Campus Times

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Standing against hate



Natasha Brennan

Chaffey College student Brianna Bafford and University of La Verne freshman criminology major Elaine Molina protest a demonstration by the Westboro Baptist Church outside Pomona College Monday. Students from the Claremont Colleges, Chaffey College and the University of La Verne, along with Claremont residents, gathered on either side of the protesters with signs of their own supporting gay rights, gay marriage and queer education – among the human rights the Westboro Baptist Church stands against. They shared donuts and danced to the Village People's "YMCA" as the protestors left. **See story on page 3.**

Faculty supports diversity training

Christian Shepherd
News Editor

University of La Verne Faculty called on one another to take action to address the discrimination minority students endure after hearing a group of more than 20 students share stories of microaggressions they have experienced on campus.

The students, who all wore signs that read "#ULV culture," presented their list of demands and grievances to more than 70 faculty members at the Faculty Assembly meeting Wednesday.

The demonstration Wednesday in the Campus Center Ballroom during the Faculty Assembly meeting was the latest in a series of public protests and demonstrations in which students presented examples of microaggressions and cultural incompetency they have witnessed at ULV.

After hearing students share their experiences as minorities on campus, many faculty members thanked them for calling for change, and some called their colleagues to take action.

"We know some of the people who have been saying this s***," said Isaac Carter, assistant professor of education. "And you all know who they are. Start talking to them. Start holding them accountable. This has to stop. This is not a new problem, this is a problem that has been placed in our laps and for a long time has been neglected."

The students' demands before the faculty Wednesday were similar to those presented to President Devorah Lieberman and Provost Jonathan Reed two weeks ago. They included:

• A change in the faculty and employee handbooks that address training around diversity, inclusion, neurodiversity, mental health, gender, disabilities, sexuality, socioeconomic status;

• A system that enforces these diversity competencies and is a part of all evaluative processes and any merit pay increases;

• A change in the current Eurocentric, patriarchal curriculum to match the diverse backgrounds of students;

• The addition of "cultural competency" in the faculty promotion and tenure criteria;

• A minority postdoctoral fellowship program to recruit and retain more faculty of color.

Microaggressions are subtle, derogatory statements that seem small to the person making them but are hurtful to the subject of the comment, Assistant Professor of Psychology Christine Ma-Kellams said.

After a meeting with Lieberman and Reed on Oct. 26, students were concerned that mandatory diversity training had to be approved by Faculty Senate.

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LV reflects on fires, climate

David Gonzalez
Staff Writer
Jaycie Thierry
Staff Writer

As fires rage across the state with a rising death toll – of more than 59 at press time Thursday – it's clear that climate change and human impact have intensified California's prolonged fire seasons.

The Woolsey, Camp and Hill Fires have so far burned more than 200,000 acres.

David Bickford, associate professor of biology, said that California is getting hotter and dryer for longer periods of times.

"Fire is part of the natural system, but it (shouldn't) happen as often, as frequently or intensely as it is today," he said.

Bickford said that plants and animals have evolved to survive fires, but as people expand infrastructure, wildlife has less of a chance of survival.

He added that people are a major factor determining the frequency and intensity of the fires.

Bickford said he predicts that California fire season conditions will get worse, but he stressed that it will not become an apocalyptic situation yet.

Bickford said that the fires do not pose an immediate threat to La Verne, but there is a chance that high winds will affect the air quality.

"Fortunately in the past, these winds tend to go around us," said La Verne Fire Department Batallion Chief Kevin Greenway."It's when winds shift we may see a bit more of a smoke influence."

Greenway advises people to limit their outside activities as a precaution.

According to the Air Quality Management District as of Thursday, air quality in our area remains good.

An expected El Niño winter, could bring more than average rain to the state, according to the National Weather Service.

Jay Jones, professor of biology and biochemistry, said he anticipates rain will fall farther north in California. When there is a wet season, particularly following massive fires, the rain from El Niño can cause excessive flooding and promote wildlife growth, he added.

"We don't think about the floods because when the rain does come, vegetation doesn't have the buffering capacity to stop flooding," Jones said.

However, fires are still a con-

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LV debate takes first, second place

Danielle De Luna
Assistant Editor

The debate team swept first and second place at the UCLA Invitational Tournament last weekend and placed in finals Nov. 3-4 against East Coast competitors at the University of Vermont.

At UCLA, debate team captain and senior sociology major Michael Eberle and senior speech communications and political science major Sarah Osuna won the final competition against UC Berkeley, Point Loma Nazarene University and another University of La Verne team.

Their team provided the closing government argument for a motion supporting states' rights to oppose the Supreme Court.

"It was high pressure, because as closing government you say the last thing your team has to say and then it's over," Osuna said. "I walked out not knowing what was going to happen."

Eberle provided a solid foundation to set up the round, Osuna said.

"We focused on the future of democracy and voter turnout," Osuna said. "I provided what's called the whip speech after Michael spoke in order to reaffirm what he said and show why the other teams were wrong."

Director of Forensics Robert Ruiz said tournaments like these give him a chance to experiment with new team pairings.

"This was an opportunity for me to see how Michael and Sarah work together in preparation for World Championships," Ruiz said. "They work well together. They were able to not only say why they are correct but why the other side is wrong."

Sophomore political science major Adam Pepper and freshman journalism major Alondra Campos won second place, providing the opening government statement supporting the motion.

"Since we both made it to the finals, the goal was to get one of our teams to win," Pepper said.

Campos said Pepper gave her the support and confidence she needed to perform well in her first college competition.

"My want to learn and his advice really meshed," Campos said. "The most important thing I learned is that, even if you are new, you should give it your all; give it your best."

ULV took two teams to the Huber Debates in Vermont Nov. 3-4, both of which finished in finals.

Eberle and Fares Abdullah, a junior political science and speech communications major, outwitted a number of prestigious schools such as Cornell and Colombia.

"We really tried to focus on creating healthy discussion," Eberle said. "Whenever we go to East Coast tournaments we do our best to get to know everyone."

Debaters across the country are working to phase out elitism that lingers in the Ivy League debate circuit, Eberle said.

"The elitism of some schools can devolve the discussions we have," Eberle said. "That's why we try so hard to discuss these equity issues and make friends with other teams and establish a connection."

Ruiz said winning always comes second to creating a culture of belonging within debate.

"We can win two tournaments but we're still going to hang out with you if this is your first tournament," Ruiz said. "Because of this I can say that I not only have debaters, but ambassadors."

The debate team will head to Brandeis University in Massachusetts Dec. 1-2 for its final tournament of the semester.

Eberle and Osuna will compete in the World Universities Debating Championships in Cape Town, South Africa, Dec. 27 through Jan. 4.

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Fire...

Continued from page 1

cern for the area, according to the U.S. Forestry Department in La Verne.

"We've been in a drought for 10 years," said Luis Dozal, engine captain from the local office of the U.S. Forestry Department.

"Everything is super dry, and if anything starts it'll pick up rapidly because of high temperatures and low relative humidity. I believe we would need about 20 inches of rain, which is unheard of. But we need rain."

Because of the hotter and dryer average weather in California, all new wildlife growth will dry up, increasing fuel load for the next fire, Jones said.

"Climate change in general is making fire seasons longer and the effects of fire felt more because fire spreads with hotter, dryer winds," Bickford said. "More energy in the system is also affected by climate change."

A significant overarching factor on the environment is the human impact.

"Every excess item that we buy and use, every gallon of gas that we burn, is a vote for climate change," Jones said.

"After what happens when it rains in a fire, the lands are more susceptible to mudslides and mudflows," Bickford said. "Things could get much worse and there is a high likelihood that they would."

"There are no good things that come out of the intensity and the frequency of the fires that we see now," Bickford said.

"Even if your home is not in danger, just breathing the air – you don't have to be exercising or anything else – is harmful," Bickford said.

President Donald Trump blamed the California fires on poor forest management on Twitter.

"The kinds of things that are coming out of this administration are just absurd," Bickford said.

"The comments that California is doing or not doing is not the case. It's not the truth. The situation that we are in is part of the problem is too many people in this part of the planet."

The Camp fire and the Woolsey fire were both started because of infrastructure, so people need to make sure everything is working properly, Bickford said.

Bickford said people need to be mindful of the environmental impact of their habbits and hobbies such as electricity usage, fire hazards during camping trips.

"Anything that they do has an impact to promote the starting of fires," Bickford said.

"What happens in the community affects us all," Bickford said.

"Whole communities are affected by this, so even if you, as an individual or your family, are affected, we are all connected so we are all affected."

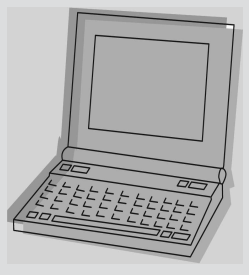
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Corrections

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Richman describes Jewish courage

Michael Sprague
Copy Editor



Veronyca Norcia

Author Rick Richman discusses his book "Racing Against History" at the Kristallnacht Remembrance lecture hosted by the Jewish Federation Saturday. Richman told the audience about three Zionist leaders that fought to have a Jewish army built before the Nazi occupation could act. In addition to being a published author, Richmond also practices law.

Lawyer Rick Richman discussed his book, "Racing Against History: The 1940 Campaign for a Jewish Army to Fight Hitler" Sunday in the Campus Center Ballroom.

Richman's book tells the historical account of three Jewish thought leaders – David Ben-Gurion, Vladimir Jabotinsky and Chaim Weizmann. The men came separately to the United States during World War II in hopes of gaining enough support to build a unified Jewish army to fight against the Nazis.

Despite having similar goals the men were divided by their differing views on Zionism.

The men held rallies, reached out to politicians and brought together American Jews in hopes of building a unified front and fighting against their oppressors.

"This is a story about what individuals can do, and heroism that we ought to remember and pass on as part of our heritage" Richman said.

Richman was the featured speaker of the University's annual Kristallnacht Remembrance lecture.

Kristallnacht, or "the night of broken glass," took place in Germany Nov. 9-10, 1938, when Nazis burned Jewish synagogues, destroyed Jewish-owned businesses and sent nearly 30,000 Jews to concentration camps.

The lecture is held in remembrance of the violent acts that occurred that night. It is a joint partnership between ULV and the Jewish Federation of the Greater San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys as part of the Jewish Book Festival.

Rose Ash, one of the organizers of the Book Festival said La Verne is the only school that hosts the events, as most are usually held at synagogues and restaurants.

University Chaplain Zandra Wagoner opened the lecture and introduced the historical significance of Kristallnacht.

"Nov. 9 marked the 80th anniversary of this tragic event," Wagoner said.

Richman talked about the anti-Semitism in America at the time of World War II perpetuated by public figures like Henry Ford and others who spoke openly about their disdain for Jewish people.

"The anti-Semitism was public and backed up by social anti-Semitism too," Richman said. "There was restrictions on Jewish employment, restrictive covenants in housing so you could have in your deed that Jews couldn't live in your neighborhood."

Although none of the men were able to form the Jewish battalions they had hoped, Richman did not think their efforts were wasted.

"The story of what they did is hopeful, it's not a tragic story" said Richman. "It's a story about how even at that point in time, a year after Kristallnacht, after Poland was wiped out, after everything here's what the Jews were doing."

Richman noted that an entirely Jewish brigade was eventually formed in 1944 by the British Army. More than 5,000 Jewish troops fought against Nazi reign in northern Italy.

Richman said that after the war the American Jewish community suffered from survivors guilt and were not willing or ready to tell their stories. Causing Jewish stories like "Racing Against History" to be lost in the span of a lifetime.

"We know about Kristallnacht. Why didn't we know about heroic efforts to form a Jewish military force to join the fight when no one else wanted to?" Richman asked.

La Verne resident Robert Richter was 8 years old and living in Hanover, Germany, when Kristallnacht occurred, he disagrees with the notoriety the night of broken glass holds.

"That was nothing. We had already suffered so long. For years I was chased in the street, 'Jew, Jew, Jew!'" Richter said.

Richter also drew parallels by what he witnessed before the rise of the Nazi party and what he sees occurring in America presently.

"You tear down the society when you tear down a civilized government," Richter said

"You might not like Trump, but don't tear the presidency down, don't destroy the presidency."

The lecture was held just two weeks after 11 people were killed and six more were injured when a gunman opened fire at a Pittsburgh synagogue.

"To combat that which is evil we must strive to be informed," said University of La Verne alumnus Bernard Karmatz.

Richman spoke about the anti-Semitism in America in the 1940s and the recent visible acts of anti-Semitism.

"What's interesting about things like Pittsburgh that just happened is the outpouring of support for the Jewish community across the board and in the public," Richman said.

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Claremont community combats church's hate

Michael Sprague
Copy Editor
Christian Shepherd
News Editor

More than 200 members of the surrounding Claremont and La Verne communities gathered to protest a picket by the Westboro Baptist Church, an organization known for protesting public events, even funerals, with inflammatory anti-LGBT signs and rhetoric.

The picket, which was announced in a press release on the church's website, godhatesfags.com, began at 6:30 a.m. on Monday at Claremont High School and moved to Pomona College at around 7:45 a.m. that same day.

A course titled Queering Childhood to be offered at Pomona College in spring 2019 drew the church's attention.

"This interdisciplinary course examines the figure of the child and how this figuration is used by politics, law, and medicine to justify continued cultural investment in reproductive heteronormativity and productive able-bodiedness," reads the Pomona College course catalog.

The church's press release also cited the school's diversity of languages and national origins as a reason to protest at these locations, since it would allow them to spread their messages around the world.

Sam Phelps-Roper, grandson of Westboro Baptist Church founder Fred Phelps, said he believes many of the California crises, such as the wildfires and recent mass shooting in Thousand Oaks, are happening because of a lack of adherence to the church's interpretation of the Bible.

"Bullets are flying and the fires are raging," Phelps-Roper said. "This is the work of God. He is doing this. He is going to keep doing this and the only hope you have to repent. It's a vile thing. But it is the product."

The church members brought signs to both locations that read "God Sent The Shooter," covered in blood-red splatter and child-sized handprints, along with other signs reading "Tranny Sin Dooms Nations" and "Repent or Perish."

Counter assembling community members carried posters with pro-LGBT messages such as "Love triumphs" and "Did any of y'all actually read the bible" written in rainbow colors.

"God's got people in this nation in terror all around him," Phelps-Roper said. "There's nowhere to go for refuge because they think they can make refuge with their hands and their laws and their military might and they can't -- there's no refuge to be found."

Rachel Hockenbarger, Fred Phelps' daughter, said her church is doing more than anyone for individuals who identify as LGBT.

"We are the only people in this world who love so-called gay people because we only ones who will tell them the truth," Hockenbarger said.

The church brought a bluetooth speaker to the demonstration and played songs such as "Shooters Keep Comin' Around," a parody of Bastille's "Pompeii."

The song includes the following lyrics: "And the shooters keep comin' around, In the cities that you love, Much blood flowing in the streets, Bringing God's wrath from above."

The church was met at both location by protestors who disagreed with the anti-homosexual messages.

Nick Daily, Claremont College Consortium assistant dean of black student affairs, brought a larger speaker to the church's protest location and played Village People's "YMCA," a song

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LV honors veterans' service, sacrifice

20 people march in celebration

Layla Abbas
LV Life Editor

The University of La Verne honored veterans during a celebration that began at Sneaky Park and ended at a ceremony outside of Veterans Hall.

About 20 people marched from Sneaky Park to the Veterans Hall ceremony hosted by the city of La Verne and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 12034 Monday.

Marc Soto, president of the Veteran Student Success Club, celebrated his first Veterans Day at the University.

Soto, who served in the Marine Corps, thanked the administration and Diana Towles, coordinator for the Center for Veteran Students Success, for bringing the center to fruition.

"That house is something we really needed," Soto said. "This is my first Veterans Day celebration at La Verne and I am humbled and proud to be part of the celebration."

President Devorah Lieberman said veteran recognition should be celebrated year-round.

"We are living in a world where having a strong military is critical," Lieberman said. "We are here today to thank everybody who has served. If it was not yourself or a family member serving in the military, we all know at least one person who has served."

She said across the University's nine campuses 900 students are active military members or their dependents.

"In the next 10 years, at least 1.4 million veterans will need a college degree," Lieberman said.

"We (at ULV) have to do whatever it takes to provide that quality education and the support system so every veteran who wants or needs to be educated has that opportunity."

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 12034 ceremony paid homage to those who have served in the military.

"As a member of the VFW Post 12034, I can tell you how important and special it is to experience a national demonstration of gratitude," said Dan Harden, Air Force Veteran and master of ceremonies. "It takes courage for a soldier, marine, sailor, airman and coast guardsmen to risk life and limb for their country."

The VFW Post 12034 was established in 1899 when veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their service, according to the official VFW Post 12034 website.

Today membership of the VFW Post 12034 stands at 1.7 million members.

Members of the post, also known as the band of brothers, took turns sharing the years they served, ending with saying "I fought for you."

They also shared their service in the five branches of military spent in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan and Bosnia.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger thanked the families who bear the burden of their loved ones serving in the armed forces.

"I salute the selfless sacrifice of our men and women in uniform," Barger said. "All have given some, but some have given all."

Barger said once service members can return home, they should be supported fully from the community.

"When we talk about the issue of homelessness, I always say the words homelessness and veterans should never be used in the same sentence," she said.

"While the troops are away they are tasked with preserving the homefront and keeping their families together," Barger said. "We are so grateful when we can welcome our service members home again."

Commander of the Post Daniel Lopez said veterans come from all walks of life but share qualities of courage, pride, determination, selflessness, dedication to duty and integrity.

"Many of them did not ask to leave their homes to fight on distant battlefields," Lopez said. "Many did not volunteer or go to war because they love fighting. They were called to be a part of something bigger than themselves."

Lopez thanked those who have risked their life for the freedom of others.

"Today our troops continue to make the ultimate sacrifices," Lopez said. "As we lose troops, more Americans step forward to say I am ready to serve. I say to all you veterans may this day and every day honor you for the service, sacrifice, dedication, and loyalty you have given this great country of ours."

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Dyck explains making change is an inside job

Ashley Mubiru
Staff Writer

Change must come from within an individual. Such was the theme of Associate Professor of Management Loren Dyck's faculty lecture this week.

"Sustained desired change is change that an individual is longing for," Dyck said.

Dyck, associate professor of management discussed "What Drives Sustainable, Desired Change?" in the President's Dining Room Tuesday before 24 students and faculty.

For the lecture Dyck researched how certain people achieve what they want over a long period of time.

He explained that the characteristics of sustained desired change are "relational resonance," intentionality and emotional engagement.

"Change is an inside job, nonetheless we still need trust in others," Dyck said.

Trusting relationships are necessary to help, support and encourage each step in the process of change, Dyck said.

He added the first step is asking yourself "Who is it I want to be?" or "What legacy do I want to leave?"

The second step is to ask yourself "Who am I now?" "What are my strengths?"

The third step in this process is establishing a learning agenda determining what we need to learn to achieve what I want.

Dyck said when doctors engage their patients as partners in their own care, they are more responsive to taking care of their own health.

Dyck referred to this as the physician-patient outlook.

Angelica Enriquez, senior anthropology and criminology major, said she resonated with the physician-patient example.

"From personal experience, I have had a lot of trouble with my medical practitioners who didn't listen to me," Enriquez said.

Senior education major Gabriel Lazoya said she understood the importance of self awareness and how it is needed to make a difference in society.

"You need to recognize what it is your willing to sacrifice," Lazoya said.

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Claudia Ceja

Associate Professor of Management Loren Dyck speaks about What Drives Sustained, Desired Change?" Tuesday in the President's Dining Room.

Womanism explores gender of God

Danielle De Luna
Assistant Editor

Fathers are not always kind and kings are not always generous. Yet, images of fathers and kings are often used to depict the physical appearance of God in the Western world.

However, womanism offers an opportunity to explore how these depictions affect women's relationships with religion, creator and society as a whole.

University Chaplain Zandra Wagoner and graduate student Jasmine Marchbanks-Owens used womanism to discuss religious imagery and black female identity Nov. 8 during the continuing faith and justice workshop "Black Feminism and Sacred Text."

Reflecting on the creation story in the book of Genesis, Marchbanks-Owens and Wagoner revealed linguistic differences in descriptive imagery across Christian, Jewish and Muslim sacred texts.

Wagoner introduced the Jewish text, emphasizing its use of both masculine and feminine words to describe God in the act of creation.

"People are not changing, but restoring the text when advocating for a feminine interpretation of God or divinity," Wagoner said. "The God described in this text is male and female, and leads one to wonder 'Is this a more plural understanding of the Godhead?'"

The differences between various texts' treatment of pronouns and gender are subtle but powerful, Marchbanks-Owens said.

"The first creation is also ambiguous when you analyze the text," Wagoner said. "Adam comes from the Hebrew word adamah, which translates to earth or dust."

Wagoner and Marchbanks-Owens said this translation is a suggestion that the first human did not have a gender.

"I think what's interesting is that we don't know if the original humanity was male or female," Marchbanks-Owens said. "And I can relate to a creation made from red, brown earth. This is a black humanity, formed at the beginning."

Marchbanks-Owens and Wagoner prompted the five women and one man to question whether the story of the fall in Genesis has affected our society and our interactions with one another in a negative way.

"There is a lot of power by depicting God in a certain way," Marchbanks-Owens said. "I wonder if the treatment of women or the understanding of God or our knowledge would be different if we didn't see God as male."

Adjunct Professor of Education Zack Ritter provided more context for Jewish tradition and other creation stories and said religion is often built around society.

"There's this idea of God creating us in his image but it's interesting to think about religion being socially constructed to our own image," Ritter said.

Graduate student Kira Barros said she appreciated an interpretation of God different from what she grew up with through practicing Catholicism.

"For some people the idea of a father or a king is a more oppressive image of God," Barros said.

"This [interpretation], to me, would be a biblical response to people who have issues with the transgender community."

Ritter and Assistant Professor of Education Issac Carter will present perspectives from indigenous religions and cultures at the final "Black Feminism and Sacred Text" workshop Thursday.

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Diversity training ...

Continued from page 1

Faculty Senate endorsed mandatory training for all full- and part-time faculty last week.

"We have to start acting... We have to hold ourselves responsible as adults," Carter said. "How can we lead them if we can't lead ourselves?"

Nadine Nakamura, associate professor of psychology, acknowledged the students' organized effort.

"You are being listened to right now because you took collective action," Nakamura said. "If you didn't all come together and demand people listen to you, all of those things you've been doing would be ignored. You've been trying and it's come to this."

Some of the students shared their own experiences here, underscoring the need for change.

Samantha LaMartinez, a clinical psychology doctoral student, said she took a history of psychology course at ULV that only taught the work of white male psychologists.

"Most of whom believed in eugenics, which means (that) they would not agree with ... me being here," La Martinez said.

LaMartinez said at the end of the course she and another student of color brought up the lack of diversity in the curriculum, and the professor said it was hard to find information on people of color in psychology and requested that she and the other students send in any information they could find.



Layla Abbas

Samantha LaMartinez, doctoral student in clinical psychology, speaks to the Faculty Assembly about microaggressions she has experienced from professors Wednesday in the Campus Center Ballroom.

Suzanna Bratzler, a master's in education student, said the first class she ever took at ULV was titled Diversity for Educators.

"That class changed my life. My eyes and my heart were opened to what is really going on in American culture," Bratzler said. "As a cisgender, straight, financially stable, able-bodied white person, I had the privilege of choosing not to see how my views contributed to the suppression of minorities."

Bratzler added that the course she took is no longer offered.

"I had a professor start her class and tell her students that there is not a difference between gender and biological sex, which instantly undermined every trans person's identity," Andrea Dukes, senior sociology major, said.

Alma Martinez, associate professor of theater arts, asked students if they have recognized any positive change.

"The only steps we have seen are these little meetings that we've had," Osaze Stewart, senior criminology major, said. "To us, that is just a lot of talking. We want more action."

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HAPPENINGS

Tall Wall Space

"Edifice Artifice" by Cole M. James is currently on display in the Tall Wall Space in the Arts and Communications Building. The site-specific installation includes materials such as velvet, lace, glitter and concrete.

The exhibit runs through May 17, 2019.

Admission is free.

'Distancing'

The Carlson Gallery in Miller Hall currently features "Distancing" by Kes Efstathiou. The exhibit of black and white silkscreen prints of landscape photographs will run through Dec. 14.

Admission is free.

Guitar Recital

The University of La Verne Guitar Ensemble will perform contemporary flamenco and Latin jazz music at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 30 in Morgan Auditorium.

Admission is free.

West African Drum Recital

Students in the West African Drumming class will present a night dedicated to the percussive traditions of West Africa, combining the historic hand drum, djembe, with other instruments at 6 p.m. Dec. 5 in Morgan Auditorium.

Admission is free.

Chinese Lantern Festival

Over 1,000 handcrafted lanterns, live Kung-Fu and Chinese martial arts performances, and a variety of different Asian food options will be available during the Fairplex Chinese Lantern Festival through Jan. 6.

For information and ticket prices visit **fairplex.com.**

Chorale Holiday Spectacular

The Chamber Singers and Chorale will perform renditions of traditional and classic Christmas songs at their annual holiday concert at 6 p.m. Dec. 9 in Morgan Auditorium.

Admission is free.

—Emily J. Sullivan

Ancient tragedy illustrates Modern warriors

by Erica Sanchez

photography by Kayla Salas



Senior theater arts major Timothy Stribbel, freshman political science major Melissa Ochoa and freshman theater arts major Arianna Olivares gaze into the mirror wearing masks from Sophocles' play, "Ajax." The actors created their own masks for the production. Some wore several different masks throughout the play.

The Greek tragedy "Ajax" taps into the mind of Ajax, a soldier who has been through the Trojan War and suffers from post-traumatic-stress disorder as a result.

The production, directed by Sean Dillon, opened last weekend in the Dailey Theatre and runs through Sunday.

In the play, as Ajax is trying to rejoin society, his traumatic experiences follow him.

Throughout the play, we see Ajax, a hero of the Trojan War, debating whether his life was still worth living after the horrific decisions he made.

Ajax felt entitled to Achilles' armor after the Trojan War; however he was not granted the armor at all.

Instead, the armor was given to Odysseus, another Trojan War hero.

The cast of eight students took on the roles of Greek characters and gods, such as Odysseus, king of Ithaca; Agamemnon, king of Mycenae; Ajax, a Greek war hero; and Teucer, son of the river God Scamander.

Athena, goddess of wisdom and war, delves into Ajax's head and starts to drive him insane.

She tries to alter his thought process regarding how he should react toward the situation of not receiving the armor that he felt he rightfully deserved.

Athena in turn clouds Ajax's mind and disorients his thoughts to make him believe that he has taken revenge on the Greek gods by killing them.

Some students performed multiple roles, including Paul Gamst, a graduate student, who played Odysseus; Menelaus, the king of Sparta; and Angelos, a cnthonic deity.

The performance evoked a discussion afterward about the lack of support victims of PTSD, receive from society.

"This play really highlights a piece of mental illness that we don't really explore, which is PTSD, especially with the soldiers coming back," said Natalie Roseli, sophomore theater arts major, who played Tekmessa.

"When (Ajax) wakes up and finds out what he has done, he is distraught and humiliated because his honor as a warrior has been undermined," Dillon said.

Throughout the play, we see Ajax, who was a hero of the Trojan War, debating whether his life was still worth living.

"He is a laughing stock. He has made enemies with the Greeks because he tried to kill them,"

"When Athena allows his mind to be restored to see reality again he becomes distraught and he begins to consider killing himself."

The contemplation of suicide weighs heavy on his conscience.

The burden of his suicidal ideation simultaneously weighs heavily on his family, as well as the sailors who were by his side throughout the war.

The discussion following the production was led by the actors and Associate Professor of Writing Judy Holiday.

Holiday brought up the plays relevance in today's society and how we are exposed to similar acts of violence today.

"Post-traumatic stress produces rage, and it is the gift that keeps on giving," Holiday said.

The issue of status was brought up in the play, specifically in regards to the way humans view violence, Holiday said.

During the play, when Ajax brutally slaughters animals thinking they were human, the audience can see his complete lack of humanity and no remorse.

The scene showed how easy it was for him to see other human beings as nothing more than an animal, thus placing his status as higher than all of humanity.

"Particularly with Ajax, it was a little hard to get into the mindset of the characters, especially because these characters have been through the tragedy of war and PTSD," Roseli said.

The play, written by Sophocles in the B.C., was more than entertainment for the audience.

The play illuminated themes that resonate today of society misunderstanding mental illness and those who suffer from various diseases.

"This play (is) holding a mirror up," said Joseph Baum, senior theater major. "This is the way we are treating veterans who commit suicide. This is the way they are treating their families and it is not OK."

"Ajax" continues through this weekend with performances at 7:30 p.m. today, and Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday.

Suggested donation is $12 for general admission, $8 for staff and seniors, and $5 for students.

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New professor has eclectic history

Thompson goes from ring to class

Maydeen Merino
Staff Writer

Before winding up at the University of La Verne as an adjunct professor of photography, Andrew Thompson performed in front of crowds as a wrestler donning different stage-names and costumes and created professional pillow-fight tournaments in New York.

Although he has dabbled in other creative endeavors and professions, his passion for photography has been a constant since a high school injury.

Thompson grew up in Temple City where he attended Temple City High School.

"I found photography on my own when I broke my leg and my friends were still skateboarding and I wanted to tag along," Thompson said. "So, I extended my crutches and pushed along and took pictures when we got to the spot."

Still in high school, he would take photos at a race track with a photographer who brought him under his wing. One Thompson's photos made the cover of a BMX magazine.

Shortly after, he found work at a portrait studio and began taking classes at Pasadena City College. He went on to pursue his bachelor's degree in fine arts at the Academy of Arts in San Francisco.

While at the Academy of Arts, a chance encounter at a party with the owner of a wrestling troupe called Incredibly Strange Wrestling led to him getting a job with the group handling cleaning, taking out the trash, and other menial tasks.

Through this, he quickly began to establish a friendship with the wrestlers.

"I was introduced to the gang of wrestlers and they thought I was cool enough to be a part of the gang and I just jumped into it," Thompson said.

The all came from diverse backgrounds, there were corrections officers, stoners, pizza delivery men, bartenders, bouncers and bus drivers, all moonlighting as professional wrestlers.

Incredibly Strange Wrestling earned its namesake through its twist on wrestling characters and shows.

"There were food fights during the matches, corn tortillas were passed out to the audience to throw," Thompson said.

One of Thompson's characters was Dancin' Joey of 69 Degrees, a teen idol who played in a Scientologist boy band.

With Incredibly Strange Wrestling, Thompson was able to travel around the United States with Vans Warped Tour, a summer rock festival.

"It was the coolest thing I have ever done in my life, I know a lot of people who are in bands that travel the world but none of them were wrestlers or got paid to be one," Thompson said.

Thompson received his bachelor's in fine arts at the Academy of Arts in San Francisco.

After 10 years in San Francisco, Thompson traveled to New York City the week after 9/11.

His mother Mary Jane Thompson drove up eight hours to see him off the weekend before he left.

The eight hour drive was worth it to his mother when she was able to have dinner with Thompson, and to give him one last "mom-hug" before he left to New York.

"Andrew always made my life interesting from the time he was young," Mary Jane Thompson said. "I have always had a philosophy in supporting my children in whatever they do."

In New York, Thompson furthered his photography career, displaying his artwork in exhibitions and getting more critical in his practice.

"New York changes you," Thompson said.

His pension for unique ventures took on a new form in New York as Thompson created Punk Rock Pillow Fights – a punk-themed pillow fight tournament with both individual and tag team matches.

The tournament received national media coverage, on Fox News and "Saturday Night Live."

Thompson left New York in 2011 to be closer to his mother, who lives in Riverside.

When he returned to California he began his master's of fine arts in studio art at Cal State San Bernardino.

Dancin' Joey now goes by Professor Thompson and teaches Photo 305, The Magic Box Revolutions: A Social History of Photography at La Verne. He also continues his love for the arts as a curator at his own art gallery in San Bernardino called the Little Artwork Gallery.

The gallery showcases artists from San Bernardino County and around the world. One of his former students, Eric Servin, helps set up the gallery with Thompson. The gallery puts on exhibits for the local community at least once a month. The gallery held its first show in August.

"The idea behind the gallery is space for shows, me and him choosing people we want to exhibit," Servin said.

As a professor Thompson is passionate about teaching and tries to get his students involved in his classes.

"He is able to connect a lot of concepts to photography and he is really passionate about teaching his students," sophomore and photography major Mya-lin Lewis said.

Thompson said teaching The Magic Box Revolutions is a departure for him as he usually teaches digital processing classes.



Natasha Brennan

Adjunct Professor of Photography Andrew Thompson speaks to his class, The Magic Box Revolutions: A Social History of Photography, about post-modernism. Nov. 8.

Thompson splits his class into two parts, the past and present. Everything he lectures about he tries to find a way to connect to real life and relate to the students artistic passions.

"I ask students what are you interested in, what makes you so distracted, or so in love in whatever that is that you forget everything else around you, is what you should be photographing," Thompson said.

Thompson does not put genre restrictions on his photography and believes in the fluidity of his interests, which means there is no one answer as to what subjects he photographs.

"What can't be taught but is constantly fluid is your creativity, your interest, your love, your drive so with that I take pictures of whatever I want, "Thompson said. "I like to call this the Andrew experience, because whether you're at Chaffey, ex-military interested in photography, any grad students or to a guy who doesn't know anything about photography, Andrew doesn't talk any different."

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Crafts fair kicks off holiday season

Nicolette Rojo
Staff Writer

Community members began their annual holiday shopping season as they navigated their way through various booths at a craft fair in Pomona.

About 30 men, women and children prepared for the holiday season at the sixth annual Handmade Craft Fair in Pomona Saturday afternoon.

Community members had the opportunity to shop, eat and enjoy conversing with family, friends and fellow booth owners.

The fair took place at St. Peter the Apostle Antiochian Orthodox Church, which gave some booth owners the opportunity to attract the community with religious messages and prayers on their products and crafts.

Stephanie Granite, owner of Panagia Handmade, crafted and sold baptismal robes, St. Nicholas and Lucia figures and tea towels of the Orthodox holiday calendar.

"I realize that there's a lack of Orthodox crafts, especially baptismal robes," Granite said. "It's really hard to find someone who can make traditional Orthodox baptismal robes and I have kids so I wanted an alternative for them to play with and have a traditional feeling when using these crafts."

The fair allowed other owners to share their products or items that may have not necessarily been hand crafted, but still came from the individual's idea, still executed by hand.

Kellee Nelson, event coordinator and booth owner, sold mini succulents, a homemade chili powder and a sleep kit including lavender mist and a sleep mask at her booth.

"When I sell things at a booth, it's usually something that I'm already going to make, as gifts for friends, something that I'm just interested in," Nelson said.

A few other booths offered jewelry, handbags and garden accessories.

A couple of the more popular booths sold food, pastries and personal handmade cards and letters.

Children's booths showcased a variety of their artwork from school, including a "Marvel Madness" theme, where elementary school children sold handmade crocheted décor featuring several superheroes in the Marvel Cinematic Universe.

The most visited booth was a business called Emilia's Post, where owner Kelsey Lawson sold cards, letters and posters with biblical quotes and Orthodox figures.

"I do water color art and calligraphy. I take different quotes and passages from the scripture to create beauty in people's homes," Lawson said. "I needed an art outlet and it gave me a lot of joy."



Ariel Torres

Pomona resident Christopher Gonzales-Aden explains his work to customers during a handmade craft fair Saturday at St. Peter the Apostle Antiochian Orthodox Church. The event included handmade crafts, art work, live music and food from the Mighty Oak Barbecue.

The church held a raffle every 30 minutes in which one woman won a wooden plaque that highlighted the importance of family, while giving it to her daughter to hold.

Chris Gonzales-Aden, local artist, came out to enjoy his friends in the community and to showcase his linoleum art that symbolizes biblical events during the holidays.

"Almost all of the art have biblical narratives to them," Gonzales-Aden said.

"You have to want to make the art, but as you get older and think about it, I realize that in the way God created me, I am experiencing a part of him in creating them."

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Exhibit reimagines environmental photography

Danielle De Luna
Assistant Editor

In 2014, photographer Kes-Efstathiou attached a GoPro to a DJI Phantom 1 drone and steered it 300 yards above the forests, lakes, beaches and highways of Montana, Maine and New Hampshire.

Inspired by Julius Neubronner's photographic experiments with carrier pigeons in 1907, Efstathiou surrendered artistic control, entrusting the work of image capture to a self timer on the GoPro.

"I set a timer to take a picture every five seconds and hoped for the best," Efstathiou said.

His methods resulted in a 12-piece set of black and white silkscreen prints that present an abstract view of landscape photography.

The Carlson Gallery held a reception to welcome Efstathiou's collection, titled "Distancing," Wednesday evening.

Efstathiou attended the gallery reception via Skype from his home in Rochester, New York. Photography Department Manager Kevin Bowman guided Efstathiou through the gallery using a makeshift iPad stand.

About 30 honors and photography students wandered the hallway, and some periodically approached the screen of the iPad to talk to Efstathiou, asking him questions about processes he used and the choices he made.

He said positioning the camera parallel to the earth allowed him to take a design approach.

"When I looked at the hundreds of photos I took, I looked for diversity in the landscape and I looked for compositional elements" Efstathiou said. "Unable to decipher the landscape, I used the screen printing process out of necessity because the images were so blurry."

The fish eye lens of the GoPro leaves the subjects of some photos up to audience interpretation. One image taken above the treetops of Hyalite Canyon in Montana mimics the pattern of an explosion of dust and ash.

Another, taken at Popham State Park in Maine, resembles a painterly wash of archival ink.

An affinity for traveling compelled him to photograph these vacant natural landscapes.

"I really like driving and road trips," Efstathiou said. "I've driven through all 50 states. I love just going out to national and state parks and waiting for good lighting."

Efstathiou's collection meshes well with the previous exhibitor's work, said Art Suwansang, visiting instructor of photography.

"It's abstracting the environmental theme we first saw in Christine Carr's 'In the Air' earlier this semester," Suwansang said.

The halftones in the photos relate to particulate matter, Bowman said.

"I really appreciate the abstraction and balance of tones," Bowman said. "The dots fade with distance, displaying the image."

However, the need for distance to fully appreciate the nuance of the work presented logistical problems when placing the prints up for display.

"We experimented with layout a lot," Bowman said, "I staggered the work so you never had the work facing each other, no light falling on you and no reflection on the plexiglass as well."

Junior biology major Hanien Samara said the exhibit was impressive and wanted to hear more about campus arts events.

"I wish there was more publicity about the fine arts events," Samara said. "CAB always does a great job advertising their events, and it'd be nice to see that much effort be put toward the arts."

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Movie Review

'Beautiful Boy' details addiction

Emily J. Sullivan
Staff Writer

"Beautiful Boy" is a film based on the pair of best-selling addiction memoirs, "Beautiful Boy" by David Sheff and "Tweak" by his son, Nic Sheff.

"Beautiful Boy" is written from David's perspective, detailing the heartbreak and helplessness that parenting an addict often entails. "Tweak" is written from Nic's perspective, illustrating his desperation and defeat in battling the disease of addiction.

The film chronicles the close relationship between a father (Steve Carell) and son (Timothée Chalamet) both impacted by the son's severe drug addiction.

Nic was a promising writer who grew up in a relatively stable, upper-middle class family.

Despite Nic's comfortable upbringing, he began experimenting with drugs and alcohol at a young age, which led to a full-blown crystal meth addiction before college.

David goes to incredible lengths to support his son, fight for his recovery and attempt to understand his affliction.

The film offers an important perspective that often goes unseen in films and memoirs depicting addiction – the perspective of the grieving parent, who suffers on the other end of their child's addiction.

Carell authentically captures the way loving an addict can consume a person's state of functioning.

Another important aspect of the film was the addict's profound feelings of remorse that go hand in hand with the disease.

Nic is broken, he is angry with himself, frustrated he cannot seem to reach his potential, and filled with shame for the way he has impacted his family; something strikingly similar to how many addicts feel.

Chalamet gives a compelling performance as Nic and portrays the remorse of an addict wreaking havoc on their family in a very authentic way. When he apologizes, you can feel the severity of his apology and how exhausted he is from having to apologize so often.

The ups and downs of false hope offered by unsuccessful stints in rehabilitation programs, the pain of relapse after prolonged periods of sobriety, the fear of something inside a person that is so difficult to understand. The movie captures it all in a heartbreaking and realistic portrayal of this journey.

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Songs, poetry honor Aztec culture

Audience engages with music

Jocelyn Arceo
Arts Editor

Michael Heralda, an Aztec storyteller, provided an interactive performance depicting the Aztec or Mexica culture through song and story Tuesday in the Campus Center Ballroom.

The Multicultural Council put the event together as part of Indigenous Heritage Month.

The president of the club, Yulvi Reyes-Solorio, said it was important to host these events because although the University is a Hispanic Serving Institution, it does not provide enough programing related to the Hispanic culture.

Heralda, clad in bright blue pants and a rattling anklet he called Chachayotes, informed an audience of roughly 30 people that the former Aztec people knew themselves as Mexica.

Throughout his performance, more than half of the audience members tried out the various Mexica instruments that Heralda brought along with him.

Heralda opened with a poem he had heard years prior from a young Mexica poet, describing the pride he felt in regards to his Mexica heritage and culture.

The words, originally in Nahuatl, were translated by Heralda to mean:

"I sing today, I am proud to be Mexica. If tomorrow I would die, I still would be Mexica."

Throughout the program, Heralda taught the audience about different instruments, like a clay flute he called Tlapitzalli, or the two large grandfather drums that go by the name of Huehuetl.

In addition to the various ancient instruments of the Mexica people, the audience also learned about the different beliefs and cultural traditions of the Mexica people.

"The indigenous people on this continent have a very powerful belief that once something exists it will always exist, but the energy will transform," Heralda said. "Just like we see the changes that go on everyday...we see these cycles of transition."

Transformation, transition and duality were major themes of discussion during the program.

He spoke about the transition from sound to silence, life to death. He also discussed the feminine and masculine duality that is present in all human beings.

"Every single one of you is both masculine and feminine," Heralda said. "The human body is a temporary vehicle that we utilize to maneuver through this human experience...it is not who we are. It is what we use to experience life, this single life," Heralda said.

"The beauty of this concept is that once you realize that everybody is both masculine and feminine, that the body is a temporary vehicle, then you begin to eliminate any stereotypes you may have."

His discussion regarding the duality of femininity and masculinity led to the explanation that once we truly understand that concept, we can eventually understand who we really are and where our potential may lie.

After the eighth song, the program ended with Heralda opening the floor and inviting all audience members to try out the different instruments he had on display.

At least ten audience members stayed after to view the instruments with Heralda.

"I haven't really felt this energy anywhere else, other than in this room," said Mary Thomas, West Covina resident. It's very unique and I enjoyed it a lot. It wasn't a negative energy that was here, it was positive."

Her friend, Miranda Tejeda, a sophomore theater major, said the room felt like family and reminded her of the Mexican household in which she grew up.

"The stories he would tell really controlled that energy and the positive aspects," Tejeda said.

Reyes-Solorio said that the Multicultural Council will continue to put on culturally diverse events because she feels that the University and the Campus Activities Board are not doing enough to offer events that are both educational and fun.

"If the institution wants to only have events that are just fun, when is the education coming in?" Reyes-Solorio said. That's our goal. We try to bring different programming by asking students about their culture, and what they would like to see."

She said although not all students may be Latinx or indigenous, to have compassion and empathy toward each other we must learn about our different backgrounds.

The Multicultural Council invites student feedback and wants to know what other programs the student body would be interested in, Reyes-Solorio said.

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Melody Blazauskas

Aztec Stories program director Michael Heralda spoke at an event hosted by the Multicultural Club Council to highlight the Aztec culture Tuesday in the Campus Center Ballroom. Heralda and his grandson, Noah, helped share the Mexica culture through poetry, music and storytelling.

Students craft ornaments

Destinee Mondragon
Staff Writer

The Makerspace in the Wilson Library hosted a Carve Away: Ornament Making Workshop Monday.

Roughly 20 students attended the event and the Makers Club provided wood and paint to make the ornaments.

The Makerspace is filled with resources like the wooden iron, sewing machines, 3D printers, and laser cutters.

This workshop had pre-cut wooden ornaments in the shape of a round ornament.

The objective of the workshop was to have students trace various designs such as flowers, anime characters and snowflakes.

"The 3-D printer is one of my favorite equipments here at the Makerspace," said sophomore criminology major Sabrina Herrera. "The wooden iron is really cool to make ornaments by hand. It makes the experience creative and crafty."

Herrera is a Makerspace technician meaning she oversees in helping students and faculty use and understand the different types of equipment the Makerspace offers.

Herrera has been trained to assist people in using the equipment in the space as part of a work-study job.

Herrera finds these workshops to be a benefit on campus, because it offers students to be creative rather than just using old fashioned pen and paper.

She said these workshops are an opportunity for students to try something new.

"It opens a new perspective for what technology could be used for in a creative aspect," said Tiffany Casillas, sophomore business administration major and Makers Club president.

"These workshops are cool even if this stress relief is only for an hour," Casillas said.

Makerspace coordinator Alvaro Alvarez said the interactive workshops will restart in February.

"I feel the workshops are a lifelong benefit because it is beneficial to students gaining hands on experience with the type of technology we have to offer," Alvarez said.

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Microaggressions are real

Microaggressions have been widely discussed across campus during the past several weeks and months.

Students have organized protests demanding that the University implement mandatory diversity and cultural sensitivity training for administrators, faculty, staff and students.

The president, provost and Faculty Assembly have responded with resolutions regarding mandatory diversity training and curriculum changes that support these long overdue changes.

And while there has been plenty of dialogue around what can be done in response to microaggressions displayed in classrooms, meetings and events across campus, there still seems to be some confusion as to what microaggressions actually are and how some in the community may be unknowingly offending students and colleagues via these behaviors.

Microaggressions can be subtle comments directed at a marginalized group of people that, although may not be intended to cause damage, still convey either a derogatory or negative message pertaining to an individual's background or sense of identity.

Many microaggressions play on the stereotypes of marginalized people, such as assuming someone who is Jewish is good with money, or asking a black student if they play on the basketball team.

They are not limited to verbal comments.

They can be displayed through actions such as clutching your purse when a person of color walks by, or mistaking a person of color for a service worker based out of pure assumption.

Microaggressions tend to be more difficult to address than blatant racism, because they are subtle and those on the receiving end of them tend to question the perpetrator's intention, and their own reaction or response.

Microaggressions often are not taken seriously, as compared with more blatant racism. Both the word "microaggressions" and the behaviors are often dismissed as a construct of "liberal snowflakes" who are too sensitive.

Nonetheless, microaggressions only add to the power dynamic between marginalized people and their oppressors.

The dismissal, invalidation and subtle insults that microaggressions provide only emphasize this gap in power.

Microaggressions do not only apply to race either, they can be applied to gender and sexual orientation as well. Implying that someone is "not that gay," or assuming that a woman is only a receptionist when she very likely could be the boss are only some examples.

Regardless of which example one looks at, the same dehumanizing experience remains. Words have power, just as much as actions do.

Because something may seem subtle, or unintentional, does not mean it is not actually serious.

We have to do better.

We have to be mindful of the things we say and do, and whether they may actually harm another person.

Microaggressions can be avoided if we all just take the time to learn how to communicate respectfully.

Veterans Day deserves recognition

The University of La Verne should begin observing Veterans Day as an "off" day to allow students, faculty and staff to spend the day honoring those who have served in the military.

As the school invests in growing the resources available to veteran students, such as the Veteran Students Success Center, not observing Veterans Day is a disservice to the population on campus who have served or who have family who have served time in the military.

If the concern is that the semester cannot afford to miss an entire day of classes, the University could choose to make up that day at the beginning or end of the semester.

In fact, if the University were to give students the remainder of Thanksgiving week off from classes in addition to Veterans Day, the additional four days of class could be made up by adding an additional to week to either end of the semester.

The University has invested a lot into making veteran students feel welcomed on campus. It is strange for our institution to develop projects like the Veterans Success Center and in the same semester, keep classes in session, potentially preventing them from celebrating their achievements with their families.

Additionally many students have families who travel during the holidays, and for students whose families do not live locally, a four day vacation home is difficult to justify the cost and effort of traveling. If students were to be given the entire week, then that would give them nine total days of travel time, which is much easier to accommodate and plan.

If the concern is that ULV has always been a passive institution, then it should be noted that Veterans Day is deeply associated with Armistice Day, which celebrates the end of World War I. Instead of observing Veterans Day, which could be construed as a political statement, the school could give students and veterans the day by observing a day that marked the end of a major world war.

Election brings wave of new voices

History was made in the 2018 midterm elections, with major steps and accomplishments for women and the LGBT community.

Some of the biggest news came from the House, where a record number of women are poised to take seats. In all, at least 100 women won House races. Thirty five of those 100 will be first-time representatives, with 65 being re-elected incumbents. The previous record for women in the House was 84, according to the Congressional Research Service.

Not only will more women be in the House, but the Democrats overtook control and now own the majority. Voters made this an election to be remembered, but also gave a voice to the underrepresented and took aim at President Donald Trump and his administration.

In addition to the record-setting numbers of the House, there were many other firsts in this year's election. Democrats Sharice Davids won in Kansas and Deb Haaland won in New Mexico and will become the first Native American women to be elected to Congress.

Davids is a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation while Haaland is a member of the Pueblo of Laguna. While Davids is a Native American, she also identifies as a lesbian, making her the first openly gay member of Congress from Kansas.

Michigan's Rashida Tlaib and Minnesota's llhan Omar became the first Muslim women to win seats in Congress.

Women were not the only ones making headlines, Jared Polis of Colorado was elected as the first openly gay governor in U.S. history. Also, Marsha Blackburn was victorious in Tennessee, making her the first woman senator in the state's history.

Getting different voices from different backgrounds will help push new ideas forward.

More importantly it is crucial that women and minorities see their voices represented in the government.

For a government to be fair and equal all voices need to not only be heard, but have a hand in the decision making process.

According to a study by the Reflective Democracy Campaign, 97 percent of all elected Republican officials are white and 76 percent are men, while 79 percent of Democratic officials are white and 65 percent are male.

In recent years, more women have been running for offices around the U.S., this is good for everyone. The gap between women and men in office remains large, but with the success in this election, the hope is that more women continue to turn out. The current demographics of Congress do not fully represent this country, and with help we can change that.

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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Yeomen sail past Leos, hit 17 threes

Slow start plagues LV in loss

Joey Matsuzawa
Staff Writer

La Verne could not stop the Oberlin offense on Friday, losing 96-70.

After a heartbreaking 1-24 season last year, the men's basketball team rebuilt their roster from the ground up and they have hopes of recovering from last season.

"We're really young this year with 10 incoming freshmen, so this year's an inexperienced team," senior center Evan Gustafson said. "So we've got to start from the bottom and build ourselves back up,"

Unfortunately, Oberlin gained the upper hand early in the first half, building an 11-point lead just 10 minutes into the game.

"We came out super flat and not ready to play at all," sophomore small-forward Jordan Allen said.

The Leopards' offense seemed sluggish throughout the half, and was unable to generate momentum for the team.

The story of the Leopards' defense was similar: unable to slow down Oberlin's unrelenting attack.

The Yeomen stretched the lead to 48-29 by halftime.

"Our defense was pretty bad," Allen said. "They weren't all-stars on offense or anything, we just couldn't execute."

However, La Verne did have a few bright spots throughout the night after subbing in Gustafson and sophomore point guard Tevin McClain, both dropping 16 points to lead the team in scoring.

While La Verne was able to keep up with Oberlin on offense during the second half, the Leopards could not stop Oberlin's 3-point shooters.

The Yeomen shot 63 percent on 17-27 from the 3-point line, which players say came as a surprise to the team.

"[For our gameplan] We kinda wanted them to shoot threes, they hadn't really shot well last season from three, but this game was a bit of a surprise -- they shot really well from three today, and we didn't make that adjustment," McClain said.

Another bright spot for the Leopards was freshman guard Justin Tibbs. He had a standout game in his debut for La Verne, scoring 11 points (eight in the second half) as well as adding on two steals and assists.

Despite La Verne's individual performances, it was not enough to overcome their deficit from the first half, ending the game 96-70, Oberlin.

ULV finished the half shooting 37 percent from the field with 22 percent from three.

"Because we were slow and not ready to go, we weren't able to execute our gameplan how we wanted," Gustafson said.

Players say that the team's biggest concern is building effective chemistry within the team, since the team is still very young -- and without an identity.

"Mostly we're trying to become more team-oriented," McClain said.

"We don't really have an established star on the team so it's important that we play together as a team."

The Leos put together a better second half. They nearly kept matched Oberlin in second half points, 48-41.

Also, La Verne's shooting numbers were much better in the second half. They shot nearly 52 percent from the field and increased their three-point percentage to 33 percent for the half.

La Verne would go on to lose their next game on the road against Linfield College, 112-78, Wednesday night.

Freshman guard Sinai Enoch led the Leopards with 24 points off the bench. The loss drops the Leopards to an overall record of 0-2.

The Leopards will look to improve that record next week at the UC Santa Cruz Thanksgiving Classic, starting at noon Nov. 24 against the host Banana Slugs.

The team's first Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference opponent will be Occidental, whom the Leopards will host at 7 p.m. Dec. 5.

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Leos take plunge against Bulldogs



Veronyca Norcia

Sophomore Lorenzo DeLeon is quick to start the men's 50 backstroke leg of the 200 medley relay Saturday against Redlands. The La Verne 'A' team of DeLeon, freshman Gavin Soto, senior C.J. Woodward and senior Kris Grigorian finished third with a time of 1:44.26. Redlands won both the men's meet, 230-49, and the women's meet, 197-77. La Verne will host Whittier at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the La Verne Aquatic Center.

Hate...

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associated with gay pride, which began an impromptu dance among counter protestors.

"Not in our town," said Claremont resident Rose Ash, who met the church at the corner near Pomona College. "Anywhere or anytime you will be confronted by people who oppose hate and who will stand up and do everything in their power to ensure that love triumphs over your hate."

Students and community members met at 6 a.m. in the school's quad area to paint signs in preparation for their own "Love-Fest" to run counter to the church's protest planned for 6:20 a.m.

Pomona College stationed campus security near the location of the protestors.

The safety officers were given instructions to escort them off private campus property should they make their way onto the campus grounds.

Rachel Lau, a freshman at Pomona College, co-organized an assembly to combat the anti-LGBT messages that were being spread near the campus along with freshman classmates Rachel Howard and Rowan Macy.

"We wanted to not allow this hatred to be on campus and show people on campus who might feel scared by these words that there's a lot of people here who care about them," Lau said. "I think in this political culture, now is not the time for a silent ally-ship. Being a silent ally is not being an ally."

"They are also attacking Pomona's diversity in terms of sexual orientation, gender identity and backgrounds like where you're from or who your family is or what life experiences you've had," Macy said.

"Our diversity is what makes us a great place to be," Howard said. "That we have people from all different backgrounds and all different life experiences. If we're proud to be able to share these each other then that just makes our communities stronger."

Elaine Molina, a University of La Verne freshman criminology major who identifies as LGBT, traveled to both locations with rainbow-patterned apparel and hand-made signs depicting messages of love to protest the church's anti-LGBT sentiment.

"If we're supposed to follow Jesus as an example according to their beliefs then why aren't they following his examples of love, examples of compassion and his examples of just showing the same respect to everyone," said Molina.

Molina said she no longer adheres to Christian beliefs because she finds their teachings hateful.

"I don't see why they have such a hatred against people just living their lives. I mean, I don't have a hatred against them," Molina added.

The church believes being homosexual or engaging in homosexual behavior is a choice popularized by society and will result in God's destruction of humanity.

"You teach children that not only should they fornicate their brains out and that they should have same sex marriage and all those things...now you've upped the ante," Phelps-Roper said.

"When someone tells me that this is my choice I tend to start looking back on all the memories that led up to me being this way. Even then as a child I didn't know what this was," said Briana Bafford, a sophomore at Chaffey College who also protested both locations.

"I didn't know what any of this meant...so for you to tell me that it was a choice because I just decided supposedly on this thing. It just doesn't add up to me. I had gay tendencies when I was a kid," Bafford said.

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Water polo flounders in season finale

Andrew Alonzo
Staff Writer



Katelyn Keeling

Senior goalie Ian Hernandez jumps to block a shot from Occidental in the last game of the season Saturday. Hernandez, who was honored in a pool-side senior day celebration before the game, finished the season with 174 saves.

The men's water polo team played its final match of the season against Occidental but fell short of a happy ending, losing 11-10 to the Tigers.

An unlucky day in front of goal for the Leopards as nearly all of their 36 shots were either deflected wide or saved by the post. Junior utility player Charles Ortega tried to rally the Leopards with his five goals but the Leopards hole was too deep to climb out of.

"We wanted to finish our season out on a high note and today we just couldn't finish today," head coach Pat Beemer said. "We had a ton of chances and statistically we out-shot them 2-1, so it's tough."

The first quarter was a headache for the Leopards as sophomore attacker Joseph Cox was able to assist all three of the Tigers opening goals while La Verne struggled to respond.

"After the first few goals the demeanor of the whole team kind of diminished," junior defender Rex Sample said. "Our offense and defense play wasn't what it should have been and not what it has been in the past."

Occidental grabbed the first two goals while junior attacker Joey Sabers put the Leopards back within one goal midway through the first quarter.

The Tigers sophomore utility player Elijah Havens canceled out Sabers goal to reestablish their two-goal lead once more before freshman center Jason Soo Hoo brought La Verne back within one with 3:15 to go in the first quarter.

The second quarter established the counter-attack tempo of the game as both teams matched each other's three goal quarter.

Sample linked up with freshman center Michael Staine got things started for La Verne after the 2:30 mark. Cox got his fourth assist of the day when he set up freshman center Cian Concannon but was canceled out by a Ortega and Sabers one-two counter of their own.

Junior attacker Nicolas Lapri got on the score sheet and sophomore attacker Alex Marriott thought he had sunk the Leopards before halftime but a last second frenzy on the Occidental goal line saw Ortega turn the ball into the net to give the Leopards some hope before the half ended. The Leopards were trailing, 6-5.

Occidental grew wary of the Leopards and frustration set in as the Tigers suffered 10 exclusions throughout the second half. "I think we handled being up a man pretty well but for the most part we didn't finish our opportunities," freshman utility player Mitchell Montenegro said.

The Leopards were stunned by Occidental's aggressiveness in the third quarter. La Verne won the third quarter sprint and got their equalizer with senior attacker Jason Russum setting up Staine for a bullet-like shot into the bottom corner.

The Tigers punished La Verne after conceding the equalizer and scored on their next three consecutive possessions to pull away and establish a comfortable 9-6 lead.

"We had to figure out what spots were open and the angles we should be attacking more and fix up any problems along the way," junior attacker Evan Monterroso said.

The Leopards fought their way back when freshman attacker Myles Storms, being challenged from behind by two Occidental players and with his back to goal, showed great strength to turn away from both centers and fire a cannon into the top corner to give the Leopards a goal back.

Ortega completed his hattrick with 1:38 left to play and put the Leopards within reach of an equalizer.

Senior defender Alexander Zim for the Tigers ruined the momentum for the Leopards when his shot from the 6 meter line bounced off the water crossbar and then drifted in to reestablish the their two goal lead.

The fourth quarter had the crowd on the edge of their seats when Ortega tucked home a Sabers cross with 6:47 left to play.

On the ensuing counter-attack, the Leopards were down a man after Sample was excluded from play for an aggressive foul. Occidental's Cox sunk the Leopards hopes with his fifth assist as Havens grabbed his second goal and put the game to bed.

The Leopards threw everything at the Tigers in the closing stages. On defense, Occidental struggled to find an answer to man marking and the press. Ortega capitalized on a Tiger mistake in the closing stages of the game to try and force overtime but the clock expired.

The Leopards ended the season 3-11 in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and 8-21 overall.

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LEOPARD SCOREBOARD

AT THE BUZZER

Women's basketball, Nov. 8
Utah Valley-86
La Verne - 79

Men's basketball, Nov. 9
La Verne - 70
Oberlin - 96

Men's water polo, Nov. 10
La Verne - 10
Occidental - 11

Football, Nov. 10
Chapman - 55
La Verne - 34

Men's basketball, Nov. 13
Linfield - 112
La Verne - 78

SCHEDULE

Friday
Women's basketball @ College of Idaho, 5 p.m.

Saturday
Men's and women's swimming and diving vs. Whittier, 10:30 a.m. (Dive); 11 a.m. (Swim)
Women's cross country, NCAA Championships, @ Oshkosh, Wisconsin, noon
Women's basketball vs. Pacific Union, 7 p.m.

Tuesday
Women's basketball vs. Colorado College, 2 p.m.

MEN'S BASKETBALL STANDINGS

	SCIAC	Overall
Occidental	0-0	2-0
Caltech	0-0	1-0
Chapman	0-0	1-0
Redlands	0-0	1-0
Whittier	0-0	1-0
Claremont-M-S	0-0	0-0
Pomona-Pitzer	0-0	0-0
La Verne	**0-0**	**0-2**