

New Chapman student president is ready for challenge

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Body

Carrie Leonard's parents have every reason to be proud of their only child.

This fall, the 20-year-old Chapman University junior is taking office as president of the Associated Students.

Leonard decided to seek office in February, encouraged by her friends and her father, who had been student body president when he attended L.A. City College.

"It was really cool following in Dad's footsteps," she said.

Leonard gained confidence in her ability to do the job through her activities at the all-girls Rosary High School in Fullerton where, she said, she learned determination.

"You're not afraid of the 'powerful woman stereotype,' " she

said.

Parents James and Laurie Leonard of Anaheim wanted her to learn the value of work, she said. She got a job at age 16 and paid for her first car.

She worked for Disneyland for three years and then left to go to work as an office manager.

Leonard began studying dance at age two, and four years later performed in a production of "Annie" at California State University, Long Beach.

She sings alto, and her musical ability won her a vocal talent scholarship to Chapman University.

Leonard is a legal studies major with plans to enter civil or corporate law practice.

"A lot of the scholarship people in music are not music majors," she said. "They want your voice and they want you in that department. "

Leonard's term as president of the Associated Students at Chapman begins in the fall, but she is already planning for her administration of the approximately \$ 250,000 Associated Students budget.

During the summer, Leonard taught two classes at Chapman's Child Care Center: theater and computers. The ginger-haired, freckle-faced dynamo led her young charges across the campus from class to class Monday through Friday mornings.

But her life is scarcely the cliché all-work-and-no-play. She has two poodles, Sasha, who is black, and Ashley, who is black and

white. "But Sasha's my baby, she said. She also enjoys baseball and literature.

In addition to work, her parents taught her to value character and to be true to herself.

"I've always been raised to tell the truth and feel that I am a really good person," she said.

She considers herself, overall, to be an uncomplicated person, for all her involvement in community and social affairs.

"I'm very childlike," she said. "There are times when I see things so simply. Little things make me happy. I can be happy looking at a butterfly. I can find a good quality in someone."

CHART:

CARRIE LEONARD

BORN: March 11, 1977

FAMILY: Parents James and Laurie Leonard

RESIDENCE: Anaheim

EDUCATION: Fairmont Private School; Rosary High School; Chapman University

COMMUNITY/COLLEGE ACTIVITIES: president, Associated Students at Chapman University; Chapman Choir; Phi Sigma Sigma sorority; Ronald

McDonald House Volunteer

Graphic

CHART; Chart/profile; Carrie Leonard. See end of text.

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