Campus Times

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Rap duo rocks Lavernapalooza



Katlyn Keeling

Swae Lee from Rae Sremmurd performs at Lavernapalooza May 2 at the Fox Theater in Pomona. DŸLN, a DJ, opened the show.

Jaycie Thierry
Social Media Editor

The University of La Verne's 10th annual Lavernapalooza on May 2 came and went but the memories from that night will live on for many students.

A line for the event formed outside of the Pomona Fox Theater just before 6:30 p.m., and included both students from the University and others within the community who purchased terrace tickets through the Fox Theater.

The concert began with opener DŸLN, a DJ from Southern California, and followed by rap duo Rae Sremmurd as the headliner.

Students from the Campus Activities Board and ASULV hosted a reveal earlier in April where students gathered to find out who this year's artists would be.

Freshman child development major Gizzel Sulca was nearly front row at the show and was able to reach just enough to get to Swae Lee, one member of Rae Sremmurd, who took her phone and shot a video from the stage.

"They definitely put on a show," Sulca said. "It was so much fun. I haven't been this hyped in so long and I don't even listen to their music all that often."

Sophomore kinesiology major Zane Munsinger said he spent weeks trying to convince his friends that Rae Sremmurd was going to put on a great concert and they did not disappoint.

"They came out and delivered a performance better than I could've predicted," Munsinger said. "I'm sure they made a whole lot of new fans tonight, too."

The pit was packed shoulder

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Genital mutilation still legal in U.S.

70 million girls at risk worldwide

Layla Abbas
Editorial Director

Joanna Vergoth boarded a plane from New York to Kentucky to meet with a survivor of female genital mutilation and promote legislation to make the practice of genital mutilation illegal on May 6.

FGM, also referred to as female genital cutting or circumcision, refers to any practice that includes a total or partial removal of the clitoris, labia majora, labia minora or any procedures to the female genitalia by incision or cutting – and is usually for cultural, religious or non-medical reasons.

FGM, which is categorized in four different types, is often associated with cultural ideas of femininity and modesty, rooted in the belief that girls should not have body parts that are considered unclean, unfeminine or male, according to the World Health Organization.

FGM is recognized by the United Nations as a human rights violation and is against federal law in the United States. Yet it is estimated that globally 200 million girls and women have undergone some form of FGM. And by 2030, more than one in three girls worldwide will be born in the 30 countries where FGM is most prevalent, putting 70 million girls at risk of FGM, according to the United Nations Population Fund.

The Violence Against Women Act, which will be reauthorized this year, has never addressed FGM. Non-profit foundations and experts on FGM are working to bring it into the Violence Against Women Act and develop anti-FGM legislation in the 19 U.S. states that do not have current legislation.

The 10 states in the U.S. with populations most at-risk of FGM are California, New York, Washington, New Jersey, Minnesota, Ohio, Texas, Georgia, Virginia and Maryland, according to the Population Reference Bureau.

The AHA Foundation, named after founder and FGM survivor Ayaan Hirsi Ali, is a nonprofit organization for the defense of women's rights.

Kaitlyn Carwin, who assists with policy matters for the AHA Foundation, is currently working with federal legislators to increase the federal penalty for perpetrators of FGM from five to 15 years. She is also working to direct funding for education and outreach to communities and professionals likely to encounter survivors and girls and women at risk.

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Bill would expand protection for San Gabriel Mountains

Alondra Campos
Staff Writer

A proposed federal law could expand the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument and provide more areas for hikers, campers and nature enthusiasts.

Rep. Judy Chu, D-Claremont, introduced the San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act in April to expand the San Gabriel National Monument and create more recreational areas for people to indulge in nature.

Sen. Kamala Harris, D-California, introduced a companion bill in the U.S. Senate.

If approved, the federal measure would establish a national recreation area of 51,107 acres along the foothills and San Gabriel River corridor and designate over 30,000 acres of protected wilderness and 45.5 miles of protected rivers in Southern California.

The act would also expand the borders of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument to include 109,143 acres of the Western part of the Los Angeles National Forest.

The national recreation area Chu and Harris hope to codify could increase access to all communities by connecting poor park areas to open space and improve management of the area through improved resources, education and public engagement, according to the act.

Stephanie Khatchadourian, freshman biology major, said the act could serve as a step forward for environmental conservation.

"The act is a small step toward helping save and conserve our natural resources and can

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Lising considers the power of spin

Marijuana's fake news campaign



Jaren Cyrus

Ian Lising, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, speaks about his book, "The Spin Doctrine: Communicating Belief, Truth and Fact," Tuesday in the Howell Board Room. Lising discussed the societal impacts of spin-doctoring in regards to marijuana.

Natalie Gutiérrez
Staff Writer

Ian Lising, associate dean for the College of Arts and Sciences, reflected on the societal effects of spin doctoring as per his book published this year, "The Spin Doctrine: Communicating Belief, Truth and Fact," during a talk Tuesday before students and faculty in the Howell Board Room.

Lising discussed one of the chapters, "The Madness of Harry J. Anslinger." Lising said Anslinger, who served as the first commissioner of the U.S. Treasury Department's Federal Bureau of Narcotics, was one of the most influential spin doctors in recent history.

"Most spin doctors, you'll never hear of them because you're not supposed to," Lising said. "The best spin is to persuade someone to believe it was their idea."

Anslinger played a pivotal role in shaping society's attitude towards marijuana, Lising said adding that Anslinger's influence has shaped American culture for the last 90 years.

Lising said Anslinger sensed the end of prohibition and decided to tackle something else—marijuana.

"It was an absurd fallacy," Lising said. "He...understood that this was not a harmful substance."

Lising read a bigoted quote from Anslinger to show his sinister spin doctoring: "There are 100,000 total marijuana smokers in the U.S. and most are Negroes, Hispanics, Filipinos and entertainers. Their satanic music, jazz and swing result from marijuana usage. This marijuana causes white women to seek sexual relations with a Negro, entertainer, and any others."

Anslinger spread these false reports of cannabis-induced crime to news outlets, Lising said.

"This created a mass hysteria," Lising said, adding that people became fearful of marijuana, and that fear spread far and fast, despite the reality that 29 of the 30 scientists Anslinger contacted to try to prove that cannabis should be feared found no evidence linking marijuana to violence or addiction.

Still, the immense impact Anslinger's spin on cannabis had on society is felt today even as states have begun to legalize it.

"It was a culture shift," Lising said. "Let's talk about how many million people were put in jail because of this."

Briana Villareal, junior sociology major who attended the lecture, said she was shocked at the power of Anslinger's spin.

"I think it was and is still being used as an excuse to incarcerate people of color," Villareal said.

"I think we've really entered a cultural environment where it might be irrefutable, but people choose to dispute it anyway," said Sean Dillon, professor of theater.

Udit Gratz de Lang, an Amsterdam native, who attended the lecture with her husband, music professor Reed Gratz, said growing up in the Netherlands gave her a different perspective on cannabis.

"As modern and as forward as Americans were, all of a sudden I bump into the culture and I think, 'Oh, OK, you get arrested for years for just smoking a joint,'" Gratz de Lang said. "They are pre-rolled in Amsterdam. (This) is just very strange, culturally."

Lising said that being aware and knowing how to differentiate belief, truth and fact is vital today.

"Spin doctoring can work the other way," he said.

"If we do what is right, if we're able to utilize information correctly, we can counter spin… If we learn how to look at what is factual and learn how to bring that fact out to the air and make people accept it, it becomes real," Lising said.

"That to me is the whole point of all this."

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Lavernapalooza...

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The pit was packed shoulder to shoulder with students hoping to get a good view of the show and freshman psychology major Delaney Rasner was one of the many.

Rasner went to the show alongside with about 13 other friends from the University, making it a fun night even though, she said, the pit section was sweaty and hot.

"For it having been my first time at Lavernapalooza, I thought it was pretty awesome," Rasner said. "I was like, maybe, at least a foot away from Swae Lee so that was probably the highlight of my night."

Senior computer science and engineering major Toni Harrison called this Lavernapalooza, from beginning to end, the best one in the past three years she has attended.

"I'm glad I was able to end my year having fun with the people I've gotten closest to at La Verne," Harrison said. "The best part of the show was when Swae Lee shouted me out and said I was shining like a sunflower. It definitely made my night."

Senior public relations major and Campus Activities Board co-chair Alexis Patterson said CAB and the ASULV students that put the event together felt the event was a success.

"This was a seven-month journey and to know that students enjoyed it makes everything that led up to this event so much more worth it," Patterson said.

Lucky enough for Patterson and her peers, their hard work paid off and they were able to meet the artists after the show in a meet and greet.

Senior history major Ryan Hoffman described meeting Rae Sremmurd as an awesome experience.

"This was definitely the best Lavernapalooza I've been to and I loved the energy that Rae Sremmurd brought to the show," Hoffman said. "Lavernapalooza 2019 was definitely an experience I won't forget."

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It's Not Your Fault.

1.800.656.HOPE
National Sexual Assault Hotline
Free. Confidential. 24/7.

(Operated by RAINN—the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network)

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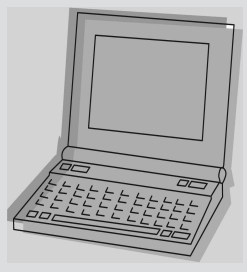

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Genital mutilation...

Continued from page 1

"FGM is seen as a way of controlling a girl's libido and reducing her physical pleasure," Carwin said. "There is this assumption that if these things are not done then women would be engaged in promiscuous behavior which is just wrong. It derives out of the assumption that women are born unclean and there are health benefits to the procedure which is just absolutely wrong."

The WHO lists many medical complications from FGM like direct complications from the procedure, such as anesthesia complications, bleeding, acute infection, and increased risk of death for both mother and infant in subsequent pregnancies, as well as post-traumatic stress disorder, urinary tract infections and psycho-sexual issues.

Vergoth, a psychotherapist and founder of Forma, a non-profit organization that provides mental health care to FGM survivors, has been an activist against FGM for over 20 years. She first learned about it when she was in Egypt and came across English newspapers with FGM statistics.

"If I raise awareness about this issue to people who have never heard of FGM, I feel so gratified," Vergoth said. "I am on a mission."

Countries with the highest rates among girls and women ages15-49 are Egypt with 27.2 million affected; Ethiopia with 23.8 million; Nigeria, 19.9 million; and Sudan, 12.1 million, according to UNICEF.

In U.S. v. Nagarwala, the first federal prosecution case to address FGM, U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman ruled that the 1996 federal law banning FGM was unconstitutional. He dismissed key charges against the defendants and called into question the constitutionality of the federal anti-FGM law.

Friedman threw out mutilation and conspiracy charges against all defendants charged in federal court for connection with the genital mutilation of nine girls from Michigan, Minnesota and Illinois between 2015 and 2017. Prosecutors allege Jumana Nagarwala, a U.S. doctor who was charged for performing FGM, may have subjected up to 100 girls to the procedure over a 12-year period.

Friedman asserted that FGM criminalization rested with the individual states, not the federal government.

Since the federal law against FGM was declared unconstitutional and the Department of Justice chose not to appeal the decision, Vergoth and her team are continuing work to promote legislation in every state that does not have an anti-FGM law.

Vergoth refers to FGM as a culturally sanctioned trauma; a trauma not reflecting religious ideals, but rather tribal.

There are generally four types of survivors: those who feel terrible side effects and consequences, those who recognize this is a tradition and do not feel side effects, those who suffer in silence, and those who show immense pride and feel stronger having undergone FGM, Vergoth said.

She said people often assume this happens to only Muslims, but it happens to a variety of people like Ethiopian Jews, protestants in Somalia and Catholics in Nigeria. The practice itself was first talked about by the ancient Greek historian Herodotus in the 5th century B.C.

"FGM is a very ancient practice," Vergoth said. "The fact that this has been going on for 2,000 years is daunting."

Women who have undergone FGM may suffer not only from complicated medical consequences, but also from psychological distress and psycho-sexual difficulties.

Vergoth said the hardest part about her advocacy work to help survivors of FGM, is to honor what the survivor has been through while simultaneously voicing disapproval against the practice.

"Cultural sensitivity is key when working with this population," Vergoth said. "You may feel like this is a bad tradition but demeaning a population is something you cannot express. It makes the woman who has undergone this practice feel very demeaned. It is important to say 'I know this is what happened to you but we have to stop this because there are no benefits from this.'"

Carwin, alongside members from the AHA Foundation, submitted an amicus curiae brief in U.S. v. Nagarwala, defending the constitutionality of the federal anti-FGM law.

"We believe that it is incumbent upon both the individual states as well as the federal government to outlaw FGM and believe both levels of government have the authority to do so."

Carwin said her general interest for law, domestic and international politics, and developments in cultural and demographic landscapes in the U.S. spurred her interests in the topic of FGM.

Carwin said she became interested with the foundation when she learned about Ali, founder and survivor of FGM, while she was in college.

"I admired her intelligence, insight, and her willingness to speak out against injustices that many were unwilling to acknowledge," Carwin said. "I became aware of FGM after reading some of Ali's writings."

"The majority of our work takes place on the state level, so we see what states are working on to criminalize FGM within their borders," Carwin said. "The federal law is very limited in what it can do, so states really need bills that are going to ban the practice and address the issue with local authorities, service providers and law enforcement."

Carwin speaks to state legislators and their aids to help provide a written testimony with



illustration by Danielle De Luna

information needed for the passage of bills that aim to end the practice or at least criminalize FGM.

"AHA's experts developed specialized trainings that cover honor violence, explain, forced marriage, and FGM for professionals who are likely to encounter survivors and at-risk girls," Carwin said. "Due to the distinctive nature of the culturally based abuses that we address, particularized training is necessary for law enforcement and other service providers so that they may properly identify victims and successfully handle these cases."

Carwin said when she tells people about the work she does they asssume FGM only happens in third wold countries.

"This is a pervasive practice that is based on patriarchal and oppressive outdated norms and customs," Carwin said.

"There are a number of misconceptions that pervade these communities that practice them regarding the supposed necessity of having this procedure done."

Nana Oguntola, parish councilor and international creative consultant in the United Kingdom, is passionate about running impactful events.

Oguntola created a platform called Open Conversations, which is a conference in the UK that brings together experts and survivors to address issues and topics that are deemed taboo.

This year the topic will focus on FGM, forced marriages and honor killings.

"In the UK, lawmakers, teachers and people in authority are normally from communities who do not have these practices, so it goes under the radar and girls suffer," Oguntola said. "I want us to talk about it and make it less of a taboo in order to protect girls."

"I grew up in The Gambia and did not realize until last year that 74% of girls had undergone FGM, Oguntola said. "That is the extent of the secrecy around the practice."

The Sustainable Development Goals in 2015 calls for a complete eradication of FGM by 2030 under Goal 5 on Gender Equality; this will eliminate harmful practices, such as forced marriage and FGM.

In a 2016 study in Public Health Report, researchers from the CDC estimated that more than half a million women and girls in the U.S were at risk of FGM and its consequences in 2012.

That is more than triple the number when the CDC last assessed the issue in 1997, a year after Congress passed a law making cutting illegal in the United States. According to the researchers, this increase is a result of the exponential growth in the number of immigrants from countries that practice cutting.

Alissa Rosas, information and research specialist for a non-profit organization called Bridging Refugee Youth and Children Services, creates resources for families who have been exposed to FGM and are now resettling in the U.S.

Funded by the Office on Women's Health, BRYCS created a sector dedicated to helping those affected by FGM through community based and community organized research development.

Rosa's team held focus groups in Washington D.C., Minneapolis, Minnesota, Houston, Texas and Salt Lake City, Utah.

"We really wanted to learn about female genital cutting from the community members themselves," Rosa said. "We call it female genital cutting because that is what our community members preferred as opposed to mutilation because a lot of them said 'Our mothers did not intend to mutilate us or cause us any pain.'"

Rosas assisted in facilitating and moderating the focus groups and reached out to community partners throughout the U.S. to determine the necessary resources.

In year two of the project, Rosas said many women who were pregnant or had small children asked them to provide resources about pregnancy and childbirth in the U.S. Many service providers have minor ability to deal with patients affected by FGM.

"The women we spoke to were saying their interactions with medical providers can be difficult and come as a shock," Rosas said. "They wanted a brochure they could give to the doctor saying 'I have been affected by FGM and this is the help that I need.'"

Service providers were unsure how to treat these patients and would often bring in their colleagues and students and say, 'Look at this' without the consensus of the patient, Rosas said.

"We have really gotten a lot out of this community engagement and producing resources that have been vetted and are useful," Rosas said.

"As a resettlement agency, we put out so many different things that are focused just for the service provider or just one community and with this we had the chance to turn the tables and really learn from the community rather than teaching."

Although many organizations are established to address FGM and help women affected, it is important to continue the conversation and approach those affected in a sensitive manner, Carwin said.

"Cases involving survivors and at-risk girls need to be handled by service providers delicately, and in a culturally-competent manner in order to provide the protection that they need," Carwin said. "When it comes to these abuses, there is very little room for trial and error, as a misstep in handling such cases can have grievous consequences."

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Bill responds to measles epidemic

Vaccine exemptions curbed

Aryn Plax
Politics Editor

In light of the rising rates of measles, State Sen. Richard Pan, D-Sacramento, a pediatrician, introduced legislation that aims to curb the sale of false medical exemptions for vaccinations.

Forty cases of measles have been confirmed in California in 2019, as of May 1, compared to the 22 cases in 2018 and 15 cases in 2017, according to the California Department of Public Health.

Dr. Pan drafted Senate Bill 276 in response to increasing numbers of medical exemptions in California. SB-276 exists as a follow-up to SB-277, a law passed after 117 Californians were infected with measles due to an outbreak in Disneyland in 2015. SB-277 restricts non-medical exemptions to vaccines, such as religious and personal belief exemptions.

Anti-vaccine parents who could no longer exploit personal belief exemptions instead sought out medical exemptions, and such parents, nicknamed anti-vaxxers, tended to live in clustered communities, weakening the effect of herd immunity.

Herd immunity exists as a form of protection for those who cannot receive vaccines when the majority of the population is vaccinated, thereby preventing the spread of a disease.

The threshold is 94% of a given population, according to a press release by Dr. Pan.

"SB-277 helped raise immunization rates across the state – it was very successful in doing that – but what we found was that there were pockets across the state that remain vulnerable because doctors were selling exemptions," said Shannan Velayas, spokesperson for Dr. Pan.

The bill would require state-level approval of all exemptions.

Information regarding the exemptions, such as the physician's name, license number, reason for the exemption and certification of an in-person patient visit would be submitted to the California Department of Public Health.

> 'There were pockets across the state that remain vulnerable because doctors were selling exemptions.'
> *–Shannan Velayas, spokesperson for state Sen. Richard Pan*

The CDPH would ensure that the exemption complied with the Center for Disease Control's list of contraindications. Contraindications are conditions in which a person would have a serious negative reaction to a vaccine.

SB-276 is co-sponsored by the American Academy of Pediatrics California, California Medical Association, and Vaccinate California, and is supported by a number of medical associations, including the California Immunization Coalition.

"In our view, some of these physicians are really reaching to grab something that will sound good enough and exempt these children permanently from all vaccines," said Catherine Flores-Martin, executive director of CIC.

Flores-Martin said situations in which children have permanent, legitimate exemptions from all vaccines are extremely rare.

As for motivations behind anti-vaccine parents, Flores-Martin said their reasons vary.

Some parents cite a fraudulent study by Dr. Andrew Wakefield that linked the MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) vaccine to autism, while others claim the bill infringes on their right to personal choice.

"They'll say, 'I'm very concerned about my rights as a parent to control my child's health and what goes into my child's body,'" said Flores-Martin. "Some people extend it to, 'I believe in an organic, pesticide free, healthy lifestyle and my children do not pose a risk to other children.' They're all about the freedom and control and their parental rights."

Vaccinate California, a co-sponsor of the bill, is a parent advocacy group that encourages parents to openly discuss the benefits of vaccination.

Leah Russin, spokesperson and co-founder of Vaccinate California, said that while parents against vaccinations are rather vocal about their decisions, parents who choose to vaccinate their children tend to keep their decisions to themselves, resulting in a lop-sided conversation about vaccines among parents on social media.

Some parent members of Vaccinate California would scope out conversations occurring on Facebook anti-vaccine groups, which often serve as a hub for anti-vaccine parents to assist each other in getting medical exemptions for their children.

However, not all pro-vaccine parents monitor Facebook groups exclusively.

"We would also just see it on our feed," Russin said. "Until recently, Facebook allowed advertisers to target people who were interested in the anti-vaccine people. And since I and many of our members do a lot of interacting regarding vaccines, I was often scooped up in somebody's advertising targeting. So I saw sponsored, paid ads for doctors in my feed who wanted to sell me medical exemptions."

Recent measles outbreaks in UCLA, UC Irvine and Cal State Los Angeles prompted Director of Student Health Services Cynthia Denne to send a mass email to the University of La Verne community containing information about measles symptoms, infection and prevention.

Denne said if a ULV student were to come into the health center with symptoms of measles, that student would immediately be isolated to prevent infection of other people.

Denne would ask questions such as where the student has been and with whom has the student been in contact. A medical provider would investigate the student's case, and even take samples such as blood tests, throat swabs or urine tests to determine if it is a genuine case of measles. Then Denne would call the CDC, which would assist the University in informing relevant communities.

Such communities may involve the student's dormitory, the student's hometown if the student had returned home recently, or any other locations the student may have recently gone prior to showing symptoms.

As for the number of vaccinated students on campus, the University has no definitive answer.

The University highly recommends, but does not require that incoming students volunteer their medical history – and by extension, their vaccine information.

"It's not a high percentage of medical history that we get from our undergraduates," Denne said.

As for those who do volunteer their information, or for any student who visits the student health center during their time enrolled in the University, their information is kept on file at the health center for seven years.

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San Gabriel Mountains...

Continued from page 1

our natural resources and can partake in the current environmental movement," Khatchadourian said.

The act states that the 15,878 acres of expanded wilderness and 15,191 acres of new wilderness areas will benefit from the highest form of protection of any federal wildland.

These designations will be provide the highest federal protection for historic California Condor and Nelson Bighorn Sheep habitats, vital sources of clean water within the San Gabriel watershed and undeveloped landscapes in the San Gabriel mountains.

The act would also designate the east, west and north forks of the San Gabriel River as federally protected rivers, which would provide a source of clean drinking water for the Los Angeles county.

Areas of untouched nature will be remain open to hiking, camping and other recreational activities.

However, commercialized activities, such as motorized vehicles and races, will be prohibited to prevent over-development, pollution and habitat destruction.

Private property and other existing rights will remain unchanged.

Katarina Arce, freshman biology major, said acts like the San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act can raise awareness about the environmental destruction our planet is experiencing.

"Acts like these can get us to think about our actions and how we can contribute to saving our planet," Arce said. "By allowing the public to interact with nature, they are more likely to re-evaluate their actions and perhaps even join the environmental movement."

Arce said the act could also deteriorate the pollution and damaging chemicals found in areas like the San Gabriel Mountains.

"The act is pushing for the implementation of a place that would essentially be free of pollution and harmful gases that are constantly being placed in our atmosphere," Arce said. "Limiting and even excluding the vehicles that could increase our carbon footprint is definitely a way to assess the situation."

Erik Bahnson, president of Students Engaged in Environmental Discussion club, also known as SEEDS, said if the act was to be passed, it would give even more valor to the endless voices of environmental activists around the world.

> 'I can see the good intentions behind the act, but the lack of a reasonable management plan to do this can bring unfavorable situations.'
> *–David Bickford, associate professor of biology*

"To extend protection for American wilderness is to recognize a simple fact raised louder every year by activists around the world, which is continuing humanity's habit of treating ecosystems as warehouses for material goods much longer will deplete Earth's ability to keep us alive," said Bahnson, senior environmental ethics major. "If the act gets passed and perhaps sets a trend, it will signal not only a victory for America's environmentalists, but also a national will to face the 21st century's ecological realities with candor and maturity."

David Bickford, associate professor of biology, said that although he supports the intentions behind the act, there are still many factors people do not take into consideration when making wilderness areas open to the public.

"I encourage more recreational areas but opening up protected areas brings other problems," Bickford said. "I can see the good intentions behind the act, but the lack of a reasonable management plan to do this can bring unfavorable situations."

Bickford said that invasive species, those being species that are not native to a specific location and can spread to degree that could become harmful to the environment, follow humans everywhere.

By allowing more people to hike and camp in the protected areas of the wilderness, they involuntarily bring these invasive species with them and continue to cause damage to the environment.

Bickford added that deserts and mountains are extremely susceptible to overuse and degradation, which can harm animal, plant and even human life.

Bickford said that although we have clean air and water for the most part in California, other places in the world, such as China and India, have to buy clean water and wear masks due to the polluted air, and that we must place a bigger value on these resources.

"We thrive on healthy ecosystems and we only value them until they're gone," Bickford said. "We have to learn to value these resources, not necessarily with dollars and cents, but with importance before they're gone."

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Trump supporters play dirty and fail

The 2020 election cycle is shaping up to be a treacherous one, as a smear campaign against presidential hopeful Pete Buttigieg, the first openly gay presidential candidate, demonstrates the lengths to which some Trump supporters will go.

Pro-Trump incendiaries Jacob Wohl and Jack Burkman identified Buttigieg as the biggest threat to Trump's 2020 campaign, and allegedly launched a smear campaign framing the candidate as a rapist, according to the Associated Press.

Michigan college student Hunter Kelly said in a statement that the rape allegations against Buttigieg, which were published on Medium under his name, were entirely false.

Kelly also said that Wohl and Burkman coerced him into co-signing the false claims against Buttigieg, despite his own discomfort with the plot.

The plot did more to stain the reputation of the right in the eyes of the American public than it did further the Republican Party's prospect of success. Additionally, this is not the first time Wohl and Burkman attempted to organize a plot like this. Last year, they attempted to frame Robert Mueller for sexual assault, but their would-be accuser, like Kelly, backed out of their plan.

In addition to this plot contributing to an environment of distrust, it also symbolizes a backlash against the phenomenon of politicians embracing their identities.



editorial cartoon by Danielle De Luna

Since 2009, it has become more and more common for politicians to wear their identity on their sleeve with pride, despite the potential backlash or criticism.

However, given the contentious political climate our country entered during the 2016 presidential election, hate seems to rear its ugly head with cruelty more often.

Not only did these false claims promote misinformation about Buttigieg, but they also have trivialized the seriousness of rape, particularly against men.

One in six men experience sexual assault, and their assaults are often not taken seriously. Rape is not a card to play in order to get the upper hand in politics. It is a painful violation of someone's sexual autonomy.

It is particularly heinous to level accusations against Buttigieg, considering his identity as an openly gay man. Gay men were historically stereotyped as sexual predators or rapists, and these false accusations reinforce these homophobic attitudes.

From watching his interviews with the media, Buttigieg seems to seek unity between people beyond singular identities. Meanwhile, it is clear that the right wing, particularly people like Wohl and Burkman, seek to hinder division between communities.

Why '13 Reasons Why' is bad

Netflix's adaptation of "13 Reasons Why" is a prime example of how big companies are making a buck at the expense of vulnerable people.

Developed from Jay Asher's 2007 novel, "13 Reasons" follows the suicide of Hannah Baker, a high school student who details in 13 cassette tapes the events leading up to what finalizes her decision to end her life, each tape associated to a person in her life that she blames for her death.

Both the novel and television series also document those around Hannah coming to grips with the aftermath of her suicide.

Controversy has not stopped following the show since before it was released in 2017, and the book is no different, as it was added to the list of banned books.

Concerns of the show sparking a rise in self-harm and suicide rates were brought to light when the show was first being discussed, and as of just last week that conversation is continuing.

The National Institute of Mental Health issued a press release based on a study issued in the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry which concluded that, "The release of '13 Reasons Why' was associated with a significant increase in monthly suicide rates among U.S. youth aged 10 to 17 years," which illustrated a 28.9 percent increase in suicide rates during the month of April 2017.

Those results contradict another study that came from the University of Pennsylvania in the previous week before that unexpectedly found, "current students who watched the entire second season reported declines in suicide ideation and self-harm relative to those who did not watch the show at all."

Although the study from the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry reveals a correlation without causation, researchers felt strongly enough to state, "Caution regarding the exposure of children and adolescents to the series is warranted."

Netflix has yet to respond to the study, but has continued to stand by the work they have done to ensure they are sensitive to the subject at hand.

The Netflix series issued a disclaimer at the beginning of the show in season one with each actor introducing themselves and their character portrayal, heeding a warning for the heavy subject matter and graphic content they would see.

"'13 Reasons Why is a fictional series that tackles tough, real world issues taking a looking at sexual assault, substance abuse, suicide and more," said Justin Prentice, who plays Bryce Walker, in the series opener.

Actress Katherine Langford, who plays Hannah Baker continues, "By shedding a light on these difficult topics, we hope our show can help viewers start a conversation."

Even actress Alisha Boe, playing Jessica Davis, says, "But if you are struggling with these issues yourself, this series may not be right for you or you may want to watch it with a trusted adult."

But this is a warning that many do not believe Netflix took seriously enough, as the company continued with the series' release despite being advised by a hired suicide expert not to release the show at all.

"But that wasn't an option," he said, the expert referred to anonymously in an article with Vox. "That was made very clear to me."

What Netflix is lacking in its production is incorporating a consciousness of the genuine affects that a show like "13 Reasons" can pose for impressionable youth and those who are vulnerable and struggling with mental health.

It goes beyond a 50 second warning in the first episode and hoping to spark a conversation.

They sparked a conversation, just not one that they hoped it would be about.

Instead, the show received backlash for the graphic portrayal of rape and sexual assault that they did not feel necessary to shy away from, many calling it a dramatization and romanticization of suicide. The show was also criticized for portraying Hannah as having power after her death.

It was never necessary for "13 Reasons" to continue on after the first season, as it visually retold what was in Asher's novel.

Everything after that is now Netflix building upon storylines and characters that could have ended right where they were and be left for ambiguity.

As people are now aware to expect a release of a season three for "13 Reasons Why" sometime this year, it is a hope that Netflix took feedback from viewers and those having issue with the series to actually incorporate public recommendations into the show.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Campus Times encourages readers to submit letters to the editors regarding topics covered in the paper. Letters should be no more than 400 words in length and are due by Tuesday at 3 p.m. The Campus Times reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, space and libel. Letters may be sent to **ctimes@laverne.edu**.

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SPRING 2019

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HAPPENINGS

'Broadway Showcase'

The University Chorale and Chamber Singers will present their production, "Broadway Showcase," at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the Dailey Theatre.

A suggested donation of $10 is requested at the door.

Guitar Ensemble

The University of La Verne Guitar Ensemble will perform a recital of duets, trios, and quartets written from the 17th century to the present at 7:30 p.m. May 17 in the Morgan Auditorium.

Admission is free.

Piano Marathon

The music department's piano marathon will feature a full day of piano music from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 26 in the Morgan Auditorium.

This marathon will showcase students from the studios of instructors Marge Chen, Rafael Liebich and Jackie Tu.

'Bright Star'

The Candlelight Pavilion in Claremont is featuring Broadway's "Bright Star," which tells a story of love, loss and redemption during the 1920s and 1940s.

The show runs through May 25.

For more information, visit **candlelightpavilion.com.**

Chamber Ensemble

The La Verne Chamber Ensemble, led by Ellen Rondina, will perform at 7 p.m. May 29 in Dailey Theatre. Admission is free.

Film Screening

The communications department will host a screening of senior project video productions at 7 p.m. May 25 in La Fetra Lecture Hall.

The screening will feature dramatic films, long-form journalism projects and excerpts from the Foothill Community News show.

—Emily J. Sullivan, Jocelyn Arceo

Photographer challenges

Depth and space

by Erica Rae Sanchez

photography by Ariel Torres

Photographer Mark Ludak showcased his collection of photos titled "Nomad" at a reception Monday in the Carlson Gallery.

Around 15 people walked down the hallway to admire his project, which worked to challenge the idea of depth perception.

The collection of photographs aimed to represent the idea of a nomad, or a person with no permanent home. As there is little to no visibility of the background in each photo, the focus is solely on one object in each picture.

With the same beige color scheme throughout, the collection displayed the opposition in the nature of fog and dust.

"The pictures are about individuals and finding space," said Ludak. "Many of the spaces are empty, many of the spaces we cannot see into the horizon and we can't see what is behind us."

Ludak said he was set on exploring the idea of space by capturing photos that did not have a visible horizon in order to challenge the idea of knowing where one is going and where one came from. With no set direction, he said that one becomes a nomad.

"It's about individuals finding themselves in the present moment of where they are at," Ludak said.

The most challenging part of the project was going through all of the film and trying to find photos that worked together, said Ludak.

The most interesting aspect was the way which Ludak took the color out of everything, leaving it to be almost white, said Dario Mariani, sophomore computer science major.

Mariani's favorite image was a picture of the ocean that displayed no ending or beginning, showing just the water with fog behind it.

"It's just endless, with the light reflecting down the middle," said Mariani. "It's nice."

Mark Vasquez, sophomore kinesiology major, said he enjoyed the fact that although each photo displayed a different geographical location, Ludak was still able to convey the same mood throughout.

Zachariah Jolene, Fontana resident, was not as impressed with the work that was presented. He pointed out that only a few had merit.

"I like the style of a lot of them, he is very good at finding something to photograph, but I don't know if he is very great at photographing that thing," said Jolene.

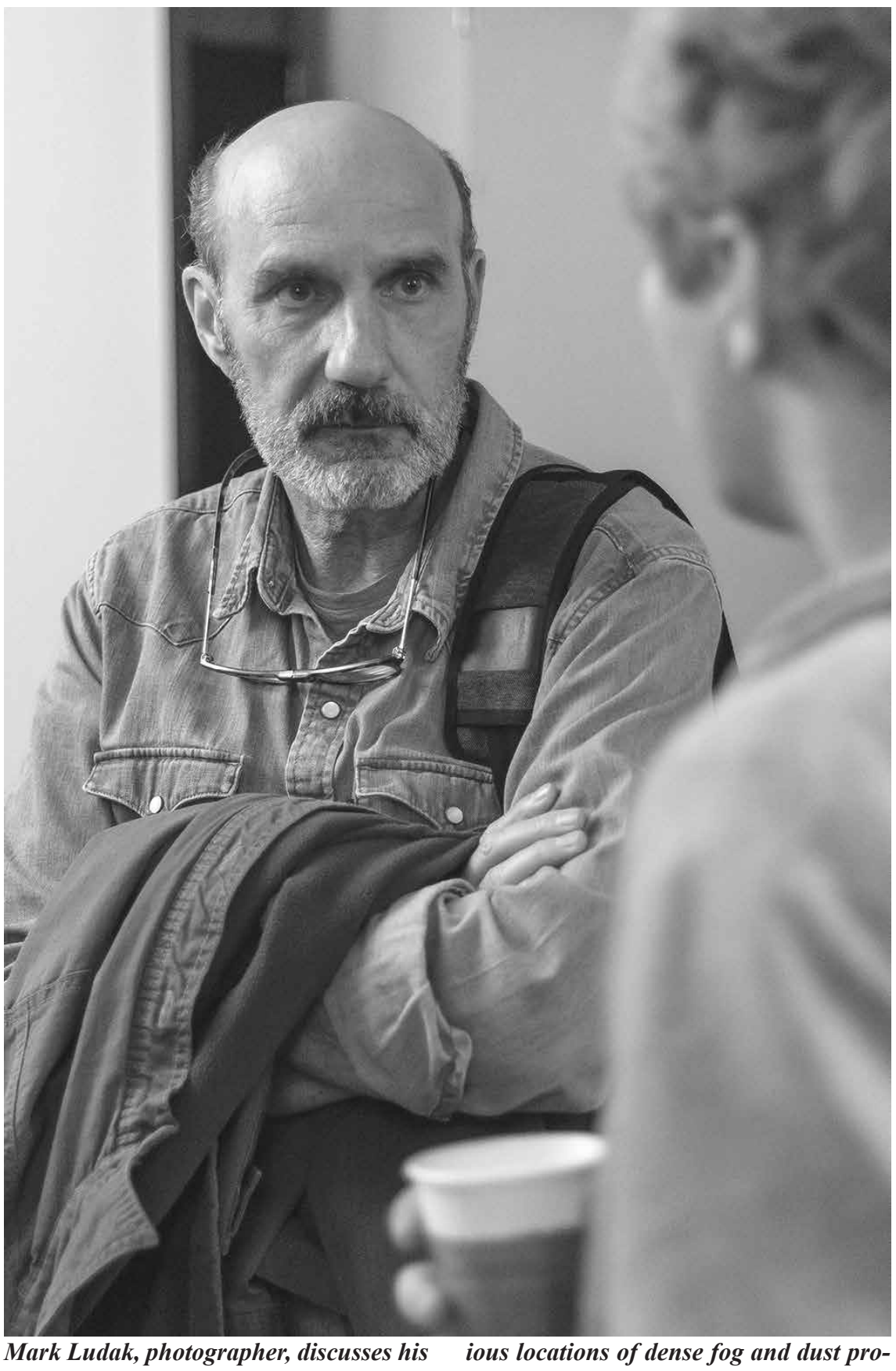
Although Jolene was not easy to impress, his favorite photo was of a person rowing a boat out into the ocean with a heavily foggy background, and a lack of focus that made the subject just barely visible to the eye.

The proudest moment for Ludak, he said, was seeing the project come together, especially after taking eight years to create. Even though it is finished, Ludak said he struggles with finding a way to stop taking photos with similar characteristics of those placed in the exhibit.

"I had been thinking about the same thing for such a long period of time that so many of the issues that came up in the photographs, I still do," said Ludak.

The exhibit will run through June 2.

Erica Rae Sanchez can be reached at ***erica.sanchez2@laverne.edu.***



Mark Ludak, photographer, discusses his exhibit "Nomad" Monday in the Carlson Gallery during the opening reception. Ludak's series, which was produced between 2010 and 2018, takes place in various locations of dense fog and dust produced by large bodies of water and sand to express the idea of individuals finding themselves in the present, where there is no past or future.

Students' art gleams in West Gallery

Line art meets paintings

Erica Rae Sanchez
Arts Editor

Seven students enrolled in the Life Drawing and Painting classes have displayed their work of paintings and life drawings in an exhibit titled, "You Are A Light," in the West Gallery, located in the Campus Center.

The art displayed ranged from line drawings of women and their bodies to abstract paintings that were primarily blue.

"I wanted to combine two different classes, one that is abstract painting and one that is representational drawing because I think it is important to put opposites together to find a way of looking at things differently," said Dion Johnson, director of art galleries.

The selection for the artwork was executed by Ruth Trotter, professor of art, and Johnson.

"I started with the drawings that she submitted and then I selected from what she selected, through the process of distillation based on those drawings I selected three paintings that went with them," said Johnson.

Karen Cruz, senior rhetoric communications major, had her drawing displayed in the exhibit.

The picture she drew was a portrait of a woman covering her upper part of her chest, she had a shaded in afro, and the majority of the image was connected together with minimal lines.

"The assignment was to draw the model with a minimum of 10 lines or less and I have seen other artists on Instagram and Snapchat doing amazing renditions of faces using one continuous line and that is what I was trying to do, but make it mine," said Cruz.

"Mentally I wanted to make sure that every line, curve, twist and turn had a purpose."

This was the first time that Cruz had taken an art class where she was allowed the freedom to draw what she wanted. The support from her family and friends further boosted her confidence, she said.

Cruz said she was happy that her work was placed in the gallery because of the honor and praise she has received, even from people she does not know.

Taylor Griffith, senior photography major, painted a blue, black and white abstract piece made of acrylic paint layered with matte medium and water.

His painting belonged to a series of other paintings that had the same theme of an abstract of material, creating the feeling of space or a memory, said Griffith.

"The piece that is hanging up there, it was the feeling of being deep in the ocean," said Griffith.

Griffith got the idea for his painting after he went on a trip in a submarine, and captured the feeling of being deep underwater with the muted colors and fleeting flashes of light.

"The ocean is something that has always influenced my style, but that memory was my catalyst of being that deep in the ocean. It was in response to that memory but also looking at how that experience changed me," said Griffith. "That was the direct inspiration for [the] painting, but overall the series comes from a place of different memories."

Marissa Reyes, senior studio art major, developed her art through Bonita, a model who had come into her class. She had drawn Bonita standing with her hand on her hip, leaning on a table.

"The model was live and nude and in front of you, so I started breaking down the different components of the body," said Reyes. "I start with a basic line of the gesture and then I built from that."

Reyes has been a figure drawing artist her whole life, she said.

"Whenever I am confronted with a live person, the most challenging part of drawing them is always getting their personality and their facial features accurate," said Reyes.

Johnson said he was proud of what the students create, and wants to take every opportunity possible to showcase their talents for everyone at the University to see.

This exhibit will run in the West Gallery until May 24.

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Friday Nights Live features various musicians

Savannah Dingman
Staff Writer

Free weekly concerts have begun again as Claremont's Friday Nights Live kicked off last Friday, allowing guests to listen to an array of live music in the multiple outdoor venues throughout the Claremont Village.

Hundreds of people came together to tap their feet and sing along to the live tunes.

The performers included four bands and artists; Steve Rushingwind and The Native Groove, Fab 8 - All Beatles, Big Junior, and the Outer Wave Surf Band.

The performances were scattered around the village, but all the venues were within walking distance of one another. The bands played in the Village Square Plaza, Shelton Park, Claremont Chamber, and the City Hall Plaza.

Some listeners stayed at one stage, while others enjoyed hopping from one band to the next.

"This is the third band we're watching," said concert goer Sheryl Linden.

"They are all so talented and different from each other, but my favorite was hearing all of the Beatles songs."

Several guests attending The Fab 8's performance were dancing along to the familiar Beatles songs.

Seven of the eight band members sang as well as played an instrument.

"This is just so much fun to perform," Fab 8 guitarist Hai Muradian said.

"The Beatles are one of those bands that 60 years later, people are still singing the songs, their music meant something. I hear a Beatles song and it reminds me of a certain time, like driving to the beach and going surfing with a friend of mine."

Muradian explained that the band began with his friends about five or six years ago.

"We were at one of the [band members] 50th birthday parties. We sat around his living room singing Beatles songs, and I said 'we should do this for people'," Muradian said. "So, we put a band together."

Over in the Village Square Plaza, Steve Rushingwind and The Native Groove were performing native fusion music, with Rushingwind center-stage playing a variety of wood-sound flutes.

Rushingwind is a multi-award-winning artist with 13 albums. He described the many flutes as all being individually minor keyed, meaning he uses a different flute for every song.

"I've been playing flute since I was five. When you play them alone you get a personal attachment to them, it's like you're playing them from your heart," Rushingwind said.

One audience member Tonyia Bourgeois, who is Native American, attended the live concert because her friend informed her that an Indian flutist was going to be playing.

"I liked the flute the best, but I really enjoyed that he was American Indian. The American Indians have a great history of feeling music, and also feeling where they are and where they go," Bourgeois said.

This Friday, guests can look forward to hearing multiple soft rock, jazz, and blues tunes throughout the Claremont Village.

The free concerts will continue from 6 to 9 p.m. every Friday until Oct. 25.

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Claremont artisans show off their eclectic fashion lines

Stephanie Joseph
Staff Writer

On Saturday, the monthly Claremont Art Walk took place throughout the Claremont Village with the center point being in the lot of Curtis Real Estate.

The Art Walk is a chance for all types of artist to gather around and showcase their creations.

People of the Claremont community were able to set up booths and showcase their work. All of the art varied from paintings, to jewelry, handbags and cars. Visitors gathered to look and shop all of the artists designs.

"This is just the community coming together and making it happen," said Thomas Messina, Curtis Real Estate realtor associate.

With a wide variety of art, the vision and stories of each artist was different and unique.

Landscape artist, Joe A. Oakes displayed his artwork and discussed how he had been inspired by the beautiful landscapes that he has seen, especially coming from a state where he did not have a lot of mountains around him.

"I've always been inspired by landscape, even as a kid but I grew up in Illinois so there were no mountains," Oakes said. "But for some reason that was something that I liked to paint. Then when I moved out here, I got to see it all so it just made it that much better for me."

He is a painting teacher that instructs students how to paint different types of landscapes near the Riverside and Orange County area.

Other artists, expressed their abilities in different ways.

Textile designer and artist, Lindsay O'Connell is also a painter but she takes what she creates on canvases and puts them on purses, tote bags and pillows.

"I just start painting and kind of go with it and keep painting until I like it, said O'Connell. "It's kind of like a meditation thing for me."

Her paintings are then made into a pattern, which is put onto her bags and pillows as part of her fashion line, Stormy Grace.

Jewelry designer Heather Meier-Gonzalez and Kerin Gonzalez, her husband, created a fashion line called 'Respan Retro.'

She creates jewelry from sustainable metals while her husband creates all of the stands and displays for her jewelry line.

"My wife handcrafts all of the jewelry that you see and my job is to do all of the woodwork and build everything to showcase her work," said Gonzalez.

The inspiration behind her work comes from witnessing all of the waste while working for a jewelry design company, Meier-Gonzalez said.

She wanted to do something about that so she created her own line and has been running it full time since.

"I used to work corporate jewelry design for a little over a decade and I saw all of the waste so I decided to leave and start my own company that was all sustainable. All of the metals I use are all sustainably sourced and I wanted to be able to make my own designs instead of being told what designs to make."

The Claremont Art Walk happens every first Saturday of the month and the next one will be June 1 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Stephanie Joseph can be reached at ***stephanie.joseph@laverne.edu.***

Amanda Geiger never saw the drunk driver.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.



Photo by Michael Mazzeo

U.S. Department of Transportation

Ad Council

The best musicians shine on stage

Various musicians showcased



Jaysin Brandt

Catherine Tereszczuk, junior music major, performs "Honeysuckle Rose" during the "Best of La Verne" year-end showcase of Sundays at the Morgan on May 5 in the Morgan Auditorium. The monthly performance allows students, faculty and members of the community to showcase their musical talent. This being the last show of the year, the musicians ranged from students to faculty.

David Gonzalez
LV Life Editor

The best of the best performed a variety of music, showcasing different styles of vocals and various instrumentalists at the annual Best of La Verne performance on Sunday.

Students and faculty performed hand-in-hand to play traditional Latin music, jazz and classical pieces.

The Salsa and Latin Jazz Band, consisted of vocals, percussion and brass instruments; it was the perfect start to the two-hour performance. The band performed covers of "Lo que va a pasar" by Chucho Valdés and "Plastico" by Rubén Blades.

The percussion and brass instruments echoed throughout the auditorium.

Beck Barton, junior music major sang with the Salsa and Latin Jazz Band, said the performers were asked by the music faculty to perform, and could not deny this amazing opportunity.

"There's a lot of energy that we just kind of connect with each other, and it's a lot of fun watching each of us interact with one another," Barton said.

Barton said that the music they performed this semester was rooted in the Cuban and Latin culture.

The final performance of the night was a Mexican mariachi performance that had the audience clapping along.

Catherine Tereszczuk, junior music major, sang "Honeysuckle Rose" by Fats Waller and Andy Razaf accompanied by Professor of Music Reed Gratz, who played the piano.

Tereszczuk sang with an old jazz voice that sounded like something out of a 1920s performance.

Tereszczuk said that performing in the "Best of La Verne" show was nerve-wracking, but loved that she could go on stage and have fun.

"Once I'm up there though, it just all goes away, and I can be present in the moment," Tereszczuk said. "It becomes fun at that point."

Tereszczuk said she was nominated to sing a solo musical theater piece but denied the offer to collaborate with Gratz.

"I thought it would be a really cool opportunity to sing a jazz piece because I know Reed Gratz is a great jazz pianist," Tereszczuk said.

> 'There's a lot of energy that we just kind of connect with each other, and it's a lot of fun watching each of us interact with one another.'
> *—Beck Barton, junior music major*

Julie Garcia, senior French major, said that she liked the performance by Preston Parker and Sandra Nam and the performance by Jonathan Rios.

Rios performed a solo violin piece that exuded serenity. Any chatter in the audience died down when Rios confidently and expertly played his violin.

"I really liked the solo violinist a lot," Garcia said. "Anyone who can master that is someone who is talented."

Parker and Nam worked well together in their rendition of "You Should be Loved" by Bill Russell. Parker wore his heart on his sleeve as he sang and emoted the song.

Garcia said that while the violin performances have a special place in her heart, she enjoyed every performance.

Victoria Sanchez, sophomore kinesiology major, said that she particularly loved all of the opera singers.

Kate Correnti, freshman music major, projected her operatic voice without a microphone during her performance of "Gretchen am Spinnrade," by Franz Schubert. Nam also played piano with Correnti.

"I know how hard that is to do so it's really cool to hear that so many people have that talent," Sanchez said.

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Commentary

Captain Marvel's introduction is not marvelous



Danielle De Luna

It's been two months since "Captain Marvel" was released to theaters, and I still haven't gotten around to seeing the film. After watching "Avengers: Endgame", I'm kinda glad I didn't go out of my way to watch her half baked introduction into the Marvel Cinematic Universe.

I know that statement is a pretty bold assertion given that I haven't seen the film, but Brie Larson's performance in "Endgame" alone was enough for me to cringe with disappointment. I have been a fan of Carol Danvers since she adopted the Captain Marvel title in 2012. I cherished those comics, and the production team behind them; they kept my nerdy seventh grade self inspired to pursue creative endeavors.

Danvers was a pilot, a writer and a warrior capable of transcending the role of love interest to take on the mantle that once belonged to her male Kree counterpart, Captain Mar-vell. If anyone deserves an epic origin film, it would be her.

That seventh grader would have been thrilled to see Danvers kicking butt on the silver screen, but I'm afraid Marvel fell terribly short. I can confidently say that Captain Marvel was my least favorite part of "Avengers: Endgame." I'll even go as far as to say that she shouldn't have been in the movie, period.

Why, do you ask? Insufficient plot development and characterization. Introducing Danvers into the MCU this late in the game was a huge pitfall.

Although her character is fiercely independent, she needed more time in the timeline to develop relationships and chemistry with the other Avengers. Without time to develop her connections to the others, there is nothing at stake for her in Endgame.

As a result, Larson gave a flat, uninteresting interpretation of a "strong heroine" archetype. She was arrogant, snarky and had absolutely no character arc. She might as well have been a machine. The only contributions she made were in battle, after all. Otherwise, she was annoying and forgettable.

This is disconcerting, given the rich archive of characterization available in comic format. Danvers' relationships with the former Captain Mar-vell and pilot mentor Helen Cobb were the key to unlocking her humanity as well as her power. However, I have a feeling these were likely left out of her origin story.

Marvel set out to appeal to female fans, but failed to deliver a satisfying, well-rounded character. All they needed to do was look to characters like Nebula, or Black Widow. Both of them are powerful and discerning, but they are also flawed. Their bada** qualities come from how they develop beyond their flaws, their motivation comes from caring about their relationships with others.

It's disappointing that Marvel rushed to throw in Carol Danvers, when they easily could have developed one of the many other incredible female characters at their disposal.

In the end, it was a disservice to Captain Marvel's character in the comics.

Danielle De Luna, a junior journalism major, is news editor for the Campus Times. She can be reached by email at ***danielle.deluna@laverne.edu*** *or on Twitter* ***@Dani_Dee26***.

Mob Market shows artwork motley

Jocelyn Arceo
Editor in Chief

The Art Mob Market, a group of artisans, held a spring art sale featuring various works through the use of different mediums on Saturday at the Claremont UCC Church.

Since 1995, what was once formerly known as the GypsySisters' Artisans Market, the now Art Mob Market features a large amount of diverse art like hand-crafted jewelry, ceramics, painting, prints and cards, handmade soap, felt work and other crafts, over a three-day period twice a year.

With a large display of what looked to be vintage treasures, Sher Ofstedahl, owner of Antiques, Etc. in Upland, sells what she likes to call her orphans, or in other words antique, salvageable pieces of broken jewelry that she assembles.

"If someone has vintage jewelry from their grandmother or their mother and they want it made into something more contemporary, I'll make them something still using the old pieces," Ostedahl said.

"I believe in not throwing away anything, so I've kind of always adopted orphan pieces of other people's jewelry... I'm really big on repurposing and reusing."

Another artist, Kathy Spear, had jewelry, monoprints, cards and silk-dyed scarves on display for intrigued, possible customers.

She has been involved with the market for an upwards of 10 to 15 years, and claims that it is all about the community atmosphere.

"I love the people, it's creative and it's really a place for creative outlets and networking with other artists," Spear said. "It's like a family, some of the women here have been in this particular show for a lot of years."

Mixed-media artist Toti O'Brien had her various sculptures on display, many of neutral toned colors.

The sculptures took the form of a human while still including elements of nature, something she said she gets much of her inspiration from.

"Sometimes, inspiration is just something you get in your mind, you see something, or you have a vision so-called, it's like an impulse," O'Brien said. "As you can see, I get a lot of inspiration from nature. Say I find a piece of driftwood-- I will just know it's going to become something."

Having dabbled in art since before the age of 10, O'Brien has only been participating in the market for about 10 years. She described the show as great, with great people, something she mentioned is not always common.

"We are very supportive of each other, and when you do these kinds of markets for a job it's a work in progress," O'Brien said.

"You build your customers, your clients, so you need to stay many years in a place because if not, it doesn't make sense."

One artist, Laura Barnes, presented a display holding a large number of prints, all varying in size from work printed onto an empty greeting card to larger prints the size of an average frame.

The presentation seemed to have one central theme: cats.

Whether through black and white block print, or what looked like warmer toned water color, the prints were heavily inspired by the four-legged feline.

"I actually had never put cats in my artwork until I owned one. I've always liked watching animals, I have some pieces with crows and birds, things like that," Barnes said.

"It's funny, because I've had dogs before and it's just not same. Cats, watching them is just different."

Barnes has been an artist for about 40 years, and has been participating in the market for at least nine of those.

She said that being persistent and open to trying new things is the key to a successful profession in the market.

"Keep trying different ideas and don't be afraid to try something new, you never know where it'll take you," Barnes said.

"For me right now, the block printing I had decided about 10 years ago that was something I wanted to start doing, so I just dove in. Now I do more of that then actual painting, which is what I had trained at."

The Art Mob Market is held every first weekend in May and December in Claremont, and will be returning at the end of the year.

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Movie Review

'Extremely Wicked' depicts serial killer's charm

Emily J. Sullivan
Staff Writer

"Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil and Vile" dropped on Netflix May 3, bringing the film into the homes of viewers much sooner than eager audiences had anticipated.

When the trailer for "Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil and Vile" dropped in January of this year, the media went into a frenzy. Many were outraged that Hollywood hunk Zac Efron was cast as one of the most prolific serial killers of the 20th century.

Claims that Hollywood set out to sexualize Bundy by casting Efron were making headlines and trending on Twitter.

The trailer was set to rock 'n' roll music and showed the dreamy Efron bearing a striking resemblance to Bundy – it didn't feel like a horror film, but more of a biopic.

While many criticized the film, believing it would glorify Bundy rather than portray him as a monster, the choice to cast Efron seemed deliberate.

Ted Bundy was handsome and charming; he was able to manipulate at least 30 known women, but likely many more, into taking a ride in his infamous Volkswagen Beetle, no doubt using his charisma and good looks to sway his potential victims.

Bundy had courtroom groupies and letters with marriage proposals flooding his prison cell. It seems only appropriate, in that case, to cast one of Hollywood's most popular leading men.

The film is based on Elizabeth Kendall's memoir "The Phantom Prince: My Life with Ted Bundy."

Elizabeth Kendall is a pseudonym for Bundy's long-time ex-girlfriend Elizabeth Kloepfer.

The story is told from her point of view, it focuses more on her conflicting feelings about Bundy and her transition from loving him and trusting him to doubting him and, ultimately, discovering who he really was.

Her point of view is important because so many people went on that same journey of initially trusting a seemingly normal Bundy, to realizing the man before them was far from "normal."

It sets out to prove that people are not always who you think they are.

Even the Florida judge, Edward D. Cowart, who oversaw Bundy's case seemed to be fooled by Bundy, calling him "partner," telling him he would have made a fine lawyer and that he was a bright young man.

Judge Cowart shocked and set off the public by telling Bundy he had no ill-will against him the day he sentenced him to death, and this was after he had seen gruesome crime scene photos and Bundy escaping police custody twice.

Efron does an impressive job at portraying the man, who was endlessly creepy and notoriously beguiling.

The real superstar of the film though is Lily Collins, who plays Elizabeth Kloepfer.

She tortured herself for years with guilt over giving authorities Bundy's name and not realizing Bundy's guilt sooner or more confidently.

Collins brings such vulnerability to the character, forcing the audience to feel empathy for someone they may not have right off the bat.

"Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil and Vile" did not include any murder scenes, making the film more about the power of manipulation and charm rather than a graphic depiction of his brutal violence.

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Donations help the homeless

Christine D. Insigne
Staff Writer

The Campus Activities Board teamed with the Hope 4 Homeless Youth Campaign and the Church of the Brethren to collect food and clothing, and to raise awareness of homeless college students on Monday at Sneaky Park.

Students were urged to donate old clothes and canned goods, and learn about the all too common realities of the lives of homeless college students, who make up 9% of college students nationwide according to recent research.

"I know it is something that needs to be dealt with, but not a lot of people see homeless college students," April Matamoros, senior psychology major, said.

Many of the students who attended the event were happy that CAB was raising awareness.

"I really like this event because students already plan to give things away during their moving out process, but with this they can give to people who really need it," freshman education major Abrelle Negrete said.

Senior art history major Damairis Lao said she can relate to those who have insufficient funds.

"I know other students on this campus who are also facing similar experiences," Lao said. "It is something that isn't normally talked about."

The event also served as a way to collect data on the perception of homeless people and the stigma they face.

Students were asked to participate in a six-question survey that asked about people's perception of the homeless.

One question displayed two pictures of different types of homeless people, and asked the participant choose which one they thought was homeless.

While many think of homeless people as disorganized or unkempt, homeless college students don't necessarily look any different than your average college student.

"You don't know that person's situation," Jerry Solorzano, senior business administration major, said. "You don't know what is going on in their lives that becomes the reason why they are homeless. And I feel like the stigma and shaming needs to go away... We should be trying to help them out."

The lack of affordable housing is the primary cause of homelessness, according to the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty.

The organization also found that low-income housing has decreased since 2011.

The problem might be even more serious in California as a recent study found that 19% of students attending California's community colleges report experiencing homelessness in the last year. Meanwhile 60% report recent housing insecurity, and another 50% experienced food insecurity, according to a study by the Hope Center for College, Community and Justice at Temple University, conducted between 2016 and 2018.

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Ariel Torres

Campus Activities Board co-chair and senior communications major Alexis Patterson hands out raffle tickets to donors at the Hope 4 Homeless Youth campaign Monday in Sneaky Park. The event was sponsored by CAB to raise awareness for the campaign and homeless college students.

Asian, Pacific Islander panel 'Crazy Inspiring'

Emily J. Sullivan
Staff Writer

Crazy Inspiring Asians, a panel organized by senior public relations major Joshua Bay as part of his senior project, showcased the insights of Asian Americans and Pacific Islander leaders in the La Verne community on Wednesday in the Campus Center Ballroom.

The panelists discussed their experiences and views on media visibility for Asian-American and Pacific Islanders.

"We can't advocate for Asian Americans without appreciating the amazing and inspiring Asians right here in our La Verne community," said Bay. "I was very specific when picking my panelists – there are AAPIs from all different walks of life, different backgrounds, with different careers and that was important to me because Asians are so commonly stereotyped.

"It was interesting to moderate because I was getting lost in what the panelists were saying, it all felt so personal. This wasn't just a panel about Asians, this was deeper than that. When Ian Lising said his son was proud of him for participating in the panel, I felt like I'd succeeded."

The discussion was lively with students, faculty, friends and supporters filling the rows of seats. The room echoed with laughter as people listened to the panelists share their stories.

When the topic of Asian cuisine came up, Wendy Lau, AECOM risk management lead and Board of Trustees member chimed in.

Her eyes become glossy and wet and her voice cracked as she shared her experience as a child.

"I was bringing Asian food to the cafeteria and it was definitely that feeling of, 'I don't fit in, I don't belong,'" Lau said. "This is so sad and still breaks my heart a little, but I remember as a kid, thinking 'my life would be so much easier if I were white, if I were blonde, if I were blue-eyed, if I were anything but what I looked like, I wouldn't have to deal with all of this stuff' and I'm sad for the little girl that I was. That's why this is important, right? Because I don't want other kids to feel separate, to feel like they don't belong."

University of La Verne alumna Mariel Cornel is the founder and creator of Polydeux, a fashion and lifestyle blog in Los Angeles.

She models, works as a brand ambassador, product influencer and content creator.

"Growing up, I didn't like being Filipino," Cornel said. "I've only recently come to terms with it and walking away from that panel, I felt the opposite. I didn't feel that resistance to embrace my culture, it was very empowering. Participating in the panel helped me to confront these issues I've had. I felt like I was meant to be there."

Ian Lising, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, moved to Nebraska when he was 16 to live with his aunt and uncle.

After graduating, he moved back to the Philippines for his undergraduate education, then taught there for five years until he was recruited to teach at the University of La Verne.

"I could say that I've had it both ways, I've lived the experience of being the minority, when you're in Nebraska that's going to happen," said Lising. "My aunt and uncle were basically the only Filipino family in the state and that's not an overstatement, this was the '80s."

"I never identified as Filipino when I lived in the Philippines because I was always outcast as the android or the American-roid. I was a minority in Nebraska and I was a minority in the Philippines. When it comes

Continued on page 12

Students tour Buddhist temple

Hannah Rogers
Staff Writer

In honor of Asian American/ Pacific Islander Heritage Month, University of La Verne Soul-journ organized a tour of the His Lai Buddhist Temple in Hacienda Heights on Sunday. Five students, with University Chaplain Zandra Wagoner attended.

Hsi Lai means Coming to the West and signifies the dedication of the Fo Guang Shan Buddhist Order to the spread of the teachings of the Buddha to those in the West.

The temple, one of the largest Buddha temple in the United States, is the North American Regional Headquarters of Fo Guang Shan. It was built to serve as a spiritual and cultural center for those interested in learning more about Buddhism and Chinese culture. Signs throughout the temple tour described the symbols and statues.

The Dharmachakra, or the Dhamma Wheel, symbolizes the path to enlightenment and reaching Nirvana. The Dhamma Wheel was portrayed throughout the temple, looking similar to what a ship's steering wheel would look like.

"(The) connections that the tour guide made between Buddhism and Christianity was really cool because I identify as both," said Damairis Lao, senior art and art history major. "The tour guide used the Holy Trinity to connect the three wheels to Christianity."

The main shrine is the most important place in any Buddhist monastery. Before entering, an incense stick is provided and a prayer is said. At the shrine three statues of Sakyamuni Buddha that possess wisdom, virtue and compassion grace the center of the main wall overlooking the temple.

The Sakyamuni Buddha, who possesses those three values, is the spiritual teacher and the founder of Buddhism.

"It is very big and beautiful and amazing, with the 10,000 Buddha on the wall," said Uyen Ho, freshman computer science major. "It is one of the biggest main shrines in a temple that I have been to."

The first hall is the Bodhisattva Hall, where there are "Buddhas in training." Each bodhisattva represents a virtuous quality essential to all Buddhists.

The statues in the Bodhisattva Hall depicted promising and important figures in Buddhism.

Samantabhadra Bodhisattva helps to achieve more discipline in our daily lives. Kisitigarbha Bodhisattva is renowned for his commitment to saving those who are suffering. Maitreya Bodhisattva, also known as the happy Buddha, is the future Buddha and is a symbol of benevolence. Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva symbolizes the perfection of compassion and loving-kindness.

The last of the five statues was the Manjusri Bodhisattva, who is known for his great wisdom. Below the Bodhisattva, and above the altar, the Diamond Sutra was engraved in Chinese characters.

"You can feel the sense of community and peace and the desire to do good in the world," Wagoner said. "Students are interested in Buddhism and it is one of the most popular trips we do each year. We try to see and show a lot of different traditions."

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Wine walk



Jaysin Brandt

Sigal Diamonds serves a French red blend at the seventh annual Sip of La Verne Wine Walk on Saturday. Participants walked up and down D Street tasting wine and listening to live music.

Sigal Diamonds also served food from Café Allegro and a California Pinot Grigio. More than 30 businesses partnered with local restaurants for this year's event.

Commentary

Parental dress codes overstep boundaries



Jocelyn Arceo

Carlotta Outley Brown, the principal of James Madison High School in Houston, Texas, has implemented a dress code policy for parents of enrolled students as of April 9.

The policy prohibits any parent on the premises from wearing clothing such as short shorts, leggings, hair rollers, bonnets, low-cut tops and short dresses. The letter sent out to parent's states, "Please know that if you break our school rules/ policies or do not follow one of these rules, you will not be permitted inside the school until you return appropriately dressed for the school setting."

The students who attend the high school are required to wear uniforms, however, it is highly unlikely the parents ever thought they would be told what to wear, too.

Brown claims the policy has been put in place as a way to keep their standards high and because parents are their children's first teacher, according to the letter.

The statement of keeping standards high implies that the parents who may not have time in the morning to take their hair rollers out or to put on more than a pair of leggings do not abide by high enough standards.

Not only are parents being told what to wear, but they are essentially being told they are not responsible enough to portray the proper standards to their children as well. Whether or not that was intent of Brown, the fact remains that parents are now under the impression that a public school believes they do not hold high enough standards for themselves.

Any grown adult would be outraged at the unnecessary policy, and the blatantly disrespectful reasoning behind it.

Unfortunately, another issue arises through the fact that all dress code policies are inherently sexist, with this policy being no exception.

The letter sent out to parents only provides one bullet point of 10 regarding what men are permitted to wear, stating "sagging pants, shorts, jeans, will not be permitted in the building or on the premises. Men wearing undershirts will NOT be permitted in the building."

This is strikingly similar to dress code policies on various high school campuses, which tend to heavily focus on what female students are wearing compared to male students, an issue within academia that is now further branching out to the lives of adults.

Hearing of a parent dress code made my skin crawl as I reminisced over the copious amount of dress code violations I endured throughout my four long years of high school.

After dealing with restrictions on expression and comfort for nearly 13 years of following school policy, I cannot ever again allow another public school to restrict how I choose to express myself. This is exactly what parents at the Houston high school should be doing as well.

Adults who have done their time with school-sanctioned dress codes should not have to worry about going through it again as they try to provide their children with an education.

The choice to remove parents from the premises of the school simply for wearing leggings or an undershirt will only do further damage to the students than it will to anyone else.

Establishing professional dress codes within the work place is warranted, or within an organization, sure, but for parents simply picking up or dropping off their children at school? This policy is completely overstepping boundaries.

Jocelyn Arceo, a junior journalism major, is editor in chief of the Campus Times. She can be reached by email at ***jocelyn.arceo@laverne.edu*** *and on Twitter* ***@jociefromulv****.*

Coffee shop owners spill the beans

Maydeen Merino
Staff Writer

Cactus Coffee hosted its first business meet up on May 2, encouraging future entrepreneurs and business owners to attend and discuss what it takes to open a business.

Future entrepreneurs Sara Joromat and Jordan Faulkner, as well as Compelling Coffee owner Kian Abedini and Cactus Coffee owner Jeremy Jenewein, attended the meeting to discuss their experiences owning their own business.

Both owners provided tips to the entrepreneurs on how to build their own businesses and spoke about situations they may run into as an owner of their future businesses.

"Start small and then scale up, people try to go really big off the bat, and if you do something with the resources you currently have or without having to make too big of an investment, you can grow slowly and gradually," Jenewein said.

Jenewein encountered many obstacles when trying to open Cactus Coffee, but the process of opening his own coffee shop improved his organizational abilities, he said.

"There's a lot to learn from being in the same room with a lot of like-minded people that are willing to challenge you and push you to think outside of the box," Faulkner said.

Joromat attended the meeting because she wanted to learn more about running a business from those already doing so, and said she hopes to one day open her own nonprofit tea house and clothing store.

"You can Google stuff, and learn a decent amount on how to start a business but there's not like, a point-by-point checklist," Jenewein said.

The business meet up helped to provide possible future business owners with connections and different perspectives on how to start up a business.

"It's always good to get perspective from people who are doing different things," Abedini said.

"Running a small business and growing a small business is such a big thing that you can't narrow yourself to one mindset or one way of looking at problems, because you'll fail."

Jenewein said he hopes to meet with and learn from other local business owners in the future. He also hopes to have this event in the future and plans on hopefully having them once a month at Cactus Coffee, he said.

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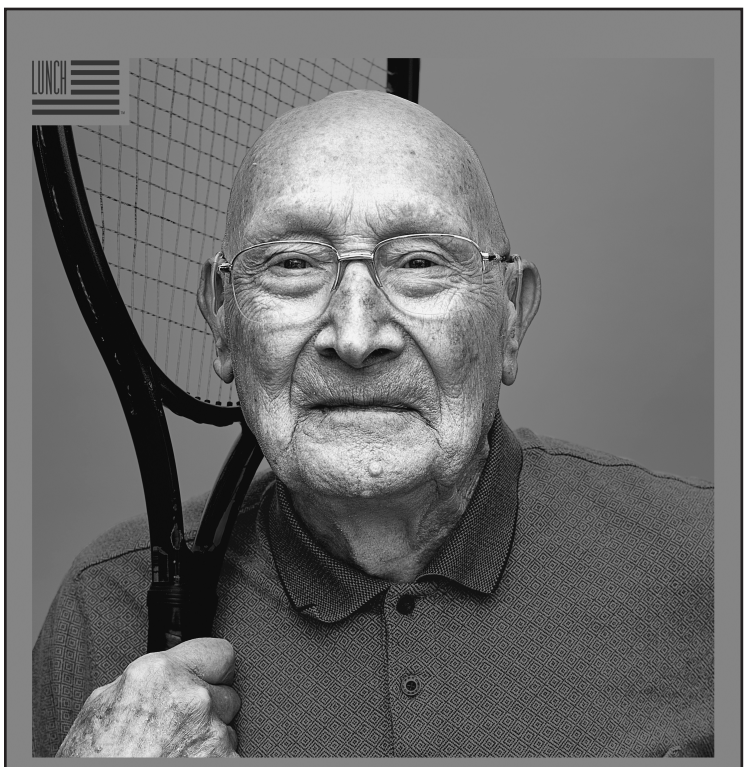
Katelyn Keeling

Aspiring entrepreneur Jordan Faulkner, Cactus Coffee owner Jeremy Jenewein and Compelling Coffee owner Kian Abedini speak on the ins and outs of starting and running a small business at Cactus Coffee's first small business meet up May 2 at Cactus Coffee.



Inspiring...

Continued from page 10

to the idea of the model racial group, I really did feel that way in Nebraska because being the only Filipino family, anything I did was reflective. I felt like I had to live up to the stereotypes."

Senior business administration major Deborah Lee, who greeted attendees of Crazy Inspiring Asians, said it was important to do this panel because people at the University should be talking about things they feel passionate about.

"Josh wanted to focus on the lack of diversity and inclusivity for AAPIs at the University of La Verne," Lee said. "He wanted to facilitate a presence of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders because while there are different clubs for Latinx and African Americans, there was this need for more Asian American and Pacific Islander focused discussions and clubs."

Mulan Novilla, senior communications major and ULV Barkada club member, said she thought the panel spoke truth regarding Asian American and Pacific Islander experiences. She said they cannot seem to shake the stereotypes.

"The leaders on the panel were so inspirational," Novilla said. "I found myself agreeing with everything they were saying. I'm an immigrant and so I understand the struggle of not feeling American enough while simultaneously not feeling Filipino enough. I hope the panel kick-starts a conversation that needs to be had."

The other Crazy Inspiring Asian panelists that participated were political science doctoral student and adjunct professor Mary Anne Mendoza, Director of Student Life, Development and Leadership Adam Wong, Professor of Kinesiology and Athletic Training Program Clinical Coordinator Paul Alvarez and UCLA organic chemistry doctoral student Katherine Bay.

Bay described producing the panel Crazy Inspiring Asians as the cherry on top of his senior project – putting his passion into action.

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Water polo rises above slow start

Garcia and Kezman stand out

Joey Matsuzawa
Sports Editor



Katelyn Keeling

La Verne attackers Guarina Garcia, senior athletic training major, and Jassmine Kezman, sophomore kinesiology major, were named women's water polo First Team All-Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference for 2019.

After finishing last season in seventh place in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference with a 5-9 record, the women's water polo team defied all odds this season finishing with a 9-5 record that got them into the postseason.

While the team's season ended in defeat in the SCIAC Tournament at the hands of rival Pomona-Pitzer, the women made strides in building a team that can compete at the top for years to come, with two players leading the charge – senior attacker Guarina Garcia and sophomore attacker Jassmine Kezman.

After dropping the first three games with their first conference win coming four weeks into the season, even with the return of the two-time First Team All-SCIAC athlete in Garcia, the future of the women's water polo team looked to be bleak.

"In the beginning we didn't really know how each other played," Kezman said. "We came from different schools and had a lot of transfers but we slowly learned each other's tendencies."

Sitting at a 3-8 overall record, the team's sparks would ignite following a highly contested 13-12 loss against Cal Lutheran, the team that would go on to win the SCIAC tournament.

"At the beginning we didn't really think that we would be able to (make it to the tournament), myself included," Garcia said. "But once we started winning we started believing we're really in this."

The Leopards would then go on a five game winning streak against SCIAC opponents, a push that would lead them into the postseason.

"Once we believed that we had the potential to grow as a team we knew that we could contribute that to the win." Kezman said.

Kezman would go on to lead SCIAC with 81 goals and 91 points – the next highest goal scorer in the conference had 54.

Garcia spearheaded her own scoring campaign, with the Puerto Rico native notching top-10 stats with 52 goals, 62 points and 40 steals.

Both athletes would go on to earn First Team All-SCIAC honors for the third time in both of their careers as Leopards.

Kezman recalled that Garcia was one of the main reasons she chose to play for La Verne while she was still in high school.

"When I was a senior in high school she actually helped recruit me," Kezman said. "And then she left."

"I remember that, I went to so many games to watch her play, trying to get her to come," Garcia said. "But things ended up being different and I had to leave."

After her one year stint playing for San Jose State, Garcia says that she is happy she was able to come back and make a difference.

"I was never really an upperclassmen here at La Verne and it was always like I was the baby on the team," Garcia said. "But then coming back I knew the program, I felt comfortable, like I know how to represent La Verne. Toward the beginning I was still struggling with getting used to coming back and once I started sharing more time with the team it became so much fun."

Though with the multiple accolades both athletes have to their name it could be easy to become complacent, but both girls take the pressure of leadership in stride.

"I think that we're kinda just used to playing water polo, it's like muscle memory for us at this point because we started so young and have been playing since," Kezman said.

Kezman started playing club water polo at 8 when she joined the Commerce Aquatic Center's team. She played throughout high school, where she was then recruited for La Verne.

Garcia started playing when she was 9, playing throughout high school in Puerto Rico, before joining the Puerto Rican National Team when she was 17 and has played with the team ever since.

"Every summer I go back and train with them and then whatever tournament they have I go play with them," Garcia said.

Garcia is not the only one with national plans. Kezman recently received an invitation to tryout for the USA National Team through head coach Pat Beemer.

"Beemer actually set this up, he recommended me to someone and I got an email for USA water polo to try out for the national team," Kezman said. "It's just a two day try out, I have no clue if I'll make it but I'm still training and I'm still getting in the water almost every day,"

Looking forward into the near future, Garcia plans to focus on her school work in getting a master's degree in athletic training, while Kezman looks to continue coaching for Rose Bowl Aquatics in Pasadena.

"In the summer I still plan to coach and coaching helps me see things as a player because I'm able to visualize it better," Kezman said.

Although the Leopards fell to the Sagehens in the semifinal, the players helped turn the program on its head, going from a seventh place season last year to a playoff appearance this season with few regrets.

"My only regret is that I wish Guara came sooner," Kezman said.

"I'm grateful that I was able to come back and was given the opportunity to join the team again," Garcia said.

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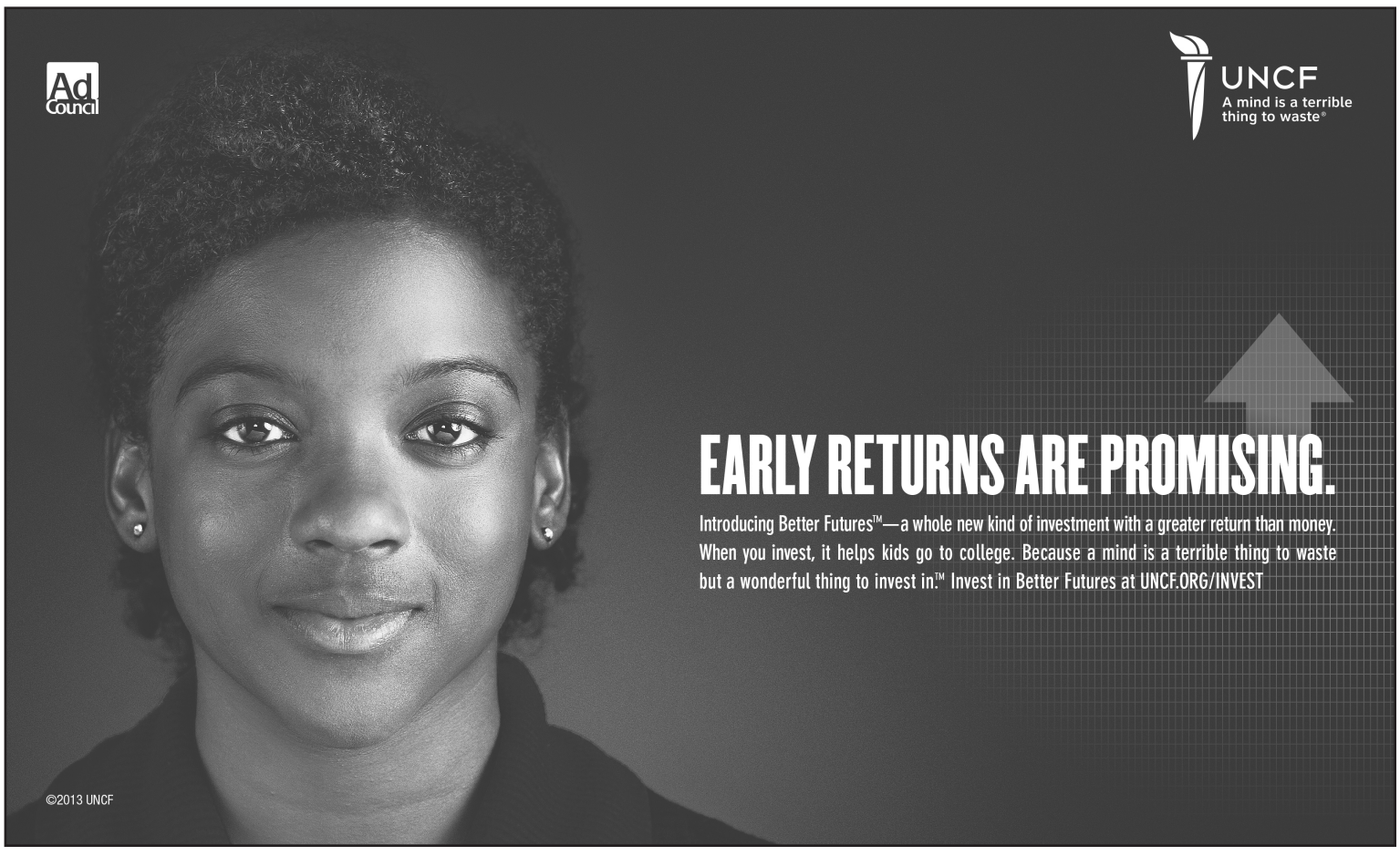

Reveles takes over coordinator duties

Alumnus to lead Leo offense

Dominic Honoré
Staff Writer

The La Verne football team has a new play caller on offense.

First year special teams coordinator and wide receivers coach Miguel Reveles was promoted last month to offensive coordinator.

With the recent departure of eight-year offensive coordinator Richard Worsell to Akron for an analyst position, the Leopards were looking to fill a significant hole among their coaching staff.

Reveles says he sees his new role as a tremendous duty.

"I think it's a big responsibility and a great honor," Reveles said. "I've told some of the players I owe them and the program my best daily, whether that's on the field or in the meeting room; I want to see this program succeed in the best way possible."

A 2011 graduate of La Verne, Reveles has had coaching stints at Division I football programs such as Cal and Arizona as a special teams coordinator and assistant wide receivers coach.

He also has brief NFL experience after serving as a coach's assistant during the Carolina Panthers' 2014 preseason.

Reveles said he plans to bring the lessons he learned during his high level coaching experiences to ULV.

"The most important thing is having a plan and sticking to it," Reveles said.

"Always being prepared whether that's in the meeting room or at practice; having a purpose with everything we do in practice so on game day, the players know what we want to do offensively."

Head coach Chris Krich gave an inside look into what made him want to promote Reveles.

"When it came down to it, the best guy we had for the job was in our own backyard," Krich said.

"He did a great job last year as our special team's coordinator and has coaching experience at all levels from high school all the way up to Division I. Now he's back here at Division III at his alma mater and he really bleeds green and orange which I think is the biggest thing."

Despite offense and defense having different responsibilities on the field during game day, defensive coordinator James Stewart said each part of the team still essentially works together.

"At the end of the day it's about the players," Stewart said. "Coach Reveles and I are both very compromising men so we'll do whatever we need to do to complement each other's sides of the ball to ultimately make our players successful."

As far as plans for the new offense go, Reveles said he does not expect to change much scheme-wise, but at the same time will have the entire offense recognize game situations better.

"The biggest thing for us is to play fast, physical and with great execution," Reveles said "I also think it's important that the players recognize certain game situations so we can execute and have the right tempo based off that."

The Leopards' two Second Team All-SCIAC running backs, juniors James Gonsalves and Martaveous Holliday, both said they look forward to the new offensive system under Reveles.

"I think it's a great move and going to be a great transition for the offense this year," Gonsalves said.

"He's got a lot of knowledge from his past jobs and he knows what he wants out of his players. I am looking forward to this season to take what's ours."

Holliday agreed with his teammate's thoughts.

"I feel with his prior experience he will lead us in the right direction," Holliday said. "Last year we struggled in the passing game so hopefully with the change, it will improve."

Reveles said he looked forward to working with the entire offense now that he has a year in the program under his belt.

"I want the players to know that my personality isn't going to change," Reveles said. "I think that it's important with whatever you're coaching personality is, that you stick to it, to the best of your ability."

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Ashley Villavicencio

Miguel Reveles, last season's special teams coordinator, will take over the position of offensive coordinator for the La Verne football team. The Leopards finished 3-6 in 2018.

Three men's golfers earn All-SCIAC honors

Christopher Livingston
Staff Writer

For the La Verne men's golf team, this season has been nothing short of spectacular.

The Leopards won the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championships for the first time since 2013 and have three athletes who earned All-SCIAC honors.

Those three athletes are seniors Conner Davis and Hisham Hussein, and junior Pitiluk Phanomchai.

"On the golf side of things, they're all really accomplished players," said head coach Eric Riehle. "Unique in what they do well on the golf course and they've worked to improve their games."

Davis started playing golf when he was around 8 years old, and as he got older he began to play competitively; that is where he said the game really grew on him. Davis transferred to La Verne to play with his brother after spending a year at Pepperdine.

"Seeing the journey I've been on the last three years, and how different I feel about from my sophomore year to now, it feels like the shortest three years but it feels like the longest three years at the same time," said Davis. "I've learned so much, but it feels like it went by so fast."

Davis' career includes earning All-American honors on top of his All-SCIAC honors.

"He's a little more quiet, a little more observing of what's going on around him, but demands excellence of himself at all times," said Riehle on Davis. "He definitely wants to be able to separate himself from the rest."

Davis said he hopes to compete professionally following his career as a Leopard.

Hussein, who started out playing soccer when he was younger, said he found his interest in golf because of the way the sport tends to make you have more self-reliance.

"It's a sport where no matter how much you practice you can always get better," said Hussein. "Never quite seeing the end result is what really pushed me to play it more."

Hussein's career includes All-SCIAC honors as well as being named the 2018 Lee Fulmer SCIAC Athlete of the Year.

"He has a great mind, he's like an idea type of person," said Riehle. "He's going to work hard to accomplish what he seeks out too."

Like Davis, Hussein hopes to compete professionally following his career as a Leopard.

Phanomchai, who is originally from Thailand, has been playing golf since he was around the age of two. He played at the amateur level in the United States before reaching out to Coach Riehle about playing for ULV.

"He brings a level of self-confidence and self-assurance that you don't see very often," said Riehle. "He believes in himself, he knows that he is really capable and he just really enjoys the game a lot."

Despite the success he has had so far this season, Phanomchai believes he has the potential to perform even better.

"On a scale from one to ten, I'm at about a seven or eight. I feel like I can do better throughout the season," said Phanomchai.

Next up for the Men's Golf Team is the NCAA Division III National Championships which begin May 14 in Nicholasville, Kentucky.

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Leopards race into the record books

Trio looks ahead to nationals

Rex Sample
Staff Writer

The La Verne track and field teams finished their Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference season in Claremont with a trio of personal bests.

Both the men's and women's teams gave the other SCIAC schools a run for their money in the conference championships April 27 and 28 with several athletes leading the charge.

The La Verne men's 800-meter record holder, sophomore Matthew Salas, finished second in the 800, clocked in at 1:52.65 to make his first ever All-SCIAC performance.

Senior distance runner Melissa Cerrillos also added a second-place finish for the weekend in the women's 1,500-meter with her new personal best of 4:40.54.

It is the third best women's 1,500-meter time in La Verne track and field history.

Junior thrower for the Leopards Matthew Pedroza earned his first SCIAC appearance on the podium in three of his events.

He threw 47-2 1⁄2 inches in the men's shot put, 140-5 in the discus and 152 feet in the hammer throw.

For both men's shot put and hammer throw he is ranked ninth in La Verne history.

Salas was unable to run at his full potential last season due to an ankle injury, this year, he feels even more invigorated to perform.

"Last year I was running well and got hurt later in the year and it really just fueled me to run faster this year because I knew I could have accomplished more last year," Salas said.

There was no holding back coming into the season, and Salas said he knew he had to switch a few things up to ensure he broke the school record and accomplished a new personal best.

His "ultimate goal" was to win the race and finish around 1:54.10, the La Verne school record set by distance runner Michael Sacoto in 2011.

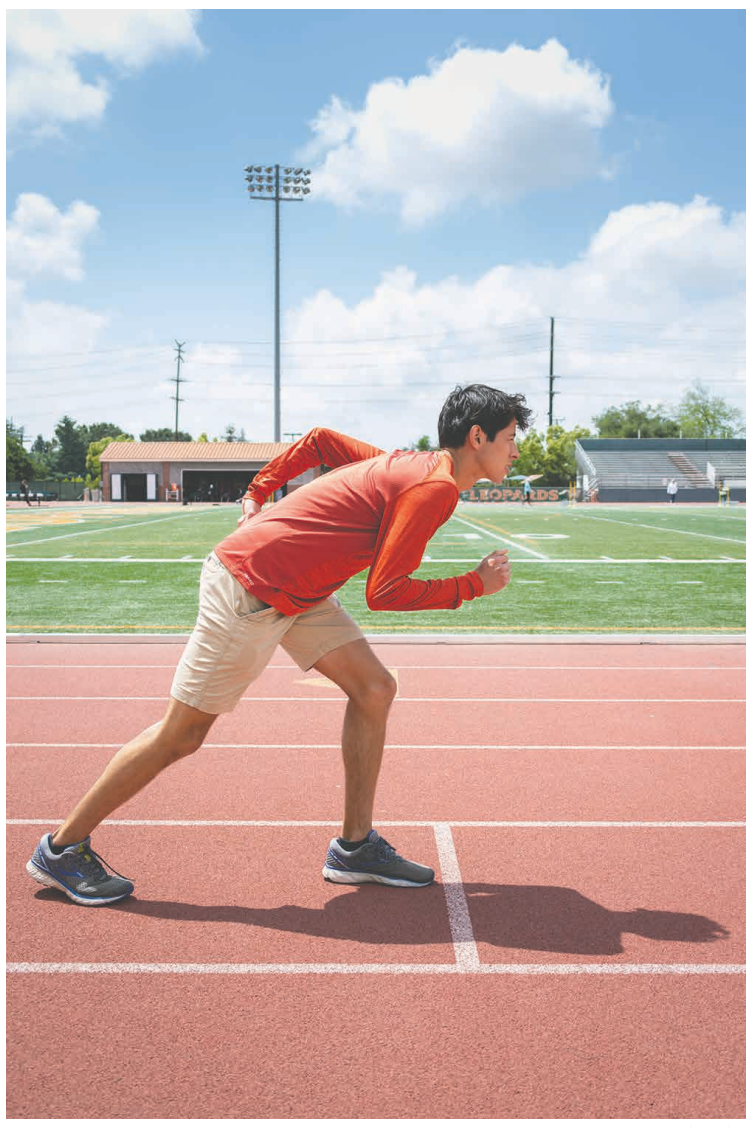
"What I have been working on now is to strategize my races, planning every little bit of my race, I strategized exactly what I was going to do at every moment," Salas said.

This strategy worked in Salas's favor because he did not just set a new school record, but he crushed it with a time of 1:52.24.



Kayla Salas

Senior distance runner Melissa Cerrillos placed second in the women's 1,500-meter at the SCIAC championship meet hosted by Claremont-Mudd-Scripps April 27 and 28. Her time of 4:40.54 was third best in La Verne history.



Kayla Salas

Sophomore distance runner Matthew Salas placed second in the men's 800-meter at the SCIAC championship meet hosted by Claremont-Mudd-Scripps April 27 and 28.

"When I crossed the line I saw 1:52 and was like, 'That's a school record,' but I wasn't surprised. I knew I could run it, I just needed to run it. I knew it was going to happen if I followed my plan and my goal," Salas said.

He plans on putting in the miles this offseason to gain the strength necessary to continue to break the school record.

For the Leopards, the common denominator is gaining strength in the offseason.

Pedroza also expressed the need to gain strength and flexibility to reach the top the podium next season.

"The broader goal is to put some respect on La Verne. This college has done a lot for me, I feel like I can make a name for myself when competing and just want to put us on the map," Pedroza said. "I want La Verne to be noticed in track and field."

The junior thrower is excited to return next season because he fell he could make an impact in the league and advance to become one of the top throwers.

Pedroza is in the process of switching up his technique from the glide to the spin in order to see if it can get him where he wants to be.

"It comes down to how you shape up in big time meets," Pedroza said. "Big time people are going to take big time plays."

> 'When I crossed the line I saw 1:52 and was like, 'That's a school record,' but I wasn't surprised. I knew I could run it, I just needed to run it. I knew it was going to happen if I followed my plan and my goal.'
> *—Matthew Salas, sophomore distance runner*

Cerrillos came out strong for her season after breaking the school record in the 800-meter with a time of 2:15.87.

This season, her main focus was on the steeplechase as this was her main event, and she said she wants to go out on top.

She is currently ranked 12th in the nation for steeplechase, there are many athletes across the country who are still competing.

Looking forward to Saturday, there are big stakes for Cerrillos to either hold her spot for nationals or gain a position.

"My goal at Oxy is to get a faster time (and) not get knocked off the list," Cerrillos said.

Being a senior, this season is Cerrillos's last chance to make a name for herself in the Leopard community and break yet another record. Cerrillos likes to keep in mind,

"Who I'm competing for and why I am there in the first place, I always try to remind myself that my fitness is there and I just have to carry through," Cerrillos said.

Cerrillos, Pedroza and Salas will return at the Occidental Invitational at 11 a.m. Saturday in Eagle Rock.

After that meet comes the Redlands Last Chance Qualifier on May 15 and 16.

This meet is designed for athletes to reach the time needed to qualify for nationals.

The NCAA Division III National Championships will take place May 23-25 at the SPIRE Institute in Geneva, Ohio.

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Baseball splits pair with Claremont

Nicolette Rojo
Social Media Editor

The La Verne baseball team concluded regular season play splitting doubleheader with Claremont-Mudd-Scripps on Saturday. The Leopards took the victory in game one, 9-2, while the Stags bounced back in game two to win, 5-2.

It was also Senior Day for the Leopards, as they celebrated the careers of 13 players with a pregame ceremony.

For senior center fielder Brandon Vogel, his mindset going into the final regular season SCIAC matchup was doing whatever possible to get the victory.

"I care more about winning than me personally," Vogel said. "I just want to do whatever I could to help us win and beat the other team. We always like to beat CMS, so it's always fun beating them."

With the win, La Verne clinched the second place spot in Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference play and home-field advantage in the first round of postseason play.

Game one started as a pitching duet between freshman pitcher Diego Avila of CMS and junior pitcher Devon Burhans of La Verne.

Neither team scored until the bottom of the fourth inning, when senior third baseman Lukas Granado singled to right center after miscommunication from the Stags' outfielders, bringing home senior designated hitter Christopher Peres and loading the bases.

Junior shortstop Jacob Benson drew a walk to bring home senior left fielder Christopher Ligot.

With the bases still loaded and one out, freshman centerfielder Jacob Barriga crushed a double to right field, scoring Granado and junior rightfielder Charlie Verrone.

After senior second baseman Ryan Galan grounded out to short, junior catcher Adam Santa Cruz drew a walk with the bases loaded to bring home Benson.

The Leopards led 5-0 after four innings.

"I had a pretty good practice this week and had a couple good at bats yesterday coming in off the bench, so I was pretty confident and comfortable coming in," Barriga said. "I got my pitch and I didn't miss it."

Throughout the game, La Verne's plate discipline showed as they drew 12 walks as a team, with three during the bottom of the fifth inning.

Freshman first baseman Tanner Siffert and Galan both drew bases-loaded walks to increase the lead to 7-0 after five innings.

During the top of the sixth inning, the Stags earned their second hit of the game, when junior catcher Truman Miller opened it up with a quick single up the middle.

However, the Leopards successfully retired the next three batters with a fielder's choice and two fly outs.

In the bottom of the sixth inning, Avila struck out Ligot and jammed designated hitter Peres to ground out to junior shortstop Zach Clarke.

However, senior infielder Ryan Aguilar made his first plate appearance of the game as a pinch hitter and crushed a solo shot to right field off a 2-0 count to increase La Verne's lead to 8-0 after six innings.

"We were getting a lot of walks, so I was just trying to make sure to get a good pitch to hit," Aguilar said. "With a 3-0 count, you usually take it to see if he can throw a strike, I saw a pitch that I liked and drove it."

After shutting out the stags for two consecutive innings, La Verne started the bottom of the eighth inning with a single from Vogel.

He advanced to second base on a passed ball and after Granado lined out to right field, Benson reached first base off an infield single. Barriga followed by drawing a one out walk to load the bases for Galan, who brought home Vogel off a fielder's choice. After eight innings, the Leopards led 9-0 over the Stags.

During the ninth inning, the Stags gave one last effort to spark a comeback after a single to left center from freshman second baseman Marco Castillo.

With two outs, junior centerfielder Henri Levenson hit a two-run home run to right field to cut the Leopards' lead to 7 and ending Burhans' shutout.

Senior relief pitcher Ethan Fulsher subbed in for Burhans and jammed senior first baseman Jack Savard to ground out to himself, giving La Verne the 9-2 victory.

Burhans picked up his sixth win on the season.

Burhans said that the keys to excel during postseason is to take one game at a time and not overworking each time.

"Just remember that it's just another game and try not to do too much," Burhans said. "Do what we've been practicing this whole time."

The Stags picked up the victory in game two, with a score of 5-2 and sophomore pitcher Brandon Mitchell getting credit with the win after going eight innings and striking out three players.

Benson scored both runs for the Leopards, while Levenson, senior right fielder Nick DeGallier and Miller all picked up RBIs for the Stags.

La Verne finished with a 29-11 overall record and 16-8 in SCIAC play.

CMS finished with a 19-14-1 overall record and at a 12-12 record in SCIAC play.

The Leopards will host Occidental at 3 p.m. Friday in the opening round of the SCIAC Postseason Tournament.

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