right about now, “we should be getting pretty close to another event.” Class dismissed.
When the question of traveling to the Gaza Strip and West Bank to help paint murals last summer arose, John Halaka was intrigued, but hesitant. After all, he had other plans, and jetting off on short notice to visit the most disputed strip of land on the planet was not among them.

Then he changed his mind. It all started last April, when the professor of visual arts went to San Francisco for the opening of a group exhibit, called “Made in Palestine,” which featured his artwork. A few months later, exhibit organizer Susan Greene — an artist, clinical psychologist and coordinator of the “Break the Silence” project — invited him to come to the war-torn region and help paint a series of murals.

It turned out to be an offer Halaka couldn’t refuse. After two weeks of soul-searching, the self-described “informed activist” decided the opportunity was too rare to pass up. After a whirlwind of preparations, he found himself plunked down in the sticky heat of August in Palestine, where tensions were simmering even more than usual on the eve of the impending pullout of Israeli settlements from Gaza.

Still, his group was ready to get to work. All they needed were official permits to move on to Gaza. Oh, and some paint. Although they’d been assured that art supplies were readily available at their first stop, the town of Rafah, on the southern tip of the Gaza Strip, they ended up making do with house paint.

It was important to Halaka — who is of Palestinian descent and whose own artwork touches on the struggles of the dispossessed — not to impose Western ideas on the murals, a set of heavy canvases banners that are now displayed on the exterior of the city’s Health Center.

“We didn’t have any specific images in mind,” he says. “We wanted to hear what the people wanted.” Paramount among their goals was to remain sensitive to the Palestinian history of image-making and to reflect the people’s own stories. “The mural shows different scenes of life in Rafah: Their desires, their hopes, fears, resistance, plight.”

Halaka explains that one of the main raisons d’etre for the murals was to honor the memory of International Solidarity Movement volunteer Rachel Corrie, who was killed by a bulldozer while protecting a Palestinian home from demolition in 2003, and to commemorate her relationship with the people of Rafah. The project was truly collaborative. “It was a remarkable situation,” recalls Halaka, still moved by the response. “One person made a phone call, and an hour later, an artist showed up. Three hours later, 10 artists joined us.”

The whole experience went by in a blur, Halaka says, in part due to the extreme volatility of the region. Leaving Rafah for the town of Mas’ha on the West Bank, the group intended to finish a mural that Greene and others had begun the summer before. There they worked on a painting on the surface of a recently constructed 24-foot-high
IN KYLE’S NAME
Organizers plan to endow scholarship in memory of a child

by Kelly Knufken

There’s no way around it: This story is heartbreaking. Michael ‘87 and Julie (Belfiore) ‘88 O’Connell lost their fun-loving son, 9-year-old Kyle, to brain cancer in February 2005.

Several other alumni banded together to bring hope to others while honoring the family’s loss. “To have experienced such a beautiful little boy as Kyle, who gave us so much in such a short time, challenges us all to be better people,” says Rich Yousko ‘87, a fraternity brother and close friend of Michael’s.

In that spirit, Yousko brought the family together with Braulio Castillo ‘89, a younger member of the same fraternity who wanted to start a scholarship. Thus, the Kyle O’Connell Memorial Scholarship was established, “so Kyle can always be remembered,” Yousko says. He recalls the boy’s inner strength on a visit he made to the O’Connells in Denver just weeks before Kyle’s death. “He could still tell us jokes and make us laugh. With his spirit and innocence, you could see Jesus through him.”

Organizers hope to raise at least $50,000 to endow the scholarship, which will go to a junior or senior pursuing a career in health studies. The aim is to help not only aspiring doctors, but also nurses and other caregivers that could play a role in trying to heal patients such as Kyle and their families.

“As parents, we are so moved that a child has caused people to do something like this,” says Michael O’Connell. The family is deeply touched by the generosity of spirit they’ve found.

“Now our son has a legacy at USD, even though he didn’t get a chance to go there,” Julie O’Connell says. “USD is a small community that you always felt a part of, no matter where you were. During this time of struggle and hardship, we’re back to that small community wrapping its arms around us and helping us look toward the future.”

To donate to the scholarship, go to https://secure.ga1.org/05/oconnell_memorial_scholarship. For more about the family’s journey, go to http://extranet.iqnavigator.com/kyle.

SAVE THE DATE

February 1

ICONS
USD’s Founders Gallery presents “ICONS from the Timken Museum of Art,” an exhibition of Russian Icons dating from the 16th through the 19th centuries. Through Feb. 25. Noon-4 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday, open until 6 p.m. on Thursdays. Call (619) 260-4261.

February 3

13th All-Faith Service
The annual service opens the spring semester with a celebration of the diverse faiths and traditions represented at the university. This year’s theme is “Unifying a Divided World.” Noon, The Immaculata. Call (619) 260-4735 or e-mail svasquez@sandiego.edu.

March 24

Women in Leadership Conference
USD’s Leadership Institute for Entrepreneurs sponsors this annual conference dedicated to providing insight, learning and structured networking to help women on their journeys of self-exploration and leadership development. For information, go to www.sandiego.edu/LIFE.

March 31

2006 Grandparents Weekend
This second annual event welcomes USD grandparents to campus for a weekend with students. Highlights include attending classes and a presentation showcasing the USD experience, as well as an undergraduate theater performance. Call (619) 260-4808.

April 22

It’s a Miracle!
Watch engineering students from around the region attempt the impossible — traversing the USD Sports Center pool at the annual Walk on Water competition. Go to www.sandiego.edu/engineering/events/ww.
crackle of excitement filled the air at a party celebrating the opening of the Plaza de San Diego mall in the heart of the USD campus on Oct. 7. And why not? An anonymous donor ponied up $50,000 for a costume contest and another $100,000 earmarked for students who could win just by registering in advance, showing up and waiting to hear their name.

The crowd — made up of a few thousand students and several hundred faculty and staff — was entertained in between prize drawings by Orange County rockers She Wants Revenge (whose music has been featured on the Fox TV show “The O.C.”), local cover band ’80z AllStars and Kid Classic, which features USD students.

Student creativity was in full force. The buzz was strong on Andrew Woodbury’s costume: The Immaculata replicated via cardboard box, complete with stained glass window and a dome teetering atop Woodbury’s head. No one was surprised that at the end of the night he was one of 10 costume finalists selected to win $500.

Additionally, he and others in USD-themed costumes were among those winning $200 “instant” prizes from judges wandering through the crowd. *Vista* Editor in Chief Brooke McSpadden wore a gown made from the student newspaper. Erin Weesner came as Mother Rosalie Hill, accompanied by boyfriend Casey McKinley as Bishop Charles Francis Buddy. A couple of girls dressed as public safety officers handed out citations for various “infractions.”

Although much merriment was had with crazy costumes — not to mention unlimited funnel cakes, hot dogs, kettle corn, pretzels and ice cream — the main attraction was the awarding of $1,000 prizes to 100 students. And in case you were wondering what the $1,000 winners planned to buy with their easy-earned grand, a survey of the lucky ones was revealing:

“I’m definitely saving it and buying groceries. Maybe I’ll buy myself a new skirt if I’m feeling adventurous.”
— Monica Escobar ’08

“I’m going to tithe 10 percent to my church, The Rock. I’ll also buy something little, and the rest will go toward school.”
— Jessica Thomas ’08

“I’m going to put it in savings. I’ve actually been a little worried about paying for my tuition next semester, so this will really help.”
— Erika Cruz ’09

“I’ll probably buy gas, take friends out and just cruise the rest of the semester and not have to worry about money.”
— Bryan Carpenter ’07
The recipients of the highest private award in Japan, the Kyoto Prize, will again be celebrated at USD during a symposium to be held in mid-April, which culminates in an on-campus presentation on April 20 by one of the most renowned early music conductors in the world, Maestro Nikolaus Harnoncourt.

The 21st Annual Kyoto Prizes were presented in Kyoto, Japan, in November 2005. USD President Mary E. Lyons traveled to Japan with Monsignor Daniel Dillabough and School of Business Administration professor Ellen Cook to take part in the prize ceremony as guests of Kazuo Inamori, founder of the nonprofit Inamori Foundation, sponsor of the awards. This year’s honorees are: advanced technology laureate George H. Heilmeier; basic sciences laureate Simon A. Levin; and Harnoncourt, the arts and philosophy laureate.

As sponsor of Maestro Harnoncourt — an Austrian conductor who is being honored for both his creativity as a conductor and performer and as a proponent of “historically informed” performances of early European music — USD expects a large turnout when he appears on campus.

Dr. Angela Yeung, director of the music program, says that Harnoncourt is a pioneer. “He’s devoted his life to rediscovering the music that composers like Mozart and Bach had in mind,” she says.

Upon her return from Kyoto, Professor Cook raved about seeing a workshop there presented by Maestro Harnoncourt.

“The interaction between him and the musicians was amazing,” she said. “He described a Mozart piece as a love story, and told the violas to play each note as if it were a kiss.”

Harnoncourt will give an address titled “Beauty and Practice,” followed by a demonstration rehearsal which will allow the audience to hear his instructions to the orchestra, made up of both the USD Symphony and the Tijuana Youth Orchestra. The free event will take place in USD’s Shiley Theatre on April 20 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

In advance of this special performance, USD will present a series of baroque music concerts to educate listeners. To learn more about these performances, call (619) 260-4171.

Go to www.kyotoprize.org for tickets and information.
n the days and weeks following Hurricane Katrina, USD students, faculty, administrators and alumni fanned out across the Gulf Coast region to help. They offered medical assistance, drove cross country to bring supplies, sent children’s books, found housing for displaced residents and made space in USD class.

Tom Kozak ’86, who practices family medicine, had breakfast two days before Hurricane Katrina hit with Barry LaForgia ’76 (J.D.), head of a nonprofit organization called International Relief Teams. Less than a week later, Kozak traveled to Mississippi with one of LaForgia’s medical teams, where he met teammate Mary Kubota ’99 (M.S.N. ’00). Kozak and Kubota spent most of their two-week stint working at a makeshift clinic in a portable trailer in Gulfport, Miss.

Some patients were dehydrated; others needed tetanus shots or medications for illnesses ranging from diabetes to schizophrenia.

Sheryl Nespor, a nurse practitioner who teaches at USD’s School of Nursing, was a member of a Scripps Medical Response Team that saw nearly 600 patients a day at the Convention Center and area clinics in Houston.

“It was difficult seeing fellow Americans living on cots in the Convention Center and knowing they’d been there for weeks,” says Nespor, who returned early when she was evacuated because of Hurricane Rita. “I saw with fresh eyes and new conviction the role nurse practitioners can play, especially in managing people’s chronic illnesses.”

Lisa (Anderson) Pigeon ’89, a former elementary school teacher, was committed to sending children’s books to shelters throughout the region. She and sister Debra (Anderson) Cole ’82 sent e-mails asking people to donate books inscribed with Bible verses or messages of hope. The e-mails were forwarded many times over. Before long, they’d collected 5,000 books.

Many of the books were taken to shelters by John Carrieri ’91. Carrieri loaded up a truck with 12,000 pounds of supplies and drove in mid-September to shelters in Dallas to distribute everything from food, clothing and medicine to toiletries, luggage and books. He hopes to set up a Web site featuring stories of individuals and families so that people can donate directly to them.

“Eventually the media will forget about Hurricane Katrina,” he says, “but I wanted to do something that would keep this in the forefront of people’s minds for years to come.”

One student who saw his share of heartache was Laurent Demosthenidy, one of USD’s 13 visiting students from the Gulf Coast. The third-year law student was here last semester from Tulane University.

“The faculty has been very accommodating,” Demosthenidy says. “And, while I can’t say I’m glad to be here, I am in a much better situation than others who were affected.”

Demosthenidy expects to go back to classes at Tulane this month. He says while conditions won’t be ideal, he’s looking forward to returning.

“I owe something to New Orleans,” he says. “I want to help make it the place I loved.”

Members of the USD community provided solace to those in need in the Gulf Coast region, much like that given by the medical technician above, who helped comfort an elderly evacuee after Hurricane Katrina.
SAVING THE PAST
USD professors keep historical journal from fading away

Historians make for unlikely superheroes, but two USD history professors have seemingly pulled off the impossible, resurrecting a near-defunct publication that chronicles Southern California’s past.

The Journal of San Diego History, founded in 1955 and the only recurring venue for research into the region’s history, ceased publication two years ago, mainly because the San Diego Historical Society lacked resources for editing and printing. Enter professors Iris Engstrand and Molly McClain, who last year revived the journal through a new partnership between USD and the society. The duo will serve as co-editors of the publication, and plan to bring students into the mix as contributors and fact checkers.

“As historians, we couldn’t stand to see this publication go away,” says McClain. “This is one of the few places to publish on, and read about, the history of San Diego and Mexico.”

Engstrand and McClain — who also are helping the society create an exhibition on San Diego history at its Balboa Park headquarters — have set an ambitious publishing schedule, with the aim of making up for all the lost issues within a few years. Fortunately, there is no lack of material.

“We’ve got a backlog of articles waiting for publication,” says Engstrand, who says future issues may include themes such as architecture, important women in local history and the military.

“There’s a lot of interest in the history of the area, so it’s important to keep this journal alive.”

For more information, go to www.sandiegohistory.org/journal.

A computer breach to one of USD’s servers took place on Nov. 14. Subsequent investigation by the university’s Information Technology staff and outside security experts determined that the hacker potentially accessed information from approximately 7,600 employees and outside suppliers and vendors. Letters warning of the hack were sent out shortly thereafter, warning the recipients that the accessed files included personal information such as names, addresses and social security numbers. A Dec. 3 e-mail from Provost Julie Sullivan to those affected provided information about specifics of checking credit reports and placing fraud alerts with various agencies. Additionally, a series of workshops dealing with identity theft and the ways to protect against it were scheduled for mid-December. Further information about the breach can be found at www.sandiego.edu or by calling the Security Breach Hotline at (619) 260-2777.

The next step in USD’s $200-million capital campaign begins this month with the fund-raising drive for a $36-million, 80,000-square-foot building for the School of Leadership and Education Sciences. University leaders hope to name the building for Mother Rosalie Clifton Hill, who founded the San Diego College for Women, one of USD’s predecessor institutions. Last year, USD received the first major gift in the effort, a $1 million challenge gift from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation that is contingent on successful completion of the fund-raising campaign. Go to www.sandiego.edu/campaign for more information.

Benefits for foster children could be increased as a result of a three-year grant of $450,000 awarded to the School of Law’s Children’s Advocacy Institute. The grant, from the California Wellness Foundation, is for research, analysis, evaluation, public education, collaboration and advocacy to extend foster care benefits in California to the age of 21, and to 23 if education or vocational training is being pursued. The goal is to enhance the well-being of foster children, who are at risk of poverty and homelessness after emancipation. Go to www.caichildlaw.org to learn more.

Hailed as one of the top young basketball coaches in the country, Maggie Dixon ’99 was named in October as the new head coach of the Army women’s basketball program. Dixon, who previously served as an assistant head coach at DePaul University, played four years as a Torero, serving as team captain her senior year.
It’s not just talk. When asked to recount the best part of his college basketball career, Lewis — who was there when the Toreros won the WCC Tournament championship over long-time rival Gonzaga and went to the NCAA Tournament for the first time in 16 years — doesn’t hesitate.

“The high point is all the guys I met through playing ball here,” he says. “When you go through every up and down with 12 guys that you get to know as friends that you’ll have for the rest of your life, that’s the best part of being on this team.”

Now that’s something to pass along.

Without good passing, a basketball team is nothing on the court. For the Toreros, it’s pretty much the same off the court.

Proving that point are seniors Corey Belser and Nick Lewis. On the hardwood, they’re shouldering a heavy burden this year. Last season’s top scorers, Brandon Gay and Brice Vounang, have graduated, and the Toreros welcomed a host of new faces, including four freshmen and three transfers. So Lewis, the 6-foot-10 forward, and Belser, one of the league’s top defenders, have had to step up their games and set an example with their play.

But that’s only half the story. Sure, Lewis and Belser are the team leaders in games. At the same time, they’re being looked at by everyone — coaches, fans and especially their fellow players — to set the course at practices, during workouts and, well, almost all the time. As seniors, they’ve got to help season the young players, build their confidence and create the kind of team chemistry that translates into notches in the win column.

That’s where the passing comes in. Belser and Lewis are comfortable veterans, ready to take on the responsibilities of leading the team, eager to pass on their knowledge and work ethic to the younger players — but only because the guys they looked up to did the same.

“When I was a freshman and sophomore, I remember that our seniors were awesome in the way they pulled us along, but demanded a lot of us at the same time,” Lewis says. “Now I’m in that role, with the younger guys looking to me for leadership and advice, and I know that part of my responsibility is to make them successful.”

Fortunately for their teammates, the duo say they learned from some of the best. As he ticks off the examples he needs to set — hard work, respect for the coaches, dedication — Belser recalls how he learned those lessons himself.

“It’s a huge leap from high school to a college program, and the older guys helped me manage my schedule and showed me that I had to earn my playing time by going all out in practice,” says Belser, who earned national honors as College Insider’s Mid-Major Defensive Player of the Year last year after sitting out all of 2003-04 with a knee injury. “Now I have to bring that to the table and show the younger guys that no matter how good they were in high school, at this level you don’t take anything for granted.”

The two seniors also discovered early on that while basketball was a big part of their lives, it wasn’t the only important thing. That well-rounded attitude has made them into the team’s top recruiter boys for potential recruits. Belser, who last year won the team’s end-of-season recruiting award, is proud that he helped land most of this year’s new players.

“When I visited USD, the players were genuine and open, and that made me know it was the right place for me,” Belser says. “So when I host recruits now, I can honestly tell them that if they’re looking for a great atmosphere and a group of guys who relate to each other like a family, then this is the place for them.”

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Now that’s something to pass along.
ADVANTAGE MURPHY
SETTING THE COURSE FOR VICTORY

You could call Emma Murphy’s forehand the shot heard ‘round the world. Or at least half that distance, all the way to her native Cork, Ireland, where she learned tennis as an aside to her first love, soccer. Originally set to attend the University of the Pacific on a soccer scholarship, Murphy decided at the last moment to come to USD and play tennis. Now the senior is ranked No. 19 in the nation, and this year will look to return to the NCAA Singles Tournament, where she lasted into the second round in 2004.

“ON THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CORK AND SAN DIEGO
The weather. At home this time of the year, everyone has their fire on and you’re forced to wear about three sweaters. Here I’m walking around in shorts and a T-shirt with the sun shining. I much prefer the weather in San Diego!

ON CRACKING THE INTERCOLLEGIATE TENNIS ASSOCIATION TOP 20
To achieve this is great, but I want to go a step further. I won’t be satisfied until I reach my goal of becoming an NCAA All-American. When you’re highly ranked everyone wants to beat you, so you need to be on top of your game for every match.

ON HER COMMUNICATIONS STUDIES MAJOR
I chose this major because I love to talk to people — in fact sometimes I talk a little too much! But I think it will be a great foundation for whatever I choose to be in the future.

ON HER FAVORITE CAMPUS SPOT
Without a doubt, the cafeteria. I think I’ve been there the most out of any student who ever attended USD, and I’m proud of that. They serve the best food, and to eat as much as you want is a bonus. I miss that when I go home.

ON HER FAVORITE PASTIME
In my spare time I love watching movies. I’ll go to the cinema and watch three movies in a row without a bother. I don’t get much time to go to the cinema with tennis and school, but when I do I make a day out of it.

ON THE SPORTING LIFE
I was always told by coaches that I should concentrate on one sport, but I wanted to be involved in every sport — and having three brothers, soccer was a big one in our house. One thing I don’t like about tennis is that you can’t make any physical contact with your opponents. I prefer the physical sports, where you can show your opponents how you feel about them.

[AS TOLD TO MICHAEL R. HASKINS]

FLYING HIGH
The Toreros football team soared throughout the fall. The squad’s Sept. 17 victory over Yale marked the first time a Pioneer Football League team had defeated an Ivy League team. The Toreros then went on to earn a No. 1 ranking in Division I-AA, clinching the PFL North Division record with an undefeated conference mark of 4-0 and an overall record of 11-1. USD hosted the Pioneer Football League championship on Nov. 19, earning a 47-40 win over Morehead State and bringing home the university’s first-ever PFL crown. “They have set the bar for all future Torero teams,” said head coach Jim Harbaugh, “and every team from here on out will be measured by this 2005 club.”
Here's a maxim that says absence makes the heart grow fonder — sadly, that's not always the case. But if David Stephens gets his way, geographic distance won't prevent alumni from staying connected to campus.

Stephens, who joined USD's Office of Alumni Relations in September 2004, says one of his jobs is to help alumni who've scattered across the United States maintain their emotional ties to USD.

“I've spent my career helping people support their alma mater,” says Stephens, who previously worked at Baylor University in Texas. “Here at USD we're starting with 12 regional programs. Eventually that number will grow.”

In 2005, USD hosted a national tour that stopped in 12 regions: New York, Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Dallas, Denver, Boston, Seattle, Los Angeles, Chicago and California’s Orange County. Each area hosted well-attended social events. When Meghan Clark ’01 (B.B.A.) moved to Boston four years ago, she didn't know anyone and says finding fellow alumni in the area seemed like a natural solution. So she called the alumni office and volunteered to help. “Once I got involved, it was amazing to see how many alumni live within a stone's throw of me,” she says.

Clark's chapter hosts a networking hour every month; she also coordinates social events for alumni and their families, including ice skating and Red Sox games. “It can be tough for recent grads to come here and break into the business community because it's so tight knit,” Clark says. “But this is a base people can turn to.”

Go to www.sandiego.edu/alumni/alumnirelations and click on the regional link.

ALUMNI BENEFIT Want to stay connected with your fellow grads? It’s easy, it’s free, and you don’t have to leave your desk! USD’s Online Community (www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/sdg) is your secure, password-protected portal to more than 35,000 fellow Toreros. You can use the Online Community as a resource to find old friends, as a career network and as an online discussion forum. The community even offers you a free, permanent e-mail forwarding service that identifies you as a USD graduate. For information and to sign up, visit the site today or call (619) 260-4819.

CALLING ALL ALUMNI

If you’ve been wanting to make a difference and support your alma mater, the perfect opportunity is at your fingertips. The Alumni Board is seeking nominees for directors by Feb. 20; every alumnus is eligible for election. “Board members need to be passionate about USD and what it did for them,” explains Jack Kelly, senior director of Alumni Relations. “Their mission is to engage alumni on behalf of current and future students. “The time commitment is reasonable: attendance at just five board meetings a year — either in person or virtually — and involvement with strategic planning and events.

For a nomination form, go online to www.sandiego.edu/alumni or call (619) 260-4819.
SAVE THE DATE! May 6, 2006

Join friends and fellow alumni at USD’s signature event to honor outstanding alumni and the university community. The elegant evening in the Jenny Craig Pavilion includes dinner, tributes, and dancing under the stars.

Formal invitations will be sent in March. For more information or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Alumni Relations at (619) 260-4819.
A MOVEABLE FEAST

Professor Dennis Clausen feels that the idea of one’s long-ago home is as important as the reality of the place

You can’t go home again. Those familiar words reverberate with our sense of loss when we realize we can never reclaim the place we once called home. I was reminded of that adage when I watched displaced New Orleans residents flee their homes in the days surrounding Hurricane Katrina. Many wanted to stay — and who could blame them? Where else could they find the rich culture that made New Orleans such an unforgettable city?

All of us have at least one place we call home, the place where we were born and raised. Once we leave, home becomes the place we carry inside of ourselves and escape to when the world seems too frantic and out of control to bear.

My hometown is Morris, a small community of slightly over 5,000 people in west central Minnesota, near the South Dakota border. Main Street is about four blocks long. Although some of the stores have been abandoned, there’s a McDonald’s at one end of town and a Burger King at the other. The buildings in between haven’t changed much. They’re mostly brick, with the dates when they were constructed — ranging from roughly 1890 to 1915 — imprinted just below the rooflines.

What has changed are the small town merchants who owned those stores when I was a boy. Although they’re all long gone, I can see them as vividly today as I did 50 years ago.

Bud Schultz owned a gas station in the middle of town. He’d always stop whatever he was doing to fill our bicycle tires and reminisce about earlier times when he’d ridden his own two-wheeler down dirt roads. Art Carlson, who worked in a hardware store in a building constructed in 1895, would sometimes roll an old unicycle out of the back of his store and ride it up and down side streets while we gazed in wide-eyed wonder. Middle-aged René Wagner, a mentally challenged man who did odd jobs for local merchants, would crank the canvas awnings out over the storefronts in the morning and crank them back up later in the afternoon. In between, he rode his bike all over town while talking to imaginary friends, carrying on a passionate running discourse about the sky and the trees and anything else that caught his attention.

At night, Main Street became another world. Most of the stores closed late in the afternoon, when the owners and employees went home to their families. That was when the pool hall in the center of town came alive, the soft snick of balls clicking against one another echoing into the night air. As darkness settled in, the lights in the popcorn stand on Main Street would flicker on, advertising popcorn for 10 cents a bag (buttered popcorn for 15 cents). The rest was shadows and silence.

When I think of Main Street today, I remember turn-of-the-century brick buildings huddled beneath a hot August sun; quiet, lonely nights with stars hovering high above a small prairie town; and winter scenes of snowflakes falling leisurely out of a dark sky, creating a downy, white carpet that glistened beneath streetlights.

But “main street” has also become the place that we small-town Americans carry in our hearts throughout our lives, no matter where our wanderings might take us. It’s the place we return to periodically to reassure ourselves that some things are still sheltered from the ever-accelerating, destructive changes we see elsewhere.

Now when I visit my hometown, I always walk the length of Main Street. Very few people know me anymore, which is just fine. I prefer it that way. After all, I’m not walking down their Main Street, the one that has a McDonald’s at one end of town and a Burger King at the other. I’m walking down the relaxed, friendly Main Street I remember from my youth.

And in my mind’s eye, the small-town characters come alive again: René Wagner rolls his unicycle up and down the side streets. Bud Schultz stands in the doorway of his gas station, waving to children riding by on bicycles.

They’re all still there, every one of them.

I hope someday the residents of New Orleans are as fortunate. I hope someday they, too, can walk down familiar streets and remember the many unforgettable characters who sang and danced and told wonderful stories on their street corners.

Everyone needs to be able to go home again.

Professor of literature Dennis M. Clausen has taught at USD since 1972. He has published numerous articles and books, including an award-winning book of creative nonfiction, Prairie Son.

To share your “Point of View,” contact Julene Snyder for guidelines at (619) 260-4684 or e-mail julene@sandiego.edu.
When there ain't nowhere you can go

But what a shame

As I walked with a heavy heart

Lost and found city

Charge, serenity rules

When Tim Lynch producer

Connected

Calm

Cool

Dearly beloved are you listening?
A dream bound in my dreams

The hollow lies

of tomorrow.

broken Dreams

Novocaine

the hollow lies

Novacaine

am

tooth ache

ve

believe

of tomorrow.

believe

Peace

Drum

broken Dreams

Believe

photography by Tim Mantoani

BY JULENE SNYDER

photography by Tim Mantoani

BY JULENE SNYDER
[Los Angeles] The temperature hovers just below 90 degrees in the sullen shade. Under a congested freeway overpass, a chunk of exhaust-choked asphalt is cordoned off by yellow caution tape. Beyond that barrier, a football-field sized zone is sprinkled with parked cars; two trailers sit side-by-side, perpendicular to a luxury motor home and a catering wagon. An incongruous smell of bacon wafts by, mingling — not altogether unpleasantly — with the smog. It turns out that home base for a big-budget music video isn't necessarily dripping with champagne dreams and caviar wishes.

Truth is, the glamour factor is just about nil. Inside the trailer on the right, the energy level is permanently set to "amped." Walkie-talkies crackle and the entire floor sways whenever someone moves, which is all the time. Laptops, fax machines, phones and printers buzz constantly, as a steady stream of problems flow in and solutions filter out. This is the place where dreams are made real. Not by magic, but by a smoothly functioning machine headed by producer Tim Lynch '95. His right-hand, production manager Becky Brown, describes the tanned 33-year-old as "CEO of the set." Lynch is unassuming in the extreme: He wears sneakers, khaki pants and a T-shirt covered by an unbuttoned long-sleeved olive green shirt with a frayed collar. "He doesn't always wear sunglasses indoors," Brown remarks.

At the wardrobe trailer next door, extras emerge one by one, freshly adorned in tattered yet chic punk rock garb and corresponding attitude. They cluster together at one long table, waiting for their cue to hop in one of the air-conditioned vans and be transported to the day's first location. Lynch and his crew are no-nonsense, dealing with one request after another, providing directions, water, power cords, apologetic notes, ETAs, stock film reels, updated lists, release forms, signatures and, most important, reassurance to just about anyone who opens the door.

When it's time to roll, everyone — but for a core group holding down the home fort — seems to vanish as if blown away by a gusting blast of Santa Ana wind. Time is, after all, money. And on this set, a video shoot for the latest single from one of the most popular bands in the world, there's plenty of money. But even more abundant is the underlying serenity that emanates from Tim Lynch, who's got the kind of calm presence that radiates the sort of calm that Zen masters aspire to, and takes the time to make sure that all of the people in his command — which, in this case, means literally everyone within 100 yards — are taken care of. Of course, as producer, that's his job.

The location this morning (day two of a four-day shoot), is a gritty, graffiti-covered bridge surrounded on three sides by chain-link fence. Director Bayer bears more than a passing resemblance to an aging Spicoli from "Fast Times at Ridgemont High" with his tousled, long, professionally streaked hair.

Actor Lou Pucci has been cast as the main character; though he looks about 15, word is that he's actually 20. Pucci's once light-brown hair has been dyed a harsh black and cut into spiky tufts, the carefully hand-drawn "tattoos" that a make-up artist applied earlier look indistinguishable from the real thing.

"We've totally transformed him," confides Lynch. "He was..."
I was a mall-rat. I was all about skateboarding."

While visiting the University of San Diego campus as a high school senior, he spotted a student whizzing by on a skateboard. That was enough to convince Lynch that USD was the school for him. The communications major looks back on his college years with great affection, at least partly because he met his future wife, Jennifer (Loftus) Lynch '95 during their first few weeks as freshmen.

“She was on the volleyball team, and I was on the football team, so we both had to get to school early for practice. We checked each other out pretty early on.” After graduation, Lynch knew he wanted to stay in California; he was less certain about what he was going to do with his freshly minted degree.

“That itch to evolve is what nudged Lynch’s career to the next level, along with a combination of hard work, luck and perseverance. Not that the glam factor had actually kicked in yet: “I knew a guy who was making music videos in Los Angeles, so I started driving back and forth and crashing on people’s couches every night.”

Lynch finally got his break when he made his first video, for the San Diego-based rock band Blink 182, in 1998. He’d started paying close attention to the music videos that record labels were sending for possible airing on “STV,” and he noticed a particular director’s name on a lot of videos of bands he liked. “So, I found him and called him,” Lynch explains, nonchalant.

But even after that first success, he put off moving to L.A. for as long as he could, since his future anything official, there was no real payroll, and all the responsibility was falling on my shoulders. I wanted to work — really work — in the film business.” Though he looked at film school seriously enough to apply to USC and get accepted at SDSU, he ultimately decided against it.

“I am so glad I didn’t go,” he admits with relief. “It would have been a total waste of time.”

SO, HOW DOES A GUY FROM HOUSTON, TEXAS, wind up being responsible for spending hundreds of thousands of other people’s dollars? The answer, it turns out, can be found at the neighborhood mall. As a kid, Tim Lynch haunted the only surf shop in town, which, serendipitously, was across the street from his house. “I was a mall-rat,” he says with a smile. “I was all about surfing and skateboarding.”

“I was trying to figure out what the hell I was going to do. I’d been interning at an NBC affiliate and I hated it. So when I saw this local cable access show, ‘STV,’ I tracked down the house where it was filmed, walked up to the door and said, ‘I want to work for you guys.’”

Though the show, which he describes as “sort of a ‘Wayne’s World’ type of deal,” didn’t have any money to pay him, Lynch didn’t care. “They did segments on surfing, skateboarding, snowboarding, what have you. And when I came in, I brought a sense of real production values to the show.”

Though he may not have realized it at the time, that move — to jump in and do whatever needed doing on the TV show — was the sort of on-the-job training that can’t be easily duplicated. “I’d film segments, edit them, go on location to places like Hawaii and Mexico; it was great.” Lynch’s face lights up when he recalls those first heady days when the convergence of local music, surfing and skateboarding came together in what seemed a single ephemeral moment.

“Everything was getting ready to explode, but we had all of them on the show right before
wife was teaching in San Diego. “It got pretty old,” he admits. “I had a friend who’d let me sleep at his place, but would never give me my own key, so I’d have to stand out front waiting for him to come home and let me in.”

Again, one cannot help but notice the distinct lack of glitz. “So, I took the leap and moved to L.A., with Jen behind me all the way. I just bounced around town, and met one director here, another there.” And he started to get steady work almost immediately.

“What’s different about me is that I didn’t come up through the ranks. I started out at the top when I got to town, as a producer.” He pauses, perhaps worried about coming off as arrogant. “It was a different path than most people take,” he amends. “I was producing, sure, but at first it was the lowest of the low jobs.” And then?

“Well, it took a little bit of convincing people I knew what I was doing.” And sometimes he had to make it up as he went along.

“People would assume I knew things about time codes, about union rules, and I’d just nod and go home and stay up all night reading production manuals. I’d improvise.” At times, a certain amount of fudging occurred. “At first, I told people I was five years older than I was,” he laughs. “You know, to give them confidence.”

BACK AT THE TRAILER, everyone busily checks e-mail, cell phone messages and text messages. (Quite possibly these people have chips directly implanted into their brainstems.) When the producer steps into a room marked “private” to confab with director Ridley Scott, production manager Becky Brown enthuses about her many experiences working with Lynch.

“He’s fun and funny, but more important, he’s really laid back,” she says. Brown herself is not laid back. She’s more like four double expressos with a shot of nitroglycerine. “He’s got the full-on surf vibe.” She shakes her head, in either admiration or disbelief. “He’s always saying we should all slow down and take a break.”

When Lynch emerges, having reached consensus about which stock footage to intersperse in the video, he sits down — just for a minute — and sighs. Two seconds later, he’s up again, checking the schedule.

He decides that even though it’s well into the afternoon, the catering truck won’t be serving anytime soon. “We’ll blow through lunch,” Lynch says, definitive. “We’ll blow through everything we can possibly blow through.”

And blow through it they do. The next location, a graffiti-saturated underpass alongside the Los Angeles River, is not only difficult to reach but was recently populated by several dozen homeless people, which makes for both authenticity and unpleasant aromas. The storyline involves a punk rock party, and along with a fire burning in a rusty oil can, flares are periodically lit to add more smoke and drama. Sirens wail, trains chug past in the distance, cars squeal and honk, and filming commences.

After the party scene, the next segment up includes just the main character and his girlfriend. The director is “at a sensitive time,” which means that he has no patience for anything other than translating his artistic vision to film. Since this scene contains actual dialogue, absolute quiet is necessary. “Quiet on the set! Turn off your walkies, turn off your cell phones! Quiet! And we’re rolling!” The extras hold their collective breath. If one of them sneezes, they might be killed.

When a shout goes out that the shot has been captured and we’re moving on, the relief is palpable.

The logistics of getting not just dozens of actors to this spot, but also an entire crew, all sorts of heavy equipment, generators, cords, cameras, film, coolers filled with cold drinks, snacks and chairs (yes, they are foldable and yes, they are canvas) to this supremely inconvenient location are daunting to even think about. But Tim Lynch and his crew finessed the details with such deftness that it seems that anything anyone might need has been thought of and transported here.

Except, perhaps, for a better mood for director Ridley, whose already wild hair is sticking up in hectic clumps. “He’s on edge,” a make-up woman remarks. “When the director’s on edge, it makes everyone else edgy.” Everyone, that is, except for Lynch. He’s off to the side, near the culvert that overlooks the river. Of course he’s on the phone. And naturally, he’s laughing.

“I ONLY DO THINGS WHEN I FEEL IT,” explains Lynch. “And I really enjoy working with artists.” He frequently works with RSA USA, acclaimed director Ridley Scott’s film company, and has produced music videos for all sorts of groups, ranging from White Stripes to Black Eyed Peas to Def Leppard. Which is not to say that he spurns commercials — he’s worked for companies like McDonalds, Sprite, Virgin Mobile and Nissan. But truth be told, his heart still belongs to his first love — surfing.

He’s particularly proud of the 2004 documentary, “A Broke Down Melody,” that he made with some friends. It’s a visually stunning, ruminative film that follows the ocean’s swell through South America, Polynesia and Jamaica, and has a soundtrack by musicians like Jack Johnson, Eddie Vedder and Astor Piazzolla. He’s also pleased with a commercial he recently did for ESPN that follows a group of autistic children as they’re introduced to surfing for the first time.

“When that one, the director was open to letting me into the creative process, which is great. It turned out really nice, and was such a special day,” he recalls.

“The kids were so touched by the experience. It made us all really glad to be a part of it.”

And on occasion, there is even some actual glamour. In late August, Lynch and his wife flew to Miami for the MTV Video Music Awards. Green Day won seven of the legendary “Moonman” statues, including awards for Video of the Year and Best Rock Video. Even though MTV has a policy against allowing non-musicians to hop onstage and accept awards, he still enjoyed the red-carpet hoopla and looks forward to receiving his own statue for producer of the MTV Video of the Year whenever the music network gets around to sending it. “That night was great,” recalls Lynch. “Of course my friends still tease me for going so Hollywood.”

Friendship means a lot to Tim Lynch, and he remains in touch with many of his college buddies. “We met some of our best friends at USD,” he says. “I loved going to school there. I hope some of the students there now can find out what I didn’t know: there’s this whole industry of production that works well for people who don’t fit into the business mold.” He leans back, puts his feet up. “It’s a great field for kids out of college to try; there are so many offshoots, from wardrobe to being an agent. It seems sad to go all through college, be so close to L.A. and still not know about the film business.”

But if Lynch has his way, future USD students will certainly at least know about the possibilities. “I’d like to find a film school there someday,” he says with a smile. “Maybe in 10 years, just come back to USD, do some teaching, do some surfing and help people figure out how to break in.”

According to Lynch, it’s not anywhere near as hard as it looks.

To read a review of the completed “Jesus of Suburbia” video, go to www.sandiego.edu/usdmag.
“People would just assume I knew things. I’d stay up all night. I’d improvise.”

His heart really still belongs to his first love, surfing.

Calm Zen
ire to
request after another
altruism /əˈləərɪzəm/ n: unselfish interest in the welfare of others
THE MOST INSPIRATIONAL MOMENT
of President Mary E. Lyons’ 2003 inaugural address came when she spoke of how the university community lives up to its ideals, concluding, “We can, we will, we must do more.”

And more we did. USD was ranked sixth in the nation’s “Top 10 Service Universities” in Washington Monthly’s first annual college rankings in late 2005. USD is one of the top 81 colleges for community service in the current Princeton Review Guide. And those results are in large part due to the Center for Community-Service Learning, which this year celebrates its 20th anniversary.

In researching this story, we quickly realized that there is so much good being done by those affiliated with the university that we would only just be able to scratch the surface. So consider this a primer to campus volunteerism, a snapshot of a moment in time, a quick glimpse of some of the good works that take place every single day in and around USD.
[A] IS FOR AFTERSCHOOL

The after-school program at KIPP Adelante Preparatory Academy isn’t your everyday homework help program — that’s where USD students step things up a notch, focusing on having fun while teaching kids about the real world. They prompt discussions about everything from what it’s like to go to college to the importance of healthy eating. On the latter topic, Brandye Combs, one of last fall’s coordinators, set it up like this: If you have a friend who eats pizza every day, how would you encourage her to make better choices? “They’re not afraid to discuss those real-world situations,” says Combs.

[B] IS FOR BAYSIDE

At the Bayside Community Center, USD volunteers play a major role in improving the lives of Linda Vista residents. The BCC is where immigrants, refugees and other residents receive help with emergency food rations, health screenings and other services. Volunteers are involved with everything from helping children with math problems to working in the lunch delivery program for older residents. USD students become role models who can help kids see themselves someday going to college, and they talk about trips they’ve taken so children can learn about the world. “They’re like big brothers and sisters to all the kids here,” says Opaul Vorachak ’96, director of children’s programs for the center. Many USD students have formed bonds with the children that remain tight well after graduation, thanks to e-mail. “I don’t know how our program would survive without students from USD,” Vorachak says. “That’s how incredibly important their involvement is.”

[C] IS FOR COMPASSION

Associate nursing Professor Anita Hunter is involved in projects in Mexico that provide compassionate service to vulnerable populations. A few times a year, she and other faculty and students help at a clinic outside Tijuana. She also takes nursing students to Cuernavaca for immersion Spanish courses while living at an orphanage and providing health assessments. “I’ve found international medical missions to be life-changing experiences,” Hunter says.
[D] IS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELIEF

When staffers at the nonprofit Crime Victims Fund realized many of those in need were repeat clients, they decided to start a separate program just for them. Thus was born the Domestic Violence Independence Program, which aims to provide survivors and their children with money and services that will reduce their risk of being impacted by further violence. USD business school assistant Professor Steve Standifird is board president; he says the program is unique because it provides “cash right now” to those who need it. Clients are referred by various transitional housing programs, and funds are granted for everything from therapy expenses to emergency housing to food and shelter. Standifird says that volunteers and donations are always needed; call (619) 465-4600 or go to www.crimevictimsfund.org.

[E] IS FOR EDUCATION

When students get to Monarch Schools, they’re two years behind their peers. This isn’t surprising, since the kids — who range from second graders to high school seniors — are either homeless or at-risk. More than 25 USD students currently volunteer there, providing one-on-one tutoring in every class. “It’s a positive experience for everyone,” says head teacher Ellen de la Cruz. With a mission to help the kids achieve their dream of a “normal, productive life through education,” Monarch is always looking for people to help out. Call (619) 685-8242 or go to www.monarchschools.org.

[F] IS FOR FEET

Kids in Linda Vista are provided with shoes and clothing through the practical “Shoes that Fit” program. It’s easy for those interested to take part: the kids are identified by teachers, parents and school nurses, and specifics about each child’s needs are posted on campus. Visit the Office of the Center for Awareness, Service and Action (CASA) in the University Center, Room 161 for more information about where to find names, shoe sizes and directions on how to pitch in and give those tootsies room to grow. For further information about how you can get involved, contact Andi Lovano at alovano-08@sandiego.edu.
**G IS FOR GREEK**

Philanthropic work is a big part of every sorority and fraternity on campus; these groups strive for "social justice and selfless service." During November’s Greek Week, they all banded together to raise money and donations for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Additionally, the groups held a clothing drive for the Store Front — a homeless shelter for San Diego teens — and assembled hygiene kits which were shipped to poverty stricken areas around the world. Also, a campus-wide letter writing campaign to benefit St. Jude's Children's Hospital raised tens of thousands of dollars. Now a new national philanthropic sorority called Alpha Chi Omega has sprung up at USD. The organization has a mission of providing a dedicated career mentor for every member, in order to help deserving USD students further their career pursuits. The sorority’s alumnae include U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Time magazine’s 2002 Person of the Year Sherron Watkins — the Enron whistleblower — and Deidre Downs, 2005 Miss America. To learn more, go to www.alphachiomega.org.

**H IS FOR HOSPICE**

Ann Taylor, who is earning her Ph.D. in nursing at USD, volunteers with the residents who live at Tijuana's Casa Hogar Las Memorias. The home for ex-prisoners and others with HIV/AIDS — where the showers are always cold and sometimes there's no water at all — provides hospice care and helps get the residents off drugs. Taylor has volunteered there since 2000, bringing supplies and doing whatever needs to be done. She also practices healing touch to relax the patients or relieve pain. "I'm the 'white gringo' that comes and does 'the hand thing,'" she says, smiling at their description. She brings them comfort, hope and friendship. She also brings other USD nursing students to help out. They teach the men how to maintain a sterile medical environment and do dressings more effectively. And Taylor teaches symptom management for those who don’t have the medication that could prolong their lives. "There are people 30 miles from us who have no shoes, no socks, no winter jackets," Taylor says. "It is quite a place. I love going down there. They've become like my family. They think I come to help them. They help me. They're addicted to drugs. I'm addicted to them." To find out how you can help, call Taylor at (858) 414-6188.
**[I] IS FOR IMMIGRANT**

Immigrants at both the South Sudan Community Center and the International Rescue Committee’s First Things First program benefit from the talents of USD students. FTF offers English literacy help for mothers of preschoolers. At the SCC, USD volunteers mentor children and offer homework help.

Senior Meredith Stocking, USD’s site coordinator for both programs, gets inspiration from volunteering. “It gives me a lot of perspective on how blessed I am,” she says. Stocking recently helped a woman who is learning English work on health-related vocabulary since she wants to go into health care. “For me, volunteering is about learning and connecting with people.”

**[J] IS FOR JUVENILES**

Downtown San Diego’s Toussaint Academy of the Arts and Sciences serves teens in need of a home; USD alum John Weiss ’03 (M.S.E.L.) and fellow alums find teaching self-leadership there extremely fulfilling: “The kids see that we’re just average people who are successful.” Along with teaching life skills, the group helps out with internships, jobs, grants and letters of recommendation. To learn more, go to www.toussaintacademy.org.

**[K] IS FOR KITCHEN**

Ever wonder what happens to all the campus food when the students aren’t around to eat it? For the past eight years, when Christmas break arrives, Dining Services packs up the perishables from each campus dining outlet and donates them to the Third Avenue Charitable Organization (TACO). The food is then distributed to people in need, including the homeless and local shelters.

Go to www.firstlutheransd.org/Outreach/taco.html.

**[L] IS FOR LEGAL CLINICS**

You’re a single mother cleaning houses and you’ve been hit with a half-million dollar tax bill incurred by your criminal ex-husband who’s committed fraud and fled the country. Where to turn for help? USD Legal Clinics exists for situations just like that one, and did, in fact, help the woman rid herself of the bill. Other clinic specialties include helping children get their special needs met by their schools.

Call (619) 260-7470.
**[M] IS FOR MATH**

Math strikes fear into roughly half the population. Assistant math Professor Perla Myers aims to show elementary students how it can be — gulp — fun. “It helps them see that math is not something they should fear,” says Myers, also a volunteer elementary math teacher. Every semester, Family Math Night gives aspiring teachers a chance to experience how great it is to see a kid get a math concept. Math professor Lynn McGrath and School of Leadership and Education Sciences professor Bobbi Hansen also have gotten their students involved in Family Math Night. Parents have reported their children were so fired up afterward, they wanted to do more math. Contact Myers at (619) 260-4600, ext. 7932.

**[N] IS FOR NEPAL**

The Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice has been working to end the crisis in Nepal since the institute opened. While grants cover many of the activities, it’s IPJ volunteer interns who compile information for the online Peace and Justice Update on Nepal and other countries in conflict. “They learn a lot about issues like human rights,” says Dee Aker, IPJ’s deputy director. “Their Web updates keep USD informed about what’s going on.” The current volunteer for Nepal, Andrea Szabolesi, also prepared the briefing book for Aker’s most recent trip to Nepal. Go to http://peace.sandiego.edu/programs/nepal.html.

**[O] IS FOR ONE**

Described as a “diverse coalition of faith-based and anti-poverty organizers,” the ONE campaign was launched by a coalition of activists, including U2’s Bono, and is endorsed by celebrities ranging from Tom Hanks to Cameron Diaz in an effort to rally Americans — one by one — to fight extreme poverty and global AIDS. Currently, students are planning a “ONE in the Classroom Day” and a possible trip to Washington, D.C., where a student will have the chance to lobby on behalf of the ONE campaign. To learn more, go to www.one.org.

**[P] IS FOR PRISONS**

“If you believe in God’s forgiveness, if one soul can be saved, maybe we’ve done our job.” That’s John Ferber, director of commercial real estate for the Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate, talking about his work with the Kairos Prison Ministry program. At the R.J. Donovan Correctional Facility where he works with inmates, most are in for life. “They have nothing to look forward to except maybe the after-life.” The program gives inmates hope, inspiration, love and forgiveness. Is that hard? “Yes and no. We’re there mostly to listen. We’re not preaching at them,” says Ferber. To learn more about the program, go to www.kairosprisonministry.org.
[Q] IS FOR QUALITY OF LIFE
The Thanksgiving House project is all about improving the quality of life for an older Linda Vista resident who may not be able to keep up with home repairs. Graduate students and other volunteers gather resources and learn to do painting, plumbing, carpentry — whatever needs to be done. They perform the work just before Thanksgiving, turning over a much-improved home in time for the holiday. Professor Barbara Withers began the project to provide valuable project management experience to business students, but the students get much more out of it. Meeting the elderly blind man and his son who received the latest home makeover was heartwarming, says Christy Soto, an M.B.A. student and one of last fall’s two project managers. “They were very sweet, and I think that really touched our hearts and drew us into the project,” she adds. To get involved, go to www.sandiego.edu/thanksgivinghouse.

[R] IS FOR ROMERO CENTER
No story about USD’s impact on the wider world would be complete without a shout-out to the Oscar Romero Center for Faith in Action. An off-shoot of University Ministry, the center runs immersion trips, consciousness-raising events and ongoing programs that include preparing meals every Thursday at downtown San Diego’s St. Vincent de Paul soup kitchen. Coordinator Glen Davis says that outreach emphasizes theological reflection: “We always talk about why we’re doing this,” he says. “We try to root our actions in the principles of Catholic social teaching.” Call (619) 260-4897.

[S] IS FOR SERVICE
Led with serene capability by director Elaine Elliott, the Center for Community-Service Learning is an incredibly busy place. More than 800 students signed up for CSL during the fall semester, with 100 more work study students, not to mention the 600 or so who volunteer under their own steam. When asked to point to a single program that epitomizes campus philanthropy, Elliott simply laughs: “There’s the Social Issues Committee and the Trans-Border Institute. And long-term service, like the Peace Corps. And the law school clinics and the trips to Tijuana and ...” To learn more, call (619) 260-4798.
**[T] IS FOR TAX RETURNS**

When accounting Professor Tom Dalton was in practice as a CPA, he relished the times when he could waive his fee to help an elderly couple who had a complicated tax situation, but couldn’t afford to hire an accountant. Now, he volunteers his services for the nonprofit Friends of the Poor, which collects clothing and money for people in Mexico. “It’s a tremendous organization that does a tremendous amount of good. I try to keep them in good graces with the government.” That and other volunteer tax help he provides give him a good feeling, he says.

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**[U] IS FOR UNDERSERVED**

Lack of health insurance is a grim fact of life for many. Thankfully, health professionals like Cheryl Ahern-Lehmann, Adult Nurse Practitioner and Associate Clinical Professor, step in, pro bono. She takes her students to San Diego’s St. Vincent de Paul clinic, where they provide exams. And every spring, Ahern-Lehmann and students volunteer at the San Diego Women’s Health Care Fair, where they provide care to homeless and poor women. She also serves as faculty “ambassador” for the National Health Service Corps Scholarship Program, which awards scholarships to those interested in working with the health-care underserved after graduation.

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**[V] IS FOR VOLUNTEERING AS A TEAM**

While it stands to reason that USD athletics teams would band together to improve their skills and beat their opponents, there’s a philanthropic tendency at work that may be less apparent: The women’s basketball team is committed to mentoring students at downtown San Diego’s Kimbrough Elementary School, and all women’s teams get together for Women and Girls in Sports Day, when mini-clinics are set up for girls to practice athletic skills. Every year, the men’s golf team volunteers time to help the PGA Tour raise money for their charitable organizations. Around the holidays, the whole Toreros community gets involved with November’s TLC Toy Drive, where attendees bring new unwrapped toys to games for needy families. Additionally, more than 75 student athletes volunteer to shop with underprivileged children to help them pick out gifts for their families and themselves during the Christmas season.
[W] IS FOR WILDLIFE

Save the wolf. That’s something psychology professor Dan Moriarty helps do through his longtime involvement with the California Wolf Center near Julian. “I think we’re making significant contributions to maintain our nation’s ecological integrity while rescuing at least one endangered species,” Moriarty says. He’s gotten a steady stream of USD students involved. The work is gratifying: “You can’t help but form a connection to the animals in your care,” Moriarty says. A recent release into the wild of a wolf from the center “was very emotional for everyone and a very exciting moment.” Go to www.californiawolfcenter.org.

[X Y Z] IS FOR ALL THE REST

In putting this story together, it occurred to us that it might have been easier to talk about who isn’t volunteering at USD than it was to select a mere handful from the hundreds of altruists who populate every campus nook and cranny. While it’s inevitable we’ve left many people and projects out, we wanted to shoehorn in a few more selfless souls: Newly created charter school Keiller Leadership Academy has enlisted Lonnie Rowell, Lea Hubbard and Dean Paula Cordeiro of the School of Leadership and Education Sciences to work with students in the classrooms, help increase student academic achievement and serve as members of Keiller’s Board of Directors ... The English department’s David Hay directs the Southeast San Diego Tutoring Program, which lets USD students work one-on-one with kids who need extra help ... Associate Professor of Nursing Kathy James speaks to groups about healthy eating ... Florence Gillman, Chair of the Department of Theology and Religious Studies, is an usher co-captain — along with her husband — at the Old Globe Theatre ... And finally, theology professor Jim Ewing volunteers with one of his students as a counselor to the homeless who seek help through the UCSD medical clinic at First Lutheran Church in downtown San Diego. Keep up the good work.

To learn more about volunteering opportunities go to www.sandiego.edu/usdmag.
KIMBERLY BOSWELL (B.A.)
lives in New Orleans, and is finishing up her first year at Tulane Medical School. She says she is enjoying the South, the culture and the food and is looking forward to her career, possibly as a trauma surgeon. She expects to graduate in May 2008, and hopes to move back to California.

KIMBERLY BOSWELL (B.A.)
is a second-year medical student at Tulane Medical School, though she attends classes at Baylor University in Houston, due to an arrangement between the schools after Hurricane Katrina ripped through New Orleans. She still hopes to graduate in May 2008.

EYE OF THE STORM
by Kelly Knufken
Of course there’s more to Kimberly Boswell’s revised Class Note than the broad brush strokes in the captions above. When Hurricane Katrina struck at the end of August, she was three weeks into her second year of medical school, and was winding down with fellow students from their first set of exams. She and her friends evacuated to Houston on Sunday, Aug. 28, the day before the hurricane made landfall in Louisiana and Mississippi. A few days afterward, the group went to Baton Rouge, where they put their nascent medical training to the ultimate test.

“I was in essentially a M.A.S.H. unit — that’s what it felt like and looked like,” she says, describing the makeshift medical facility set up in the basketball arena at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. “We were kind of doing everything — drawing blood, starting IVs and working with physicians to fill prescriptions.”

She and her classmates focused on getting patients stable enough to move to a shelter and helping to determine which ones needed hospitalization or dialysis. They even helped people make contact with missing family members, facilitating some reunions in those chaotic times when phone service was hard to come by.

After evacuating, she found out that her condo, about a mile from the Superdome, wasn’t damaged in the hurricane. But she didn’t come through unscathed — looters made off with some of her belongings.
Boswell restarted her studies as a Tulane student with Tulane professors at Baylor University. She and her fellow students have a month to make up during the school year, and expect to do so by working through both Mardi Gras and Spring Break.

“The Tulane administration has been incredible,” she says. “They’ve established a place for all of us to go together. On top of that, they’ve found a lot of housing for students now in need of financial assistance.”

Boswell is just beginning to be able to put the experience she’s been through into context. “It’s such a massive catastrophe,” she says, looking back. “It’s hard to fathom, even after being intimately involved with it. We learned a lot. It was probably some of the best experience we will ever have.”

And if you’d like proof that inspiration can be found in the most unlikely situations, look no further.

“I will always go to disaster situations now to help,” she says with conviction. “Just seeing how desperate they were even for first-year medical students who really don’t know that much, it was just incredible.”

[1962] RITA FLYNN (B.A.) is a faculty member of UCLA’s Principal Leadership Institute, a master’s degree program for future urban school administrators. She is married to Ralph Frerichs, professor of epidemiology at UCLA’s School of Public Health.

MARGARET (D’AGOSTINO) THOMPSON (B.A.) retired from teaching music after 42 years, but still volunteers as teacher of a percussion ensemble called “Drummin’ Cats,” which she describes as a group similar to “Stomp.” Margaret recently completed 15 years as her parish’s wedding coordinator, and says she and her husband sing with the Las Vegas Philharmonic Chorus. She has five wonderful grandchildren, mentors new music teachers for Clark County School District and loves to travel.

[1964] SISTER MARY FRANCES REIS (B.A.) says even though she received master’s degrees from the University of Minnesota and Fordham University, she does appreciate her years at USD. The excellent biology program continues to impact her ministry as hospice chaplain for the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Missouri. “In this time of environmental awareness, I deeply appreciate the early studies in ecology way back in the ’60s,” she says. “Thank you.”

RENÉ LAMAR SCHEUERMANN (B.A.) is an investor in the Carrizo Gorge Railway, and celebrated its reopening to Imperial Valley in February 2004. On Jan. 19, 2005, Lamar welcomed the birth of his sixth grandchild, Ian Hyatt.

[1966] PAMELA (BECKETT) STAHL (B.A.) in 1973 assisted in founding a peer support group for amputees. The nonprofit organization, called Amputees in Motion International, primarily serves amputees and their loved ones and caretakers in San Diego County, but fields requests from around the United States and the world. The organization celebrated its 32nd anniversary in October. For information, call (858) 454-9300.

[1970] BILL HITT (J.D.) graduated in 2003 from the Claremont School of Theology with a master’s of divinity. He currently is assigned as the senior pastor at the United Methodist Church in Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.

ROSEMARY JOHNSON (B.A., M.A. ‘90) was awarded the distinguished citizen award by the San Diego County Bar Association, and the community service award by the Lawyers Club of San Diego, for her advocacy on homeless issues. She recently received her certificate in preaching from the Aquinas Institute of Theology, located on the campus of St. Louis University. She has served as program director of the Interfaith Shelter Network since 1997.

[1972] CAROLYN FLIEGNER (B.A.) is a wedding and portrait photographer who owns a photography business in San Diego. She recently changed the business name from Carolyn Marie Photography to Charisma Photography. She runs the business out of her Mira Mesa, Calif., home, which she shares with her cat, Tiger. Carolyn reports that she often is on the USD campus to photograph weddings and says the campus really has blossomed over the years.

[1973] LISA (MC CLOSKEY) GESERICK (B.A.) says her son, Matt, graduated from Bellarmine College Prep in San Jose, Calif. In the fall, he began studying architecture at the University of Idaho. Lisa and husband Dave are planning a safari trip to South Africa in May 2006.

[1974] THERESÉ FRANÇOIS (M.ED., M.A. ‘89) has been a kindergarten and first-grade teacher at St. Michael’s School since 1973. She has been the assistant principal for six years and has a grown daughter, Ericka Francois (B.A. ‘02).

[1975] C. DAN CONAWAY (J.D.) retired after 30 years of practicing law. He says that at 62, he’s ready. Dan will continue his nonprofit affiliations and look for other things to do, but
emphasizes that they won’t be too strenuous. “Maybe I’ll be the plant watering person at the local Home Depot. It’s my wife’s insolent idea. Or a gate guard at a gated community — another of her ideas,” he says. “Seriously, I intend to stay busy and enthused about a number of things that interest me.”

JOSEPH WILIMEK (M.A.T.) is beginning his 15th year as superintendent of the Bret Harte Union High School District in California’s Calaveras County, the home of the Jumping Bullfrogs. He retired as a lieutenant colonel from the United States Marine Corps Reserve and is a member of the choir and a soloist at the University Christian Church. Louis is a survivor of throat cancer. “Going on four years clear,” he says.

MAUREEN (GRIFFIN) RICKETTS (B.A., M.ED. ‘78) has been singing spiritual music at various gatherings, including in Douglas, Ariz., for the Cancer Relay for Life and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He also is a member of the choir and a soloist at the University Christian Church. Louis is a survivor of throat cancer. “Going on four years clear,” he says.

SALLY (GOLDFARB) GREER (B.A., M.A. ’77) enjoyed a recent USD meeting held in Washington, D.C., and was proud of the beautiful development of the campus. In the area of career, Sally still is in private practice. She no longer is with the Department of State and is looking forward to being involved with the Alumni Career Network.

DENESE MCGUIRE (J.D.) recently retired from her position as chief deputy of the San Diego District Attorney’s Office.

MAUREEN (GRiffin) RICKETTS (B.A., M.ED. ’78) was finishing her third year as an elementary school principal, and says she loves every minute of it. Her oldest daughter, Erin, 23, just graduated from San Jose State University with a degree in business administration. Her son, Sean, 21, attends DeAnza College and daughter Colleen, 17, attends Cupertino High School.

MICHELLE PON GURNEE (B.A.) celebrated her 10-year anniversary on June 24, 2005. She and her husband enjoy traveling.

SILVIA (FERRER) MCGRADE (B.A., M.ED. ’79) works as a literacy support resource teacher for San Diego City Schools. Her husband, Paul McGrade (B.B.A. ’78), is self-employed, involved with commercial real estate acquisitions and other ventures. They have two children, Jason, 23, and Katelyn, 15.

LOUIS MCKAY (B.A., M.ED. ’80) has been singing spiritual music at various gatherings, including in Douglas, Ariz., for the Cancer Relay for Life and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He also is a member of the choir and a soloist at the University Christian Church. Louis is a survivor of throat cancer. “Going on four years clear,” he says.

JOHN YORCHAK (B.A.) is senior director of human factors at Avaya in Westminster, Colo. He is proud that his oldest son, Nick, is in the Class of 2008 at USD. John plans to celebrate, as his 30th reunion is the same year that Nick graduates.

RUTH (FRIEDRICH) ERNE (B.S.N.) reports that she has been in a solo practice, as a master level advanced practice nurse practitioner, for 25 years. She has a successful family practice, with between 4,000 and 5,000 patients, and slowly is reducing her hours, because she no longer wants to work 14-hour days, six days a week. Ruth says she has loved her career and hopes more nurse practitioners who are adequately educated and experienced will go into private practice. “My hunch is that with universal health care — it is coming — the nurse practitioner will be the first-level provider. I never dreamed when I graduated with an R.N. in 1956, that I could ever have such an exciting and fulfilling professional life,” she says.

ALICE YARDUM-HUNTER (J.D.) was honored for the second time in the “Super Lawyer 2005” issue of Los Angeles Magazine, in its immigration law category. Alice represents foreign citizens, their American employers and their close relatives, and is an expert witness in cases where immigration law issues impact litigation.

SISTER ANASTASIA LOTT (B.A.) returned to the United States in July 2003 after spending 15 years in the African nations of Kenya and Namibia. Now she is a planned giving director. “A very different life compared to leadership and health training in rural Africa,” she says.

MARK A. WALDSCHMIDT (B.B.A., M.B.A. ’86) has been married to his wife, Debbie, for 20 years. They have two daughters, ages 18 and 16, Amanda is a freshman at the University of Pacific and Tara is a junior at Mt. Carmel High School. Mark just completed his 25th year at SAIC, where he has worked since graduating from USD in 1979.

1980s

MARY (MADOK) CAREY (B.B.A.) has been busy with husband Peter, raising four daughters: Katie, 20, a junior at Santa Clara University; Elizabeth, 19, a sophomore at the University of San Francisco; Anne, 17, a senior at USD High School/Cathedral High School; and Jane, 15, a sophomore at the same high school. Mary works as a CPA in practice with her husband, representing a high fashion women’s clothing line and designing interiors for MRI centers, as well as for a restaurant in San Diego.

CYNTHIA (CAYABYAB) CALLO (B.A.) says her 22-year-old daughter, Alexis Marquez, graduated magna cum laude from Columbia University’s Barnard College in May. To celebrate, the family took a six-week trip to Europe. Cynthia’s younger daughter, Schuyler Marquez, who is a junior at High Tech High School in the Point Loma area of San Diego, also is doing well, successfully completing a summer course in corporate sociology and American dance at Columbia University.

JIL GOEBEL (B.B.A., M.B.A. ’82) and her husband, Randel, have lived in Colorado Springs, and celebrate 20 years of marriage this year. They are co-owners and co-founders of Origen Communications, an advertising and public relations firm, specializing in technology companies. They’ve been in business 19 years. Their son, Parker, graduated from eighth grade and entered high school in the fall.

NICK KRALL (B.A.) says he enjoys helping plan alumni events in Los Angeles. He also said that he and his wife hope to buy some horses this year. Nick says after moving to Sylmar, Calif., two years ago, he decided to run for the neighborhood council, a smaller, local component of the Los Angeles City Council. As co-chair of the land-use and open-space committee, he contacts residents and builders, holds public meetings to assess public opinion, seeks compromise with developers and attends Planning Commission and City Council hearings several times a week. “It’s the toughest and most rewarding volunteer position (outside of marriage) I’ve ever experienced,” he says. “And it’s the most involved I’ve been in any community since my years at USD.”

CAROL (SANTANGELO) LOVEJOY (B.B.A.) says her oldest son, Ryan, is a senior at St. Augustine High School.

ANITA (GEMPERLE) MAHAFEEY (B.B.A.) started a business, Funika U.S., which produces home textile products in Turkey and China. The company ships to about 40 different countries. While growing the business, Anita and her husband, Mike, also are raising three children: Kevin, 20, who attends University of Southern California; Brian, 18, who started at USC in the fall; and Kelly, 10, who is in the fifth grade. Anita says she’s considering slowing the business in the next year or so to enjoy family and friends more.

BARBARA O’BRIEN (B.S.N.) retired from the U.S. Nurse Corps in 1994 after more than 26 years on active duty. She moved to Hilton Head Island, S.C., in 2000, to begin a great life in retirement. Barbara says she’s become an avid golfer along with her husband.

CLARISSA ROSAS (B.A.) says after graduating from USD, she received a doctorate from the University of New Mexico. While in New Mexico, she was a teacher, school administrator, district administrator and then a professor at the College of Santa Fe. In 2000, her family moved to Cincinnati, where she was the chair of the education department for the College of Mount Saint Joseph. In August 2004, Clarissa was awarded a $375,000 grant to start one of two Charter Colleges of Education.
KATHLEEN FIEDLER-GILMORE (B.A.) has four daughters: Morgan, 20, a sophomore at USD; Lauren, 19, a freshman at Vassar College; Lindsey, 18, a senior in high school; and Callie, 15, a sophomore in high school. Kathleen says she married husband Bill in May 2003. She’s working on her master’s degree, while living, skiing and playing in beautiful Sandpoint, Idaho.

ROBERT HARRISON (J.D.), past president of the Association of Southern California Defense Counsel, was honored in January by the San Diego Defense Lawyers as the 2004 Defense Lawyer of the Year.

RICK LEON (B.B.A.) has been spending his time surfing and watching his daughter, Nina, jump her horses and prepare for the Olympics.

JEFFREY E. THOMA (J.D.) and his wife, Kim, celebrated the birth of their first baby, Charles Ryan, on Dec. 5, 2004. Jeff was appointed public defender for Solano County, Calif., after serving as the public defender for Mendocino County for more than seven years.

LESA CHRISTENSON (B.A., J.D. ’85) says that in April her law firm, Ashworth, Blanchet, Christenson, & Kalemkiarian, moved into a building it purchased at Third Avenue and Juniper Street in the Banker’s Hill neighborhood of San Diego. The firm specializes in family law matters.

CLAUDIA (DENIGAN) COX (B.A.) reports that her husband is an attorney. Her son, Brian, graduated from St. Augustine High School in 2004 and, this fall, expected to begin his sophomore year studying pre-med at Georgetown University. Her daughter, Haley Anne, expected to begin her sophomore year at Our Lady of Peace High School, and wants to attend USD.

KATHRYN KITCHEN-GALUPPO (B.A., M.A. ’87) says her husband, Louis Galuppo, is the residential real estate director at the Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate in the School of Business Administration at USD. Her son attends Cathedral Catholic High School, while her daughter attends St. John School in Encinitas. Kathryn continues to teach, time permitting.

JOHN HAYNES (B.A.) was forced to retire because of muscular dystrophy. Now he’s on the board of directors for the Challenge Center.

LESLEY (CONLIN) SACKO (B.S.) and her husband, Al, celebrated their 20th anniversary on Aug. 17. They met in San Diego while working at the National City Mile of Cars. Al is from the Philadelphia area and graduated from Penn State. Leslie is from San Diego and recently received an M.B.A. from Pepperdine University.

VINCE SKAHILL (B.A.) and his wife, Donna, formed a real estate/loan consulting partnership. They have been married for 22 years. Their son, Eric, is a sophomore at the University of California, Los Angeles. Greg is a senior at Patrick Henry High School in San Diego. Vince and Donna are enjoying their new partnership in the real estate venue and look forward to helping people achieve their dreams.

KEVIN BOVÉE (B.B.A.) has been happily married for 10 years. He and his bride, Shirley, live in Coronado, Calif., and have three daughters: Kathryn, 9, Carolyn, 7; and Lauren, 3. He’s been working as a sales rep in the electronics industry for more than 18 years, 10 years with Arrow Electronics.

HANG A RIGHT David Weiss ’92 (B.B.A.) has been a firefighter for nine years, the last six with the Westminster Fire Department in Colorado. In addition to his title as firefighter/engineer, he’s also a fire investigator who determines whether fires are accidental or due to arson. For the last year, Weiss has driven the department’s 64,000-pound, 40-foot-long ladder truck. He says the biggest challenge is making right turns without slamming into corners, curbs, cars or people. “I haven’t had an accident yet,” quips Weiss, who admits his co-workers constantly tease him because his “other vehicle” is a relatively tiny 2000 Volkswagen Jetta.

KEVIN BOVÉE (B.B.A.) has been happily married for 10 years. He and his bride, Shirley, live in Coronado, Calif., and have three daughters: Kathryn, 9, Carolyn, 7; and Lauren, 3. He’s been working as a sales rep in the electronics industry for more than 18 years, 10 years with Arrow Electronics.
[1990]

CARLA (CAGGIANO) ELKINS (B.A.) had her first son, Andrew Lawrence, in 2000, and her second son, Alexander Patrick, in 2002. She was married in 1996 to Timothy Elkins. Carla received a master’s in education from National University.

KELLY (ENGLAND) MCELWAIN (B.A.) says she and her family are enjoying their new country life, and she loves being a stay-at-home mom to girls Taylor, 3, and Kate, 1. “The girls keep me busy with their activities,” she reports. Husband Doug continues his work for the Department of Justice and travels quite a bit. The family was planning a trip last fall to California for the baptism of the first baby of Kelly’s sister, Erin (England) Acosta (B.A. ’90).

STACEY HALEBSKY (B.A., M.ED. ’92) says she is enjoying staying at home with children Brandon, a kindergartner, and 2½-year-old Danielle. She and husband Bret were preparing to celebrate their 10th anniversary.

PATRICIA MARINO (B.A.) and her husband had their second baby, Tate Huntley, on Feb. 4, 2005. Tate’s older sister is Gia.

AMY (MARSHALL) HAMER (B.A., M.ED. ’91) is enjoying staying at home with her 3-year-old, Olivia. “There is no greater job,” she says.

DANI NEWMAN (M.B.A.) recently accepted a position as clinical direc-
MELISSA CONWAY HARTMAN (B.A.) lives in Jacksonville, Fla., where she works part time in a chiropractic office and her husband, Tony, runs a masonry company. They have three girls: Clare, 6; Madeline, 4; and Mary Alice, 6 months.

ARNIE GARCIA (B.A.) and Kristina Peterson were wed on July 16, 2005, with a nuptial Mass at Founders Chapel. The following USD alumni were in attendance: celebrant the Rev. Daniel Dillabough (B.A. ’70); Bradley Weinstein (B.A. ’91); Rosanna Paez (B.A. ’92); Georgina Diaz (B.A. ’92); Renee (Bukovich) van Vechten (B.A. ’91); Charlie van Vechten (B.A. ’90); Christine Palecek (B.B.A. ’92); Julie (Dodge) Pavek (B.A. ’93); MaryLou Scott (M.S.N. ’98); and Alex Rocha (J.D. ’99). The couple honeymooned in Banff and Jasper National Parks in Alberta, Canada, and are making their home in San Diego.

DAVID HOILES (B.A.) and wife Theresa announced the birth of their second son, Jonathan, born March 14, 2005. He joined big brother David, 3.

KATHRYN KENNEDY (B.A.) has three children: Hanna, 9; Matt, 7; and Trey, 3. Kathryn coaches developmental swimming, and hopes to get back into teaching soon.

MICHAEL KIM (J.D.) is a partner at Peters & Freedman, where he represents homeowners associations as general counsel and specializes in litigation.

JASON MORRIS (B.A.), a partner in the Phoenix law firm of Withey, Anderson & Morris, was named chairman of the city’s License Appeals Board and appointed to the Maricopa County Transportation Advisory Board. He was one of three zoning and land use attorneys named in the Phoenix Business Journal’s Best of the Bar survey.

TAMARA TUITE (B.B.A.) married Paul Vabakos on Aug. 28, 2004, at Stanford Memorial Church. They spent two weeks in London and Paris for their honeymoon, and now live in Menlo Park, Calif. Paul is starting a hedge fund and the couple also is starting a consulting business. Tamara still rides horses in the hunter-jumper discipline and has several championship titles as an amateur on her horse, Ruler of the Fleet.

STEPHANIE THOMPSON TAITANO (B.A.) and husband Jason Taitano (B.A. ’92) have two children, Adam, 5, and Alexandra, 3. Jason works in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Stephanie is pursuing a graduate degree in literature and teaching freshman writing at the University of Texas at Arlington.

KATIE (CONNELLY) WILSON (B.B.A.) and Steve Wilson (B.A. ’92) announced the arrival of their first daughter Zoe Madelyn, born on Dec. 1, 2004. She joins big sister Alexa, 3. The family lives in San Jose, Calif., where Steve is vice president of product engineering for Cassatt Corp. and Katie is director of sales operations for CoWare.

JEFF ERTWINE (B.A.) was in San Diego for more than three years flying FA-18s from Afghanistan to Iraq to Japan and passing 2,000 hours in the Hornet. He recently moved with his family to Tampa, Fla., to work at MacDill Air Force Base, "where I will be flying a desk for two to three years," he says. "We are looking forward to me being at home for awhile."

ARCHI MEDRANO (B.A.) has been a senior business information analyst at HSBC Auto Finance since September 2004.

JOHN IANNARELLI (J.D.) recently was promoted from a position in FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C., to...
CARRIE OGNIBENE (B.B.A.) has been living in the eastern Sierras since 1995. For the past 10 years, Carrie has been a massage therapist and holistic health practitioner. Since 2001, she has owned the Healing Art Centre in Mammoth Lakes, Calif. “I have a balanced life of working hard and playing hard up here in the mountains,” she says. “Life is great! Smiles from Carrie.”

NOELLE STAREK (B.A.) and her husband had another baby, Samuel Michael, in June 2004. “We’ve been busy building a new house to fit the children,” she says. Noelle was promoted to counsel for the West Virginia Senate Government Organization Committee.

NANCY STARK-OPSAHL (M.S.N.) has returned to San Diego and is a nurse manager for Scripps Clinical Research Center. She lives in the Point Loma area of San Diego with husband Carl and 6-year-old twins Annalee and Alexander.

TRACY (WILLIAMS) PATTON (B.A.) was married on April 30, 2005, to Air Force Maj. Jeffery Scott Patton in Boise, Idaho. They live in Destin, Fla.

DANA (BECKER) ROLOFF (B.A.) and husband Peter Roloff (B.A. ’92) had a baby girl, Jane Olivia, in January 2005. Dana and Peter live in Pacific Beach. Dana is a therapist at Children’s Hospital, and Peter is an internal medicine doctor, practicing in San Diego.

ERIN BOYD (B.A., M.A.T. ’99) married her longtime love, Joshua Hyatt, on April 2, 2005, in Dana Point, Calif. They honeymooned in the Napa Valley and live in Santa Ana, Calif., where Erin teaches sixth grade social studies at Mendez Fundamental Intermediate School. Josh is the marketing director of a global relocation firm.

VERONICA DIAZ (M.ED.) finished her Ph.D. in science and technology policy at the University of Arizona in May 2004. She lives in Tucson, Ariz., and is working in the field of publishing in learning technology.

[ a sung hero ]

BRAD KIRN [1972-2005] (B.B.A. ‘96), who was an active member of USD’s orientation program, passed away on Sept. 15, 2005, less than a year after being diagnosed with a brain tumor. He was 33.

It was his second battle against cancer. Shortly after transferring to USD in 1993, Brad was diagnosed with Hodgkin’s Lymphoma, and successfully conquered it with radiation therapy.

Brad, who by day worked for Qualcomm in corporate research and business development, was a musician by night. His band, Kirn Kounty, played at clubs like downtown’s 4th & B and the Belly Up Tavern in Solana Beach. In 1997, the band won a VH1 “Hometown Heroes” contest and opened for ex-Bangle Susanna Hoffs.

“They don’t come any better than Brad,” says his wife of five years, Kirstin (Gracyzk) Kirn (B.A. ‘96). “He was really funny and had a heart of gold. He was honest, loyal, thoughtful and truly cared about everyone.”

Kirstin is creating a memory book for their son Nathan, 19 months old. Friends, faculty and classmates who have stories to share about Brad can e-mail Kirstin at kirstin@bradkirn.com. To read about Brad’s fight against cancer, see photos, listen to his music or donate to Nathan’s college fund, go to www.bradkirn.com.
TRICIA (ALLEN) FISCHER (B.A.C.) still works as an energy trader for Tacoma Power. She spends most of her time with her 7-month-old son, Lucas, and husband Craig. “I continue to train for and participate in triathlons, my other passion,” Tricia says.

MICHAEL FREEHILL (B.A.) is an orthopedic surgery resident at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore.

JÉNELLE SMITH PASQUAN (B.A.) moved to Seattle in 2001, where she met her husband, a Seattle police officer. In April 2005, they had a daughter, Savannah. “I am happy and I love my family,” she says.

DENISE (MARRIOTT) TAYCO (B.A.) married Freddie Tayco (B.A. ’94) on March 12, 2005, in Founders Chapel. Freddie works for Porter Novelli in San Diego, and Denise is a science teacher at Creative, Performing & Media Arts Magnet Middle School in Clairemont, Calif.

DAVID WOLFF (B.B.A.) works with pensions. He’s been a teen mentor through his church for nearly four years, and says his passion is “our youth.”

JULIE (MCKEON) VAZQUEZ (B.A.) and husband Tito welcomed the birth of their second son, Tomas, on March 30, 2005. They also have a 2-year-old son, Carlos. The family lives in Tampa, Fla.


KRYSLYNN (BRUMBAUGH) LAW (B.A.) and her husband, Matt, welcomed their first child, daughter Maya Vianne, on March 28, 2004.

MARCELA GUERRA (B.A.) graduated from law school in December 1999 and was admitted to the California Bar in June of 2000. She married on Sept. 15, 2001, and had her first child, Daniella, on June 19, 2005.

NIKKI (IGIELSKI) BENSON (B.A.), husband Erik and son Riley welcomed baby Kieman into their family in March 2005. Nikki still works at Land O’ Lakes, in research and development.

SHALINI (KHULLAR) SOLANKI (M.ED.) is married with one son. She works as a program director for a substance abuse recovery program.

CASEY KUNDE (B.A., M.A. ‘98) had her second child, Jackson Thomas, on April 17, 2005. Her first child, Leah Nicole, was born in 2003.

MATTHEW LA BELLE (B.A.), was married on August 6, 2005, to Melissa Marsh. Both are teachers in California’s Simi Valley area.

ROBERT MCGARRY (B.A.C.) and wife Erin are happy living in Hermosa Beach, Calif. “Real estate is keeping me busy, while Erin builds her pediatirc practice,” Robert reports.

DAWN (SHEBESTA) SIMONS (B.A.) and Matt Simons (B.A.C. ‘94) welcomed a son, Beau Matthew, on April 18, 2005. He joins older sister Shea Olivia, 2. The family lives in San Diego, where Matt has been promoted to vice president of finance and accounting for an orthopedic devices company.

[1996] TANYA (BOLLMANN) JOHNSON (B.B.A.) and her husband welcomed the newest addition to their family, daughter Ayana, on March 15, 2005.

MARK BREWER (B.B.A.) married Sally Brewer on Nov. 6, 2004. Mark is finishing his master’s in clinical psychology with an emphasis in marriage and family therapy at Pepperdine University. He has been working with teens who have attempted suicide at least once. “I found my dream career, and would be happy to offer information about it to other students,” he says. His wife is completing her nursing degree and expects to be a registered nurse in May.

DIANA CARSON (B.A., M.ED. ’00) was scheduled to publish her first children’s book, All the Muchos in the World, in January by Pauline Books & Media. She also recently was selected to serve on the board of directors for Protection & Advocacy Inc.

DANIELLE FERRARA (B.A.) bought a condo in San Diego’s Mission Valley recently. She works as an investigator for the San Diego County District Attorney’s Office, a job she enjoys very much.

KELLI (MENDRELLA) MAYNE (B.A.) has been happily married since Jan. 27, 2002, to Kevin Mayne, a pilot for Southwest Airlines. Kelli says she loves being a “stay-at-home mommy” to daughters Zoe, 2, and Sage, who was born in February 2005. They own a home in San Clemente, Calif., and are enjoying the beach and beautiful weather with their friends and family.

NICOLE (MESSINEO) ANTHONY (B.A.) and husband Sean welcomed a son, Jack Dylan, on March 24, 2005. The family lives in Laguna Niguel, Calif.

KIMBERLY (JACKSON) DIX (B.A.) is a recent graduate of the Iowa Writers’ Workshop. He has published stories in The New England Review and The Cimarron Review. In 2004 he won third prize in Playboy’s 20th annual college fiction contest. A story of his recently was nominated by Joyce Carol Oates for a Pushcart Prize, and in the fall of 2005 he was to hold the Dorothy & Granville Hicks Residency in Literature at Yaddo, an artists’ community in upstate New York. He is at work on a collection of linked stories, titled Sin City.

BETHA (PARRA) QUIROZ (B.B.A.) just finished the bilingual multiple subject credential program at California State University, Long Beach.

HOLLY (SENSES) SHORE (B.A.) and husband Kenny welcomed son Baxter on Feb. 8, 2005. They also have a daughter, Sadie Belle.

ROB ZAKIR (B.A.C.) is married and has a 2 1/2-year-old daughter named Laliee. Rob is the vice president of retail at a mortgage banking company in San Diego’s Sorrento Valley.

LISA (BERESFORD) BRIDGMAN (B.B.A., J.D. ‘01) and husband Dan proudly announced the birth of their son, Dylan Ryder, on Feb. 11, 2005.

JENNIFER BAILEY (B.A.) married Steve Bowhey on June 22, 2005. Jennifer is a fourth-generation manager of Olds-Olympic, her family’s petroleum company, and Steve is a parole officer. They continue to care for Jennifer’s foster son, Daniel, 14, and live in Edmonds, Wash.

KATIE (GERHARDT) DUFORD (B.S.) and husband Derek welcomed their second child, Grace Margaret, on March 27, 2005. She joins big brother Grant, 2 1/2. The family recently moved to Virginia Beach.

ROBYN (KENYON) KAMMERER (B.A.) is an account supervisor at Amies Communications in Irvine, Calif.

JENNIFER (HENDRICKER) KEEGAN (B.A.C.) and Thomas Keegan (B.A.C. ’93) announced the birth of their first child, Trevor John, on April 11, 2005.

COLLEEN ENGEL JOHNSON (B.A.) just completed law school and obtained her J.D. from the University of Nebraska. She was preparing to take the state bar exam last summer. Husband Greg Johnson (B.A. ’97) continues to enjoy his job as regional manager at Travelex. Daughter Isabella will be 2 in April.

JILL JONES (B.A.) had her first child, Hanna Kaitlin, on March 12, 2005. Jill is working in pediatrics and women’s health.

PAULYN “LYNN” LEHNER (B.B.A.) and her high school sweet-heart, Aaron Sloan, married May 22, 2004, at Little Dix resort on the island of Virgin Gorda in the British Virgin Islands.

STEPHANIE MASCOTT (B.B.A.) is a senior product manager at Upper Deck, where she’s been managing the Yu-Gi-Oh! trading card game and the AstroStyle board game. She also has been traveling to Japan and other places, and finding time to enjoy friends and “the most beautiful city of San Diego.”

LUIS MASSIEU (B.B.A.) recently founded a new corporation, Apostilla.com, which offers document legalization services. The company headquarters are in New York, with offices in London, Mexico City, Los Angeles, Miami and Houston.

RICH PAPAPIETRO (B.B.A. ’97) and wife Fran gave birth to their first child, Richard III, on Dec. 14, 2004. They recently moved to Saratoga, Calif.
TAMMI (SCHNAKENBERG) JACKSON (B.B.A.) and her husband had their first child, Jack Henry, on Nov. 8, 2004.

BRAD TALLMAN (J.D.) and wife Christa (Bardin) Tallman (J.D. ’97) welcomed daughter Catherine on Jan. 5, 2005. She joined big sister Megan, 5, and brother Ryan, 3. The family lives in San Jose, Calif.

[1998]

CHRISTOPHER CLEMO (B.A.) just graduated from the Pratt Institute, where he received a master’s in industrial design.

VERONICA CONTRERAS (B.A.) and husband Ricardo Jaimes (B.B.A. ’96) report a new addition to the family. Diego Miguel Contreras Jaimes was born June 20, 2005. “We are very happy to introduce him to the USD family because in a few years, both he and Angelito, who is 1½, will be attending USD just like their proud parents;” Veronica says. Adds Ricardo: “I want to thank my wife for giving birth to our second son. She was very brave, and I love her.”

JASON FRIEND (B.A.) and his wife, Holly, recently celebrated their second wedding anniversary. They were married in Chicago and now live in Huntington Beach, Calif. She is a junior high teacher, and Jason is a mortgage broker.

ANGELA (TREVINO) GEORGE (B.A.) started her own gift basket company, named after her daughter, Brooklyn. For information, go to www.Brooklynsbaskets.com.

MYRIAM (KNOP) THAMER (B.A.) married Jeff Thamer in 2001, and they had a baby in 2002. They now have three children, and Myriam stays home with them. With three babies, “they love to attend Mass together, but prefer to sit in the cry room,” Myriam says.

JANINE LE FEUVRE STASSEN (B.A.) just finished her master’s in comparative literature and cultural studies at the University of New Mexico. She plans to continue teaching English composition or French at the University of New Mexico.

LISA (MCDANIELS) BIGGS (B.A.) married Preston Biggs on April 17, 2005, in La Jolla. The couple honeymooned in Fiji. USD alumni in the wedding party were: Stacy Milazzo (B.A.C. ’98); Amy (Calhoun) Wu (B.A.C. ’98); Christina Westler (B.B.A. ’98), and Kris Shadoan (B.A.C. ’98). Lisa is a CPA and a manager with Deloitte & Touche in San Diego. Lisa and Preston live in La Mesa.

DR. CHRISTOPHER MORGAN (B.A.) recently began an internship year of medical residency in pathology at the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Memphis.


JESSICA PEHLERT (B.A.) and her husband welcomed their first baby, Isabella, on March 1, 2005. Jessica reports that she loves staying home with their beautiful baby girl.

JILL SMITH (B.A.) graduated from the California Western School of Law in May 2005. From 1998 to 2003, she worked in politics as a legislative policy aide for the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.

PATRICIA (SPARKS) WALSH (B.B.A.) married Dean Walsh in Del Mar on July 9, 2005. They live in Orange County. Tricia is in her fifth year of teaching.

MATTHEW STRAUHAL (B.B.A.) was married to Natalie Ballard on the Oregon coast on Oct. 2, 2004. The couple had a small private ceremony on the Pacific Ocean. They met in 2003, when Matthew worked as a counselor for migrant students and Natalie taught English. The couple was living in Portland, Ore., until their planned departure last summer to teach 10th-grade English in Quito, Ecuador, for two years.

KATHERINE VITEK (B.A.) received an M.Ed. specializing in curriculum.

CHRISTINA ZAMAN (B.B.A.) and her husband welcomed their second child, Samantha Isabelle, on March 7, 2005. They also celebrated the second anniversary of their own restaurant, Pizza My Dear, in May 2005.

[1999]

STEPHEN ARIETTA (B.B.A.) and wife Marisol (Macias) Arietta (B.A. ’99) welcomed their first child, Taylor Christina, on March 1, 2005. Stephen continues to work as a manager at a Los Angeles consulting firm. Marisol is in her fifth year of teaching first grade in Pasadena. The family lives in Monrovia, Calif.

KAREN BRAIN (B.A., B.B.A.) has worked as a Rainbow Educator at USD since 1999 and also works in children’s mental health.


MICHELLE (DYE) MATTHIAS (B.B.A.) and her husband, Robert, welcomed daughter Adreanne Rae, on Nov. 23, 2004. Michelle’s husband is stationed at the U.S. Strategic Command in Omaha, Neb. They also have a son, Arland, who was born in May 2003. Michelle is enjoying being a stay-at-home mother and will be returning to San Diego in September 2006.

CRISTINA GIAMPAOLI (B.A.) married Matthew Rinaldi on May 14, 2005, in San Francisco. A black-tie reception was held at the Fairmont Hotel. Nicole Aliloto (B.A. ’99) was maid of honor, and Jennifer Dunn (B.A. ’99) was in the wedding, as was the bride’s brother, Joseph Giampaoli (B.A. ’03). The couple bought a house and live in Novato, Calif.

PATRICK GILL (B.A., M.A. ’01) married Rebecca Yeasted, a graduate of the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, on July 31, 2005, in Orlando, Fla. Patrick and Rebecca live in Irvine, Calif. Patrick is a real estate broker associate for First Team Estates in Newport Beach, Calif., and Rebecca is in her second year of medical school at University of California, Irvine, working toward becoming a family practice pediatrician.

AMANDA (LEICHTFUSS) BALLESTROS (B.A.) and Rene Ballesteros (B.B.A. ’00) celebrated their one-year anniversary in June 2005. They live in Anaheim Hills, Calif.

MICHAEL CHIOCK (B.A.) married the former Alison Snodgrass on April 23, 2005, in Atlanta. Among USD alumni in attendance were: Stephen Arietta (B.B.A. ’99); Marisol (Macias) Arietta (B.A. ’99); Matt Dunn (B.B.A. ’99); Joy (Bems) Dunn (B.B.A. ’99); Ryan Barnhart (B.B.A. ’00); Michael Harshtrone (B.B.A./B.S. ’99); Geoff Babbitt (B.A.C. ’99); Stephanie Koepfer (B.B.A. ’99); David Karakas (B.B.A. ’99); R.J. Piscotta (B.A.C. ’99); and Scott Kirk (B.A. ’99). Michael works for Accenture in Atlanta, and Alison works for the Southern Co.

COLLEEN MULLALLY (B.A.) began veterinary school at Ross University after finishing USD. During veterinary school, she lived on the island of St. Kitts in the Caribbean. She spent her last year of school at Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine, where she graduated in January 2004. She returned to the Los Angeles area and is now finishing an internship in small animal and surgery disciplines with plans to pursue a residency in small animal emergency and critical care.

CLAIRe PATIN (B.A., M.ED. ’03) has been teaching high school math in San Diego at Francis Parker school since the fall of 1999. She also coaches the girls softball team and is the sophomore class adviser. She also is on the advisory board for the International Center for Character Education, the headquarters of which is at USD. In her free time, Claire enjoys participating in book clubs, cooking clubs and adult softball leagues. “I live in Mission Valley and enjoy all that San Diego has to offer,” she says.

HEIDI PETERSON (B.A.) married Christopher Mayon (B.B.A. ’00) in June 2004. USD alumni in the wedding party included: Mark Hofmeister (B.B.A. ’99); Tony Bertocchini (B.B.A. ’99); Andrew Firestone (B.B.A. ’98); and Matt Blangiardi (B.B.A. ’00).

KIM (PROVENCAL) OTERO (B.A.) is a resource specialist in the Poway Unified School District. She married Mark Otero (B.A. ’97) in July 2002 in Del Mar. The couple bought a
home in May 2003, and their first baby, Andrew Ryan, was born Feb. 7, 2005. Kim completed a master’s in educational administration in June 2004. Mark works for the Scripps Institution of Oceanography after completing his master’s degree at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

**PAUL ADLER (B.A.)**

living and working in San Diego. '97); Justin Jackson (B.A. '00) and Luis party included: David Fizdale (B.A. University, San Marcos. The wedding is a graduate of California State July 2, 2005, in San Francisco. Nicole reported that she and Colleen Warren **MICHELLE ANDERSON (B.A.)**

letic director at The Nativity School, a Summer 2005. Paul lives in San Teachers At Sea Voyage during **JACK REXROAD (B.A.),** a Navy Reserve petty officer second class, reported being in a routine deployment in Camp Patriot, Kuwait. As of mid-2005, Rexroad’s unit was working with the Army to provide critical combat logistics support to soldiers and Marines in Iraq and Kuwait.

**JASON SCHULTZ (B.B.A.)** married Erin O’Neill on Jan. 15 in their hometown of Anaheim Hills, Calif. USD alumni in the wedding party included: Tony Bertocchini (B.B.A. ’99); Matt Swan (B.A. ’99); Jen Schultz (B.A. ’01); and Jenay Llewellyn (B.A. ’01).

**CRAIG UHLENKOTT (B.A.)** was married to Nicole Lagomarsino on July 2, 2005, in San Francisco. Nicole is a graduate of California State University, San Marcos. The wedding party included: David Fizdale (B.A. ’97); Justin Jackson (B.A. ’00) and Luis Victorio (B.A.C. ’00). The couple is living and working in San Diego.

**2000s**

**[2000] PAUL ADLER (B.A.)** is a graduate student at USD’s School of Leadership and Education Sciences. He attended the Semester at Sea’s At Sea Voyage during Summer 2005. Paul lives in San Diego’s Mission Valley and is the athletic director at The Nativty School, a private Catholic elementary school in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.

**MICHELLE ANDERSON (B.A.)** reported that she and Colleen Warren (B.B.A.) expected to graduate in May from the University of Pacific’s School of Law. Both women are taking the California Bar exam, at the end of July. Colleen will be moving to Orange County, Calif., after the bar exam and Michelle planned to stay in Sacramento, Calif., and recruit for McGeorge during the fall.

**ERICA BIXBY (B.B.A.)** married Matthew Upshur on July 30 in Founders Chapel. She met Matthew when she moved to Michigan for a job. She works on the Circuit City account at Doner Advertising in Michigan.

**KRISTIN (MCMAHON) COVARRUBIAS (B.A.)** teaches a bilingual first-grade class. She says her daughter, Tori, recently celebrated her first birthday.

**KATHLEEN (BERG) GALINDO (B.A.)** recently completed the first year of a two-year master’s program in TESOL, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, with a certificate in language program administration. She also is employed by her school, Northern California’s Monterey Institute for International Studies, as an ESL teacher for its special programs. So far, Kathleen has worked with two different groups of university students from Japan, and says it’s been a wonderful experience. On the side, she also offers private Spanish tutoring for children, and teaches 10 hours a week of water aerobics at the Monterey Sports Center. “I guess you could say I’ve been keeping busy,” Kathleen says. “I only wish it were as warm in Monterey as it is in San Diego. I miss that weather.”

**STEPHANIE PETTIGREW (B.A.)** married Cameron Wilson (B.A. ’00) on July 23 in the Point Loma area of San Diego. Many USD alumni were in attendance. Stephanie and Cameron live in Richmond, Va., where Cameron is in his third year of medical school and where Stephanie works as a proofreader for a company that does marketing for college admissions.

**DR. JEFFREY RAMOS (B.A.)** reports that after graduating in 2004 from the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond, Va., he entered a psychiatry internship at the University of California, San Diego. He found, however, that his true calling is internal medicine, so he was expected to leave psychiatry for an internal medicine residency.

**BRIAN ROSARIO (B.B.A.)** is an assistant coach for the women’s basketball team at Cornell University. Rosario previously was an assistant at Cumberland College in Kentucky, where he helped the team reach the NAIA national tournament in three of his four seasons, including in 2004 when the Patriots captured the Mid-South Conference regular season title. Brian also expected to graduate with a master’s degree in middle school in May.

**MARLA SEBILIAN (M.B.A.)** and Garient Evans (B.A. ’98) married on May 14, on Coronado Island. The following alumni were in attendance: Leeeza (Agronnik) Pierce (M.B.A. ’00); Emilie Hersh (M.B.A. ’00); Joe Rainey (M.B.A. ’00); Kris Alandy (B.A. ’98); Eric Karakis (B.B.A. ’98); and Dean Rossman (B.A. ’98). Garient is halfway through his M.B.A. program at Duke University, and Marla manages loan operations for a regional bank in Chapel Hill, N.C.

**LINCOLN SMITH (M.B.A.)** and his wife, Shannon, celebrated the birth of their daughter, Sara-Kate Mabel, in March 2005. Sara-Kate is joined by her brother, Aidan, 2. The family lives in Boston, where Lincoln is the director of business development for Heritage Marketing and Incentives Inc.

**MANDI URBAN (J.D., M.ED. ’03)** and her husband, Christopher Lester, celebrated the birth of a baby boy, Henry Thomas, on Dec. 23, 2004.

**JOHN WILKES (B.A.)** teaches math at Ponderosa High School, and builds houses on the side. He also volunteers, along with his wife, Deanne, as a Young Life leader in California’s El Dorado County.

**[2001] AMY APPRILL (B.A.)** received a master of science in biological oceanography from the University of Hawaii. Now she is pursuing a Ph.D. degree in the same field from the same university.

**DEVON BOZLINSKI (B.A.)** says she’s been working for more than two years for SAIC. She says the company is government contracted for the Navy Marine Mammal Program, where she is a dolphin trainer.

**STEVEN K. BRUMER (LL.M.)** serves as chief financial officer and real estate transaction management firm, of which he is a co-founder.

**AMY BURKHARTSMeyer (B.A.)** graduated from Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine in May 2005, and is starting her residency in emergency medicine at St. Luke’s Hospital in Bethlehem, Penn.

**ELISA (WIECH) CADWELL (B.A., M.ED. ’03)** works as a high school teacher with disadvantaged, inner-city students. The work is challenging, yet rewarding, she writes. Elisa says she’s nearly recovered from a motorcycle accident in 2003 and thanks her friends for their thoughts and prayers.

**COOPER C’DE BACA (B.B.A.)** married wife Kelly on June 24. He’s teaching algebra at Saddleback High School in Santa Ana, Calif. He also coaches freshman football at Mission Viejo High School. “I love teaching and would recommend it to anyone who is unsure about a career,” he says.

**KAREN (BANKS) CHILD (M.A.)** and her husband, Brandon Ogden, had a baby boy named Luke Ogden on Nov. 29, 2004.

**RACHEL DANCZEK (B.A.)** expected in the fall to start a two-year master of education program at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Penn. “I still keep in touch with many of my Kappa sisters,” she says, “and miss the good times in San Diego.”

**NAVY LT. CMDR. PATRICK FOEGE (M.S.G.L.)** recently received his third Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal while serving as the maintenance officer and detachment officer in charge while assigned to Helicopter Combat Support Squadron Four, in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Patrick achieved a 100-percent mission completion rate while leading four aircraft detachments of more than 50 personnel to Rota, Spain, and Istanbul, Turkey. He also was dedicated to improving training, resulting in a 40 percent increase in maintenance qualifications.

**RON GERMAINE (ED.D.)** completed the Rock ‘n Roll Marathon on June 5. This was his first marathon, for which he began training earlier in the year.
This summer, hundreds of men, women and children who live in remote Guatemalan villages without sewers or running water — and who in some cases were suffering from disease due to lack of medical treatment — walked two hours on dirt roads to reach makeshift medical clinics set up by Debra Palmer ‘87 (M.S.N.), a nurse practitioner who was there on a medical mission.

Palmer, who works at San Diego’s Kaiser Permanente, led a medical team to two rural villages as part of a program called the Guatemala Project. She and her team set up one camp in the mountain community of Patalup, and another in a town called Chontolá.

“We brought a lot of antibiotics and pain relievers, but a lot of what we dealt with was parasite infestation,” says Palmer, who describes the signs as a bloated stomach and abdominal pain. “There’s a lack of clean water and the most basic sanitation, so parasites are a big problem.”

For the last 12 years, the Guatemala Project, under the auspices of the San Diego district of the United Methodist Church, has sent construction and medical teams to build houses, schools, churches, trade schools and health clinics in the country, which has been in civil war since the 1960s.

“Next summer the Guatemala Project will go to a village called Xeavaj, with a population of 1,000 people of whom are children,” Palmer says. “We’re building a school and will send a medical team the following summer. We’re always looking for volunteers for the medical teams and need doctors, nurses, dentists, pharmacists and podiatrists. All those skills are in great need.”

For more information, go to www.guatemalaproject.org.

ADITI GUPTA (B.B.A., M.B.A./M.S.I.T. ’05) says after working for a year and a half in San Diego, she received her master’s degree. “I am now a proudly certified M.B.A. and Master of Science IT graduate,” she says.

KIMBERLY HARVEY (B.B.A.) married Kristoffer Kalmbach (B.A. ’01) on April 9 in Sacramento, Calif. The following USD alumni were in the wedding party: Brian Harvey (B.B.A. ’98); Makenzie (Nichols) Harvey (B.A. ’98); Stephanie Casagrande (B.A. ’01); Gina Romano (B.B.A. ’01); Ross Bourne (B.B.A. ’01); and Kris Swanson (B.A. ’01). The couple honeymooned in Barbados and live in Sacramento.

CHRISTOPHE HEDGES (B.B.A.) recently was hired as a marketing director for Hedges Family Estate. He handles all marketing needs and emphasizes wine sales for Hedges in all key East Coast markets. He also owns a five-acre vineyard on Red Mountain, Washington state’s premier growing region. His wife, Maggie, who also is a business partner in the vineyard, works for Hedges Family Estate as the logistics director and private club account manager. They married on Aug. 21, 2004.

ERICA KLEIN (B.B.A.) and Tyler Huebner (B.B.A. ’01) were married on July 2, in La Cañada, Calif. The couple honeymooned in Hawaii, and now live in Long Beach, Calif.

KRISTEN (KREUZER) NIELSEN (B.A.) says she moved to Stavanger, Norway, after Jeppe Nielsen (B.B.A. ’99, M.B.A. ’01) completed his M.B.A. and they were married in Oslo in June 2002. They welcomed their beautiful daughter, Hanne, on Dec. 4, 2003, and moved to Oslo in June 2004. Jeppe enjoys working as a sales representative for the family business and keeping up on his golf game. Kristen is busy working as a Montessori preschool teacher and staying active as a member of the American Women’s Club of Oslo. Both enjoy visiting California frequently and taking advantage of the changing climate at home.

SEVAN SETIAN (B.A.) graduated in 2004 with a J.D. degree from Loyola Law School. He passed the bar examination in July 2004 and works at a law firm in Los Angeles.
CHRISTINE (MOTSCHMAN) WANNER (B.A., B.B.A ’01) lives in San Francisco and expected to receive her nursing degree in June from the University of California, San Francisco’s School of Nursing. She accepted a position at Lucille Packard Children’s Hospital in Palo Alto, Calif., in the pediatric cardiovascular intensive care unit. Christine expected to continue at UCSF in the fall to pursue a master’s of science in nursing to become a critical care/trauma clinical nurse specialist, a program she hopes to complete in June 2008.

ANTHONY GENARO (B.B.A.) runs his own music management and concert promotion firm and also is starting two new business ventures.

PATRICK CUNNINGHAM (B.A.) spent more than two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Dominican Republic. Then he worked at a salmon run in Alaska. During the summer, he expected to move to Costa Rica.

BASIL CONSIDINE (B.A.) received a master’s in public health from the St. George’s University School of Medicine and was the valedictorian speaker at her graduation. She is continuing at the university in her third year and expected her clinical rotation at New York Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn to start in the fall.

SERENA LONG (B.A.) graduated in May from University of California Hastings College of the Law.

KEVIN MCCARTHY (B.A.), along with his wife and three daughters, resides in Pahrump, Nev., and works for the Las Vegas Metro Police Department’s homeland security division. After 11 years of active duty in the United States Navy, Lt. J.G. McCarthy continues to serve his country as a naval reserve officer, stationed in Las Vegas.

TIMOTHY SEAMAN (M.A.) qualified for the 2004 Olympic team in the 20-kilometer racewalk at the U.S.A. Track and Field Olympic Trials. This was his second Olympic team, and he says it was a great honor to represent his country, family and the University of San Diego.

MONICA SULLIVAN (J.D.) and her husband, David, joyously announce the birth of their son, Carter Avery, on March 1. Monica will continue her position as law clerk to the Honorable Thomas J. Whelan in the U.S. District Court following an extended maternity leave.

GINGER WHITE (B.A.) expected to start her third year of veterinary school at the University of California, Davis, in the fall. She planned to be in San Diego over the summer, participating in an externship program at the San Diego Pet Emergency and Specialty Center.

ERIC WOHL (B.B.A.) started a new commercial real estate brokerage company and is working on retail shopping centers. He also just bought a house in Newport Beach, Calif.

DAVID BERG (B.A.) has been traveling and working in Central America. He now is back in the United States, working in Washington state.

SACHA BOUTROS (B.B.A.) is a jazz singer and composer who performs in the San Diego area and nationally. Her music frequently plays on the radio. She also started a small entertainment company that books music for weddings and events.

BASIL CONSIDINE (B.A.) just completed his first year of seminary at Boston University, studying sacred music. He is active as a composer in the Boston area.

DENIS GRASSKA (B.A.) is a staff writer for The Southern Cross, the official Catholic newspaper of the Diocese of San Diego. In June 2005, one of his articles won first-place honors in the Society of Professional Journalists, San Diego chapter, journalism competition.

ASHLEY KILLIN (B.A.) is in her first year of dental school at the University of Louisville School of Dentistry, pursuing a career in either orthodontics or pediatric dentistry.

ALISA LEDBETTER (J.D.) married William Reising Jr. (J.D. ’03) on July 30 at the St. Regis Monarch Beach in Dana Point, Calif. The following alumni were members of the wedding party: Melissa A. Cheney (J.D. ’03); Amanda Holguin (J.D. ’03); and Brian LeMoine (J.D. ’04). Bill and Alisa returned to their respective practices in Orange County, Calif., after honeymooning in Hawaii.

MEGAN ROBERTSON (B.A.) and Blake VanderGeest (B.A. ’03) were married in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., on Oct. 2, 2004. The following alumni were members of the wedding party: Emily Slama (B.A. ’03); Kasey Henrickson (B.A. ’03); Jenny Morgan (B.A. ’03); and Charlie Ruce (B.A. ’03).

ALYSON ROICE (B.A./B.S.) moved to Northern California to a small town outside of San Francisco, where she works as behavioral consultant with a nonprofit organization called PL.A.Y., Psychology, Learning and You. PL.A.Y. serves children with behavioral and social or emotional difficulties. It specializes in working with children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

MEAGAN (TINKER) SANTOS (B.A.) says her husband, Ricardo, is a sergeant in the Marine Corps. Meagan teaches in Oceanside, Calif.

ERIKA SHARP-CASTILLO (B.A.) has been a project manager for an environmental company called Gaston & Associates in Irvine, Calif., for the past two years. She lives in Laguna Hills, Calif., but expected to transfer back to San Diego in the fall to work for the company.

CLAUDIA VALENCIA (B.A.) works in a law firm in downtown San Diego.

HENKINSON (B.A.) graduated in May from the University of California, San Diego. 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego, CA 92110.

Please note that Class Notes submitted after Sept. 1, 2005 will appear in the Summer 2006 issue of USD Magazine.
LET US PRAY Altar minister Sheryl Schmidt ’08 lights candles at a mid-November Founders Chapel Mass that celebrated the Rite of Acceptance and Welcome for members of the USD community marking their journey to Catholicism. Students, faculty and staff are among those who — after a year of study and reflection — will be accepted as full members of the Church.
She could cure the common cold.

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