



HOMECOMING 2004

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Homecoming King and Queen Marcos Canales and Cari Wallace (above) were crowned during the Variety Show and Coronation Friday, Nov. 19.

Charles Ogden (top left) and Col. Vance Huston (center left) spoke at The Main Event in Crill Performance Hall Saturday, Nov. 20, after being awarded their lifetime Distinguished Achievement Awards.

Brad Nease (left), president of the PC/PLNU Alumni Association, was the master of ceremonies for The Main Event.

with Distinguished Achievement Awards during *The Main Event* in Crill Performance Hall.

The Variety Show and Coronation entertained more than 1,600 students, alumni and friends. Marcos Canales, a philosophy and theology major from San Jose, Costa Rica and Cari Wallace, also a philosophy and theology major from Victorville, Calif., were crowned Homecoming king and queen. Biology professor Rob Elson served as master of ceremonies, adding a little British (and Bakersfield) humor. Acts in the Variety Show included everything from Charlie Brown to Mary Rice Hopkins to the debut of several student music groups. Shawna Songer and Tim Gaines kept the show rolling with “up close and personal” interviews.

The 12 class reunions set a record with more than 700 reservations. “The Most Fabulous” reunion, for those who graduated 51 or more years ago, drew 183 special guests.

The new Sunset Deck on the Campus Mall was dedicated Saturday morning.

Sports filled the weekend with the golf tournament, tennis, soccer, baseball and softball. The women’s basketball team was victorious over MidAmerica Nazarene University, 88 to 55, and the men’s team won over MidAmerica, 93 to 89.



Roary the PLNU Sea Lion was on hand to cheer the Homecoming events.



Alumni of the 1953-54 Firehouse Five basketball team (top) gathered during halftime at the men's basketball game against MidAmerica Nazarene University in Golden Gym on Saturday, Nov. 20.



Former professor of music Willo May Beresford (left) is congratulated after the Fall Musicale on Thursday, Nov. 17, in which she was honored by the MusicAlumni for her dedication to PLNU.



School of Theology and Christian Ministry faculty member Robert Smith (left) goes for the gold as the torchbearer at the Variety Show on Friday night.

Mary Rice Hopkins (right), a nationally known Christian performer and a member of the class of 1979, performed at the Variety Show.



(L-R) Stephen Rodgers, Ann Gerhart, Russ Martin and Bruce McCormack, recipients of 2004 Alumnus of Point Loma awards.

Lessons Learned

During Homecoming Chapel on Friday, Nov. 19, four alumni—Ann Gerhart, Russ Martin, Bruce McCormack and Stephen Rodgers—were recognized with Alumnus of Point Loma awards. Their acceptance speeches contained some real gems of wisdom. For the full text of each, please visit www.ptloma.edu/alumni.

Ann Gerhart (83)

“What is courage? I believe it is an accumulation of small steps with God. I have faced challenges of cancer and more and have learned that God is there in the midst of all we do. I have the peace of knowing I am in the right place. Over the past year I went from ‘Why Me, God?’ to ‘Why not me?’”

Russ Martin (72)

“That’s what I learned when I sat where you sit today, that Jesus faced all that I have faced and more. He experienced all the laughter and tears of our shared humanity...I learned to be amazed that the Word really did become flesh, that I was privileged to behold his glory and participate in his nature and kingdom.”

Bruce McCormack (76)

“If you haven’t got all the answers yet, that’s okay. And if you think you have—well, the Lord may still have some surprises for you. But your chief task right now is not to answer the question, ‘What does God want me to do?’ It is rather to answer the question, ‘What does God want me to be?’”

Stephen Rodgers (77)

“It was because of Dr. Vic Heasley that I became a chemist. It was because of him and Dr. Dale Shellhamer that I became a researcher. I learned to drink coffee working really late nights in the labs over at Rohr. At Point Loma, I really learned how to study the Bible and how to lead Bible Studies. I got very close to God during my time here.”