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# Alcalá

A newsletter for the employees  
of the University of San Diego

## View

October 1995, Vol. 12, Issue 2

### Hayes Envisions USD's Growing Influence in Next Century

By Jill Wagner

In her first formal address to USD faculty and administrators, President **Alice B. Hayes** encouraged continued dedication to teaching and excellence in scholarship. At the Sept. 8 fall convocation, Hayes shared her vision for the academic community with the more than 375 faculty members and administrators who gathered in the Hahn University Center forum.

Hayes acknowledged that higher education in the 1990s is under considerable public scrutiny, but assured her listeners that USD represents a solution to the criticisms.

"My sixth sense tells me that this kind of university is a good answer to the public criticism of higher education," Hayes said. "The charges made by the legislators, the business community and media critics do not apply here.

"Our faculty have time for their students. You serve as preceptors; you involve students in your research; your classes are of a size that allows you to know your students and interact with them; you set forth a strong curriculum in which students learn to think, write, reason and speak clearly."

The new president, now in her position for three months, clearly sees USD moving into the national spotlight in the coming years. The university is unique in that it has the characteristics of a caring, small college with the faculty and learning resources of a doctoral university, she said.



Retired professor Terry Whitcomb (right) receives the Medal of San Diego de Alcalá award from President Alice B. Hayes. See related story on page four.

In referring to the undergraduate, graduate and professional programs offered on campus, Hayes said: "I hope to see these programs maintain local prominence and regional leadership, and assume a more visible national role. For these programs, academic excellence is the distinguishing goal."

On a global scale, Hayes said she sees the university "deeply involved in international commitments." Increasingly, students and faculty have expertise in international issues and the campus is strategically situated — within minutes of the U.S./Mexico border and on the edge of an ocean that crosses to the Pacific Rim countries — to include a global dimension in the curriculum.

Part of educating students about how to live in an evolving global community includes keeping pace with the information

(Continued on page four)

#### Gallery Exhibit

Large-scale paintings and drawings of the American Southwest by **Saba Oskoui**, assistant professor of studio arts, will be featured in Founders Gallery through Oct. 31. The "Desert Voices: Recent Works by Saba Oskoui" exhibit represents the first time all the images, painted over the last four years, have been displayed together publicly.

Gallery hours are 12:30 to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Admission is free.

#### SEA Prize Winners

To kick off the new school year, the Staff Employees Association raffled off two faculty-staff parking permits and awarded seven \$50 book scholarships to employees or their children attending school this semester.

Congratulations to **Glenda Blain**, registrar's office, and **Kyle Sobczak**, physical plant, for winning the \$75 parking permits.

Congratulations to the following employees who were awarded scholarships:

**Karen Bell**, academic computing; **Bob Cornish**, graduate admissions; **Andrea Letzring**, Copley Library; **Linda Sola**, law school; and **Betty Sotelo**, religious studies.

Tiffany Barzal, daughter of **Sheri Barzal**, information systems, and Julie Flynn, daughter of **Lillian Lachicotte**, graduate and continuing education dean's office, also received \$50 book scholarships.



## Benefit Briefs

University and State Employees Credit Union is available to the USD community effective Sept. 1. Both university employees and students qualify for membership. USE offers a complete range of banking services, including checking and savings accounts, credit cards, ATM access, personal loans, home mortgages and auto loans. The nearest location to USD is on Linda Vista Road next to Mission Federal Credit Union. Membership information is available in human resources.

Benefits general information meetings will be held 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Nov. 1, (Spanish speaking presentation) and 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Nov. 2, in UC Forum B. The presentations will explain medical and dental insurance coverage for 1996.

The Benefits Fair is 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Nov. 3, in the UC Forum. This year's fair is a week earlier than in previous years due to the inauguration events taking place the second week of November. The fair is an opportunity for employees to talk to the insurance representatives, register for drawings and receive free gifts and informative handouts.

Open enrollment will be held in Salomon Lecture Hall 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Nov. 14 through Nov. 17.

During open enrollment, employees can change their health coverage and set up health and/or dependent care (child care) reimbursement accounts for 1996. Selections made in November will become effective Jan. 1, 1996.

Watch for open enrollment information through campus mail in late October.

— Vicki Coscia

# Getting Pumped about Vert Skating

By Jill Wagner

It was a Saturday in late August when Theresa Andersen traveled to Huntington Beach to skate in her first formal in-line competition. The next day she was crowned the women's national champion vert skater.

Vert is in-line skating lingo for vertical, meaning Andersen, assistant manager in the print shop, spends more time in the air than on the eight wheels of her Rollerblade skates. She and three other women competed in the National In-line Skate Series championships Aug. 20 and the judges deemed the newcomer the most impressive half-pipe skater.

The half-pipe is a rounded wooden ramp with two sides rising as high as 11 feet from the ground, Andersen explains. Tricks are performed near the top of either side and judges are particularly impressed by the amount of air a skater can put between herself and the ramp.

"I go for a lot of air because that's one of my strongest points and many of the female skaters can't get high air," Andersen says. Her average rise above the top of the pipe is four feet.

Andersen's strong legs help her gain speed when pumping to the top of the ramp and a weekly workout with her husband and other male skaters provides examples of good technique for catching air, she says. The average male skater rises six feet above the top of the pipe.

Admittedly, practices can be rough. "You never know when you're going to slam," Andersen says, using more of the skater lingo to explain that, with one wrong move, you can crash at any moment.

The softball she played while growing up didn't exactly prepare her for vert skating but she was the youngest of four children, which helped build toughness, Andersen adds with a laugh.

Many of the tricks are performed in the air and include the competitor grabbing a



An airborne Theresa Andersen performs a tricky grab at the National In-line Skate Series championships.

skate before landing or performing a handstand-like move while twisting the body around to land facing forward on the ramp. The 25-year-old daredevil recently began practicing a back flip and plans to have it perfected by next year's competition.

There's always something new to try in vert skating and the adrenaline rush from doing something no one else has done is hard to beat, Andersen says, her face lighting up with excitement.

That sort of elation was evident following her championship run on the half-pipe, which was captured on film by PRIME Sports. During the Sept. 12 television airing of the competition, a grinning and surprised Andersen — in full skater's regalia, including baggy shorts, tank top, helmet, knee and elbow pads and wrist guards — managed to tell an interviewer simply: "It feels really neat! I'm shocked I won."

Back at home, Andersen and her husband, Eric, look forward to Saturday morning trips from their El Cajon home to a YMCA skate park in Escondido. There they join other skaters to practice technique and tricks. Andersen especially likes working with the kids who hang out at the park, who are eager for some advice from the more experienced skaters.

It's the people and the chance to teach kids and promote the sport that keeps Andersen pumped about vert skating.



# Department of the Month

## Capital Programs

### 1. Where is your department located?

The capital programs office is located in room 206 in Guadalupe Hall. After five years in student housing in the valley, it is great to be back up on the main campus.

### 2. What are the functions of your department?

The capital programs office is charged with the primary responsibility for fund raising for institutional academic priorities, buildings and endowment funds. Our primary projects at the moment are to raise \$3 million for the renovation of the Hughes Administration Center and to seek additional funds for the Weingart No-Interest Student Loan Fund Trust, which could eventually total \$14.4 million. We will begin the planning for the next major institutional capital campaign when the strategic long range planning process is completed. Also, when the student athletic center project comes on line, the capital programs office will oversee that campaign.

### 3. What is the biggest challenge your department faces?

As the development department mentioned last month, our biggest challenge is educating a variety of people about the university and its financial needs. Tuition cannot keep pace with the expense of new technology or fund new facilities, nor can the university afford to be so dependent on tuition income for long-term financial stability. The need for increased financial aid funds is a national crisis everywhere. Capital gifts are often subject to the ups and downs of the economy and tax code changes that weigh on the minds of our donors.

### 4. How has your department changed over the past 10 years?

We did not exist 10 years ago! The first capital campaign office was created in 1987 to undertake the \$47.5 million Education for a New Age capital campaign. During the active period of that campaign there were



*The staff of capital programs includes (sitting): Libby Schiff; (standing from left to right): Sandy Archambo and Donna Dinan.*

six members of the department. At the conclusion of the campaign in 1993, we became capital programs, a department of two. With the Hughes Center campaign, we are now three, but unfortunately that is only temporary. Because we are project based, our staffing will continue to vary depending on the needs of the current project.

### 5. What is one thing you would like the campus community to know about your department and its functions?

We don't set the fund-raising priorities for the institution. While we sometimes identify a prospective donor who has only a specific area in mind to support, the primary focus of our projects is set by the president and board of trustees. The strategic long range planning process will identify many of USD's needs for the decade to come. Those needs will each have dollar requirements. Priorities will be determined by the administration and board of trustees. Then we will undertake a feasibility study to determine how much can be raised and for which projects from the predetermined list.

## Campus Ministry Events

**Prayer Breakfast**, 7:30 a.m., Oct. 27, in the UC Forum. Guest speaker Father Richard Gula, S.S., will discuss the virtues of humility, humor, courage and hope. Reservation deadline is Oct. 20.

**Personal Growth Workshop**, noon to 1 p.m., Oct. 23, 25 and 30. Call **Calista Frank** at ext. 2621 to register.

**Support for Those Who Grieve**, six sessions beginning in early October. Call Sister **Irene Cullen** at ext. 2265 for more information.

**Christian Zen Meditation**, six-week session beginning in early October. Join other Christians who are discovering that Zen meditation can deepen your prayer life. For more information, call Sister **Irene Cullen** at ext. 2265.

## Passages Birth

A daughter, Sophia Octavia, to **Brae Canlen**, library assistant in reserves, Copley Library, and her husband, Mike Abrams, on Aug. 23.

## Deaths

Wayne Davidson, father of **Jan Tuomainen**, executive assistant in public relations, on Aug. 14.

**Georgette Grimes**, retired employee of the university relations department, on Aug. 21.

Sister **Agnes K. Murphy**, professor emeritus of history, on Aug. 29.

Carolina Gomez, wife of **Sixto Gomez**, gardener in physical plant, on Aug. 29.

William R. Anderson, stepfather of **James Evans**, professor in the School of Business Administration, on Sept. 3.

## Thank You

I would like to publicly express my thanks to the USD community for their warm expressions of sympathy on the recent death of my mother. She was 93 and "ready." She had 17 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren at her funeral!

— John Cunningham



## Classifieds

**For Sale.** One acre in San Luis Obispo County, next to winery. Close to all. \$37,000. Call **Betty** at ext. 4525 or 275-6569.

**For Sale.** Advent speakers. Walnut case. \$100 for the pair. Call **Judy** at ext. 4684.

## SEA Strands

The following are some upcoming SEA events to plan for through the fall semester:

**Hot Dog Sale,** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Oct. 12, in front of the Hahn University Center.

"Dollar dogs" and chips will be on sale, with proceeds benefiting the Manchester Family Child Development Center scholarship fund.

**Nevada Turn-around Trip,** Oct. 28. Watch for fliers about this one-day bus trip to the California/Nevada state line.

**Rose Parade Tour,** Jan. 1, 1996. Employees and their families or friends are invited to board a chartered coach to Pasadena to view the New Year's Day Rose Parade. The \$82 ticket price includes grandstand seating, refreshments and a stopover in San Juan Capistrano. Make reservations by Oct. 27. For more information, call **Laura Nottoli** at ext. 4629.

— **Nancy Roos**

## Alcalá View

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# Whitcomb Awarded Alcalá Medal

Standing before a crowded room of former co-workers, retired professor **Terry Whitcomb** received the Medal of San Diego de Alcalá at the annual fall convocation held Sept. 8. Whitcomb was honored for her 34-year career at USD as a professor of fine arts and director of institutional design.

"Terry profoundly believes the maxim of one of USD's founders that it is essential to be surrounded by beauty and harmony in order to learn most effectively," President **Alice B. Hayes** said. "Look around, you will see her touch in every building on our beautiful campus."

Whitcomb retired this summer, but not before leaving lasting monuments to her creative genius. Aromas coffeehouse and the remodeled Traditions restaurant were conceived by Whitcomb and are examples of her insight into creating comfortable places for students and employees.

Hayes bestowed the award before the annual fall address to faculty and administrators. The medal is awarded to an employee who has been at the university for at least 15 years in recognition of extraordinary and enduring contributions to furthering the goals and mission of the university.

Also honored at the convocation were 16 faculty members for their scholarly work, service to USD and success as educators.

## Convocation

*(Continued from page one)*

age and connecting the faculty, students and staff to online technologies, Hayes noted.

"Our goal should be a completely connected university," she said. "Ultimately, this will mean that all of us — faculty, students, administrators and staff — can and will communicate online with each other and with the world."

Hayes ended the well-received speech

The 10 faculty members named University Professors are: **Lisa Baird**, **Alana Cordy-Collins**, **Ralph Folsom**, **James Gump**, **Janet Harrison**, **Phillip Hunsaker**, **Jack Minan**, **Mario Picconi**, **Patricia Traylor** and **Susan Zgliczynski**.

Steber Professorships went to **Joan Anderson** and **Lance Nelson**; the Herzog Endowment Scholars from the law school are **Chris Wonnell** and **Fred Zacharias**; and **Larry Alexander** and **Roy Brooks** were both named Warren Distinguished Professors of Law.

## Walkathon for Accident Victim

Faculty, staff and administrators are encouraged to join **Jesse Stanimirovich's** USD friends in a walkathon to raise \$5,000 to offset the medical costs of his rehabilitation. Stanimirovich, a senior, was paralyzed following a body surfing accident this summer.

His colleagues at the Hahn University Center, where Stanimirovich was a student worker and guide for Outdoor Adventures, have tentatively scheduled the event for Saturday, Oct. 14. Participants will be encouraged to gather pledges and walk, run, skate or bike nine laps, or 10 miles, around the perimeter road of the campus.

For more information, call **Greg Zackowski** or **Kily Jones** at ext. 4796.

with a request that faculty and staff continue caring for the students, perfecting professional skills and striving for truth and justice. Along the way, she urged, share some of the benefits of a USD education with friends and colleagues.

"USD's approach to education has long been a source of internal pride," she said. "It is time that we communicate that achievement to the outside world."



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