Campus Times

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Dancing for fruitful hunt



Veronyca Norcia

Native American dancers perform a deer hunting dance at the Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens' Acorn Festival Nov 18. Traditionally the dance was done to bless the indigenous people before their hunt.

Assessing the fires' damage

David Gonzalez
Jaycie Thierry
Staff Writers

California is in recovery after multiple wildfires raged across the state in recent weeks leaving nearly 90 people dead, hundreds missing, and thousands more homeless.

Sophomore television broadcasting major Isabella Torres spent a week back home in Tarzana helping displaced friends and family who have since lost their homes to the California fires.

"I have asthma and the air quality was horrible," Torres said. "I had to be rushed to the hospital because I was having trouble breathing. It was safer for me to come back to campus.

"Four of my friends are now homeless. They've been away at college and are now coming back to nothing," Torres said. "Before I left I stood at the remains of one of my friends' houses with her and it's been completely burned to ash. There's nothing left. It's so sad."

Jay Jones, professor of biology and biochemistry, said that forest fires smolder for long periods of time, making it difficult to put out entirely. The coming rains can help fight the fires, he said.

"The rains are good because it will bring down dust and wash ash and soot away," Jones said. "It can also restore vegetation. We live in a much drier climate in the geological timeline, so that would be a benefit."

Jones added that the rain can also improve air quality in the areas affected.

The major fires, the Camp, Woolsey and Hill fires, have all been 100 percent contained according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

However, mudslides and mudflows leave the burned areas at high risk in the current rainy season.

The problem with the rain is the possibility of soils becoming oversaturated, which leads

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LGBT panel finds solace in religion

Others find it in spirituality

Layla Abbas
LV Life Editor

The second session of Queer Education 101, developed by a team of faculty, uncovered challenges the LGBT community experience with balancing their sexuality, spirituality and religious faith.

Zandra Wagoner, University chaplin, led a student and alumni panel as they shared personal journeys with religion and spirituality Nov. 15 in the Campus Center Ballroom.

Wagoner, who identifies as lesbian, said people who are LGBT tend to stray away from their religion because of the negative perceptions geared toward their community.

"I see this as an actual loss for the LGBT community," Wagoner said. "It is not that everyone needs to be religious, but these are real places of social uplift and spiritual development. (This) matters to someone, but is often times cut off for individuals in the LGBT spectrum."

In a 2014 study by the Pew Research Center, Evangelical Protestants, Muslims, Mormons, Historically Black Protestants and Orthodox Protestants were not fully supportive of homosexuality.

Wagoner acknowledged the improvement from the last study in 2007, but said this is still a challenging concept for people of religious backgrounds to support and accept.

"Religion is a resource taken away from the LGBT community simply because the community they had did not make space for them," Wagoner said.

Caleb Urich, who graduated in 2011, Jedaun Carter, who graduated in June 2018, and Damairis Lao, senior art and art history major, answered a series of questions about their identities.

Carter, who identifies as spiritual but not religious, grew up in a traditional baptist home.

"I was involved in the church Monday through Sunday," Carter said. "I was not allowed to do anything after school unless it was church, read anything other than biblical texts and watch anything unless it was related to God."

Carter said she was always told homosexuality was considered a sin in her religion.

"I knew deep down I was homosexual," Carter said. "I knew my parents views and my views were conflicted. So whenever I approached my parents and asked them, 'Where in the bible does it say being homosexual is a sin?' my dad could never give me a direct answer."

Carter said after parting ways with Christianity she is now at peace with her spirituality and sexuality.

"I found value in believing in a higher power and knowing there is someone I can turn to," Carter said. "Some kind of guide that does not judge me."

Lao, who identifies as queer, converted to Christianity two years ago after being culturally raised Buddhist.

Lao said she did not grow up in a religion that was homopho-

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Lecture examines womanism

Danielle De Luna
Assistant Editor

Nature, relationships, inner peace and the self. All of these words define what is sacred to womanists.

Students and faculty reflected on these concepts and discussed their own understandings of what is sacred and spiritual Nov. 15 during the conclusion of the Interfaith Chapel's Faith and Justice workshop series "Black Feminism and Sacred Text."

Eight women gathered in the Chapel seminar room for the final session and perused an assortment of books displayed upon brown side tables in the back of the room.

The books pertained to the workshop's focus on black feminism, diaspora, spirituality and womanist midrash – the act of interpreting sacred text and arguing with its contents to understand faith from a black, female point of view.

Assistant Professor of Education Issac Carter co-facilitated with graduate student Jasmine Marchbanks-Owens to share a curated presentation on indigenous and black cosmology.

Marchbanks-Owens and Carter said they had wanted to present a Powerpoint and video, but instead began with a discussion since the projection equipment was missing from the room.

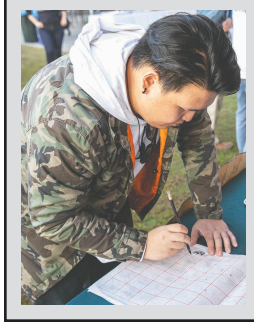
Carter started by asking everyone to share their fundamental understandings of black feminism.

"I think of certain authors and their focus on intersectionality," Professor of English Cathy Irwin said. "Women like Alice Walker, bell hooks, Patricia Hill Collins."

"It's a place to honor all the identities one might have,"

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Elliot teaches stress-coping tactics

Lecture emphasizes attunement

Nicolette Rojo
Staff Writer

Around 25 students attended CAB's mental health event for advice on improving the ability to handle anxiety and stress in the Campus Center Ballroom Tuesday afternoon.

With finals approaching and stress levels rising, the event was held a week prior to the University banning clubs and organizations to host events due to dead week.

It featured a talk from Niki Elliot, co-director of the Center for Neurodiversity, Learning and Wellness, which focused not only on the impact of anxiety and stress toward students' academic performance, but also on discovering mindfulness tricks to help them cope with common stressors.

"When I train teachers in mindfulness and how to bring it to their classrooms, the same thing we're seeing in K-12 is the same I'm seeing in college students who adopt these practices," Elliot said. "Increase in self-regulation, decreases in anxiety, improvement in sleep and focus for learning."

Elliot broke down the science behind the brain's fight and flight system and how anxiety affects the body's reactions.

"Our bodies are designed to prioritize survival and reproduction; learning is a bonus," Elliot said. "We might sit down with an intention to learn and force ourselves to learn, but in the presence of stress and anxiety, our body does not move learning into the prefrontal cortex where we have long-term memory."

The body returns the information down into the sympathetic nervous system to build more cortisol, causing to add more fight or flight.

Elliot emphasized the importance of speaking about stress and anxiety to collegiate audiences because of the high amount of people feeling that these feelings are just part of the college lifestyle, along with teaching mindfulness tricks to overcome them.

"I think it's critical because many people feel that stress and anxiety is something we can't do about and is just part of the college culture and what you have to deal with," Elliot said. "I believe truly in my heart that these mindfulness tools and social, emotional learning, the SDL curriculum in higher education, should be a mandatory foundational piece of every college student's education for freshman year."

Elliot concluded her talk by unwrapping the five gifts of mindfulness, which was designed for audience members to unwrap the gift bags and share the posters of five different words.

She followed with a brief demonstration of each activity that would help and control mental states.

The five gifts are equanimity, compassion, gratitude, attunement and authenticity, in which a person's mental state can be more controllable with consistent practice.

Mark Vasquez, sophomore kinesiology major and CAB special events chairman, wanted to hold a more inclusive event for everyone to attend, learn and apply mindfulness activities to combat stress as finals are approaching.

"I wanted to make it more inclusive with everybody, so we decided to do something like this with finals coming up," Vasquez said. "I understand that a lot of people are going through stress and anxiety, so we decided to do something beneficial for students that they can attend and learn, as well as take something that they can use in future processes."

Charles Lapuz, senior business administration major and CAB marketing chairman, expressed the importance of hosting a mental health event to help students realize that they're not alone and how just a few tricks can help battle anxiety.

"With the stress levels that students are going through, it's important to attend and throw an event like this for students to understand that it's not the end of the world and also to learn how to handle the stress they have to go through," Lapuz said.

Audience engagement was a main focal point throughout the event because Elliot not only discussed about the mindfulness tips, but also had members perform the activities as a way to help them build that consistency in integrating it as a lifelong practice.

Jacob Mendoza, CAPA student and educational studies major, felt that the University should continue to hold more mental health and mindfulness talks because these tips can be applied by anyone regardless of age, which allows events to be more inclusive.

"When these events are open to everybody, it's good because these practices are for everybody," Mendoza said. "It can help any age of student and person, from a 2-year-old to a 92-year-old."

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Students defend genetically modified foods

Maydeen Merino
Staff Writer

Students in the honors program held an event that informed the public about genetically modified organisms in our foods as part of their senior project Wednesday in the Hanawalt House.

The event was organized by six seniors with several stations for students to visit and educate themselves about GMOs.

The seniors' goal was to inform the public of the benefits of GMOs and how they are not as harmful as some make it seem.

"There is a lot of misinformation from separate groups and what actually goes into GMOs and how it affects our community," said senior biology major Nicole Gomez.

At the event they provided a tasting station with fruit – one contained GMOs and another organic fruit did not contain GMOs.

Students were able to taste the fruit and try to guess which one was which.

"A lot of the food we eat is genetically modified," said senior biology major Charonne Razafindralay.

"We wanted people to see whether they taste a difference in the GMO and non-GMO fruits."

The students also created a documentary for their project, asking students around campus what they thought about GMOs.

The seniors also teamed up with two student clubs, the Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science and the International Genetically Engineered Machine club, to also provide a booth at their event to give additional information to the public about GMOs.

"This event is to lower the fear of GMOs because a lot of people hear GMOs and freak out," senior biology major C.J. Woodward said. "There is a lot that can be done with GMOs that can help with agriculture and other things not food related."

He said there is a lot of fear about GMOs, but they are not as harmful as some may think.

"Do not be afraid of them," Woodward said. "We can eventually lower the restrictions on them, allow things like this to help the overall food supply of the world be better for everyone and help feed 8 billion people."

The event helped inform students about facts and misinformation about GMOs they may have heard about.

"There is a lot of negative stigmas about GMOs," said senior anthropology major Rachel Fox.

"A lot of people are uneducated about them. They just believe the bad things about GMOs, but they are really helpful. It is important for students to come to events like these."

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Womanism...

Continued from page 1

Marchbanks-Owens said.

"'Black feminist' is not a noun, but a verb for me since I am a man and I understand the privilege of being a man," Carter said.

Carter continued, explaining the historical and geographical origins of black feminism and womanism, pointing to the black diaspora from West Africa. He said the effects of colonization on the spiritual and the self were especially significant for groups from this region.

"You've been ontologically changed as a human being when your culture is uprooted and transformed," Carter said. "And black feminism is about the reassembling of the self."

Carter said tracing back the evolution of Western Christianity and Judaism reveals an entirely different cosmology that was erased from indigenous cultures during the process of colonization.

The mother goddess Asherah, also referred to as "Queen of Heaven," is said to have been worshiped by the Israelites in Jewish sacred text, but her existence in spiritual life was consumed by her husband El or Yahweh, Carter said.

"Even after the colonizers told them to let go of what they were believing, some still called God by the name of this goddess' husband," Carter said.

Carter and Marchbanks-Owens said connections to Asherah and pre-colonial polytheism are visible in religions like Santeria and Vodou, which merge aspects of indigenous religions with Christianity or Catholicism.

"What if we thought to portray women as sacred?" Marchbanks-Owens asked.

"It would be an opportunity to reconstruct the configuration of our society."

The elimination of the spirit in Western culture has created unintended consequences that affect our interpersonal interactions and our relationship with the Earth, Carter said.

Carter added this secularization may to be blame for the disregard of Earth's natural resources, as well as the neglect and objectification of people.

Carter concluded the session with an examination of popular modern music. He referenced Beyonce's song "Diva" and Ariana Grande's song "God is a Woman."

The songs prompted discussion about how popular culture manufactures and manipulates ideas about femininity and empowerment. Though some saw the songs as evidence of current culture attempting to frame women as sacred or powerful, others found flaws in the message.

Graduate student Kira Barros said she becomes discouraged when she sees popular culture mass produce female sexuality and label it as empowerment, while overlooking the true power of femininity.

"To me the act of pregnancy is the clearest indication that females are divine," Barros said.

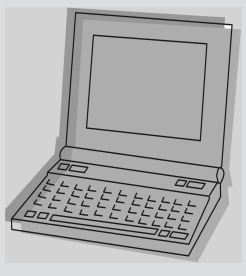
Though this semester's Faith and Justice workshop series has concluded, University Chaplain Zandra Wagoner said she hopes to host more of these events next semester.

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Corrections

The Campus Times is committed to accuracy. When we make mistakes, however, it is our policy to correct them as soon as they are brought to our attention. If you find a mistake in the Campus Times, please let us know at ***ctimes@laverne.edu***.

Lee studies universal basic income

Michael Sprauge
Copy Editor

Associate professor of public administration Soomi Lee spoke to an audience of nearly 30 people about the historical context and public attitudes towards universal basic income in the President's Dining Room Nov. 20.

Universal basic income is a periodic cash payment delivered unconditionally to all on an individual basis, without means-test or work requirement, according to Lee and the Basic Income Earth Network.

"It's kind of a social security for all, everyone has a minimum amount of money constantly flowing in," Lee said.

She clarified the universality aspect of universal basic income and the difference between it and other conditional benefits where people must be at, or below a certain threshold.

"[Money] unconditionally delivered to all adults, regardless of their income level, their gender, whether they hold a job, are looking for a job, there's no such thing as eligibility," Lee said.

Lee's lecture titled "Attitudes Toward Universal Basic Income and Welfare State in Europe" was based on a research article of the same name published in Basic Income Studies, a peer-reviewed journal that explores different aspects of basic income.

While universal basic income has recently seen more media exposure and is well referenced amongst notable Silicon Valley billionaires and some politicians.

Lee said the concept is not new.

Different economists and thinkers throughout history including Thomas Paine, Martin Luther King Jr. and Henry George, all supported various forms of basic income.

She explained in the 1960s Richard Nixon attempted to pass a form of basic income, called a "negative-tax." Nixon's idea was that instead of people who were low-income paying taxes, they would instead receive money from the government.

Lee recognizes that Universal Basic Income is still in the conceptual stages and financially too expensive for the United States.

"Universal Basic Income is very expensive, the whole federal government budget (excluding state and local) is about $4.3 trillion," Lee said. "If you give everyone $1,000 per every single person, then that's going to cost about $3 trillion."

Matthew Witt, professor of public administration, explained during the discussion portion of the lecture that in the past Americans had the tax rates needed to make something like UBI fiscally viable.

"We've been here before. We've taxed the top end 90 percent of their income," Witt said. "There was no revolt, republicans weren't saying no, it was understood to maintain an economy at 4 percent increase per annum, this is what we have to do."

"We were building bridges, hospitals, schools. We were expanding our industry we needed people to work," Witt said.

Lee emphasized that UBI is not a remedy for all of society's issues, rather it is an idea that everyone in society needs a certain level of income to survive.

In spring of 2018 Lee taught the University's first course on Universal Basic Income, an elective course offered through the honors department. The course examined UBI in terms of its potential effect on social, economical and cultural issues in society.

"I want to generate debate in our community at La Verne, about our future, basic income, or other alternatives in this changing labor market and economy," Lee said.

In addition to teaching a course on UBI at La Verne, Lee is organizing the North American Universal Basic Income Conference to be held next year at Hunter College in New York. Five students from Lee's inaugural Basic income class have volunteered to help organize and market the conference and will be invited to attend the event.

"We're fortunate to have someone like Soomi at the University of La Verne, who blends analytic treatment to the very important questions of our time," La Verne Academy Professor Jack Meek said.

Michael Ojeda, sophomore biology major, previously did not agree with UBI but changed his mind after researching current entitlement programs.

"The welfare system we have right now is completely broken. It just doesn't work. There's still poverty rampant around the country," Ojeda said. "Out of all the systems I've seen like raising minimum wage, or the other solutions proposed, I thought that universal basic income was the most fair and best system to fix at least most of the problems we have right now."

Professor of Humanities Al Clark spoke to his students after the event about the economical and moral questions around universal basic income.

"As a historian, anytime we've gotten anywhere near the kind of income distribution that we have today, that is to say where there's the one percent and all the rest of us...We've had a revolution," said Clark.

"It behooves us all to try to find a way to make it possible for everybody to live at least some kind of level so they're not on the streets and they aren't hungry," Clark said.

Sophomore political science major Alexis Figueroa had not heard of universal basic income before the lecture, but did not agree with the concept after seeing the presentation.

"It just doesn't really seem realistic. I feel like there's always going to be issues with it. Looking at just how our welfare system now and how many people take advantage of it," said Figueroa.

Figueroa said the concept depends on a question the nation faces about what type of labor market and economy it sees for itself.

"Do we want where our country is flourishing economically where everyone is working, everybody has as part in it. Or do we want people to just sit around and have an income, and just live with what is given to them?" Figueroa said.

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Fires...

Continued from page 1

to earth movements like mudslides, Jones said.

"There isn't much we can do to prevent the damage from mass wasting," Jones said. "In the long term, drainage can be installed in unconsolidated areas."

Jones said if mudslides were to happen, it would be best to move people away from the area and to move any important items to someplace safe.

The concerns of mudflows are not just the risk to the areas affected recently by fires; they also pose a risk to thise areas that were affected by fires over the summer.

The California wildfire recovery calls for all hands on deck as the state heads toward another rainy winter season.

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Want to help fire recovery efforts?

You can visit the California Community Foundation's Wildfire Relief Fund to make a direct donation to wildfire victims at **connect.calfund.org/give/wildfirerelief**.

For more information on how you can help with the wildfire recovery efforts, contact the organizations below:

- American Red Cross: **redcross.org**
- Direct Relief: **directrelief.org**
- Salvation Army: **salvationarmy.org**
- North Valley Community Foundation: **nvcf.org**
- California Fire Foundation: **cafirefoundation.org**

For more information on how you can donate to firefighters who put out the wildfires:

- Entertainment Industry Foundation: **eifoundation.org**
- Butte County Firefighter Benevolent Foundation: **gofundme.com/camp-fire-firefighter-disaster-fund**
- Los Angeles Fire Dept. Foundation: **supportlafd.org**

For more information on how you can help animals affected by the wildfires:

- Humane Society of Ventura County: **hsvc.org**
- VCA Animal Hospitals: **vcahospitals.com**
- North Valley Animal Disaster Group: **nvadg.org**

Commentary

Pledge indoctrinates kids with nationalistic ideas



CHRISTIAN SHEPHERD

The Pledge of Allegiance in an outdated tradition that instills racism into children, infringes on the First Amendment rights of everyone who does not believe in a Christian God and falsely advertises a liberty and justice for all.

By pressuring children to recite or stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, schools are indoctrinating students with very specific ideals that are much more complicated than they are able to comprehend. Firstly, "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America" forces children, who likely have no comprehension of the implication of nationalistic values, to take a side in support of the country.

Ignoring the obvious implications of recruiting minors for national loyalty, forcing--or peer pressuring--them to take a side with the United States instills an "us versus them" mentality early on in their development. What is to happen, then, when those students encounter other students who were born under different flags? Or another peer who shows a pride in their home country from which they might have emigrated? With the nationalistic values they have been taught, they are likely going to draw harmful conclusions. Why else, if not to show and promote American superiority over other countries, would they be prompted to pledge allegiance?

The pledge also forces students, from an array of different religions, to show allegiance to "God." God – with a capital "G" – typically refers to the Christian deity only. Even if the pledge were spelled with the lowercase "god," it would force non-believers into adopting a form of religion, infringing on atheists' and agnostics' First Amendment right to freedom of religion throughout the country.

The phrase "under God" was not even added into the pledge until 1954 by Congress, highlighting the fact that the nation's leaders cared only about Christian beliefs.

There is not and never has been a "liberty and justice for all" in country. There may have been points in time where there was liberty and justice for a large portion of people who are white heterosexual men, but that has never extended to every resident of the country. Our history is riddled with injustice of minorities, women, LGBT and other social groups.

Stating otherwise does two things: it minimizes the immense struggles and true histories of these groups and shows that we are a country that is fine with pretending those atrocities did not – and are still not – occurring.

It also illustrates our hypocrisy toward minority groups as a country that was founded and built by joint-immigrant efforts.

Even though students are no longer required, legally, to stand or make the pledge, keeping the tradition of making the pledge announcement every weekend in schools and at public events still creates the same problems in our culture. The pledge, while a part of the country's history, no longer holds with modern standards.

The Pledge of Allegiance should not be a part of our national culture or tradition anymore than other outdated, harmful traditions like a Confederate flag or Jim Crow laws.

Christian Shepherd, a senior journalism major, is news editor for the Campus Times. He can be reached by email at ***christian.shepherd@laverne.edu***.

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United States needs Green New Deal

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, a newly-elected Democratic representative for Congress from New York, is leading the campaign for a comprehensive carbon reduction and jobs program called the "Green New Deal."

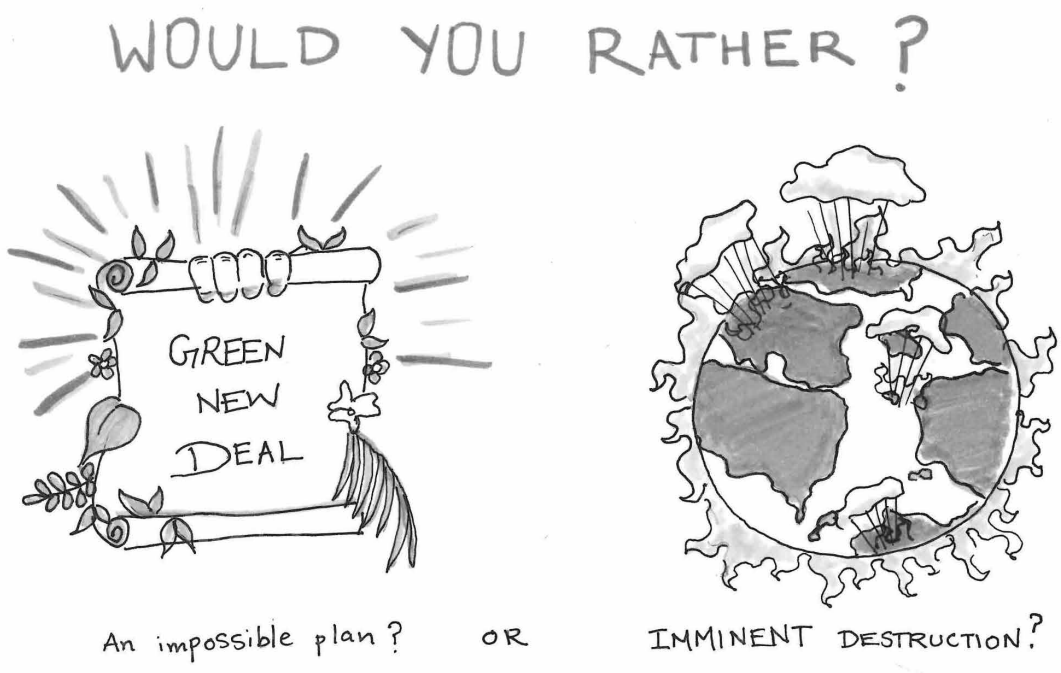
The Green New Deal would help transition America into 100 percent renewable energy, and reduce the country's greenhouse gas emissions all while attempting to reduce income inequality.

More specifically, the deal would call for a select subcommittee, separate from the House, which would consist of 15 members appointed by the speaker, with six members appointed by recommendation of the minority leader.

This select committee would be responsible for developing detailed plans of environmental mobilization, as well as any legislation required to enact the plans.

More specifically, the special committee will be responsible for developing a 10-year plan to make 100 percent of national power a form of renewable energy. Other goals include upgrading all residential and industrial buildings to improved energy efficiency, decarbonizing industries such as the agricultural and transportation industries, and providing funding for the capture of greenhouse gasses.

The plan outlines for the United States to eventually become "the undisputed international leader in helping other countries transition to completely carbon neutral economies and bringing about a global Green New Deal," according to Ocasio-Cortez's website, **ocasio2018.com/issues**, detailing her stance on the Green New Deal.



editorial cartoon by Danielle De Luna

Through this plan, the committee will also be helping to reduce income inequality by creating jobs through the new legislation. According to the website, the plan must also provide an equal opportunity for all to participate in the transition to clean energy, especially "low-income communities, communities of color, indigenous communities, rural and urban communities, and the front-line communities most affected by climate change."

Essentially, this committee must strive to decrease income inequality while simultaneously promoting economic security for all while in the process of transitioning into the Green New Deal.

Various congressmembers have agreed with the New Green Deal, such as Science Committee Member Eddie Bernice Johnson, Natural Resources Committee Chair Raul Grijalva and New Jersey Rep. Frank Pallone, all of which have vowed there will be a hearing in regards to the deal starting next year.

With that being said, it is important for society to begin taking both of these issues seriously, and the Green New Deal is the perfect way to start. We should all support progressive changes in legislature such as this one.

Our credit has reached its max and the bill has come due. No matter how emotional the pleas to save the environment, the hard truth is unless there is some form of immediate action, the world will not recover.

We have already been warned of a temperature increase that would be responsible for extreme heat, droughts and poverty as a direct result within the coming 12 years. With that said, 12 years seems a very short amount of time to produce radical change to save our environment. However, this 12 year estimated time frame should only push us to act sooner, quicker and with far more intense reform.

Overall, the Green New Deal sounds promising and genuine in its attempts at combating climate change, something said to worsen exponentially within 12 years, and income inequality, an issue only worsening as the years go on. We need to all rally together for this radical, necessary change that the Green New Deal can bring.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

As students who were a part of the most recent demonstration to faculty, we believe it is our duty to address what actually happened, as there have been many misunderstandings surrounding our intentions and the responses we've received. During the faculty meeting on Nov. 14, students asked faculty members to make a verbal commitment in support of diversity training and two-thirds obliged. Diversity training for faculty was first proposed in 1996, 22 years ago.

The Campus Times article ("Faculty supports diversity training," Nov. 16) failed to capture much of what occurred during the student demonstration. One glaring omission in the article was that during the demonstration, many faculty members engaged in side conversations while students shared their narratives. These narratives include stories about the blatant use of racial slurs by faculty members in the classroom and around campus, DACA students who were told that their stories of matriculation to the U.S. were overused and uninteresting, and students of color who endured discriminatory practices that disproportionately impact them as they attempt to take advantage of study abroad opportunities.

The article also failed to report that a faculty member proclaimed that the students' lived experiences, although disheartening, were mislabeled as microaggressions and a function of "semantics" rather than a form of discrimination because "they weren't intended to be harmful." What this faculty member failed to understand is that intentionality doesn't make a statement or act any less of a microaggression. Microaggressions have been proven to heighten students stress and anxiety levels. Despite the students' efforts to communicate that the impact of these microaggressions were akin to death by a thousand cuts, the faculty member insisted that students mislabeled their experiences and insinuated that students were overreacting.

Another aspect not reported in the Campus Times article was that a faculty member asked students to talk about our positive experiences because, "not everything we experience as students could be that negative." That faculty member became upset when students tried to explain to him that his questions were invalidating of our lived experiences.

One of the most disheartening actions that took place was the faculty blaming ASULV for not supporting students enough and that if they did, these types of incidents would not happen in the classroom. A faculty member who serves on the Diversity Coalition erroneously concluded that racial, sexist, homophobic comments students endured in the classroom would happen less if the Social Justice Form was more publicized. While we feel that the oppressive behaviors will only stop when faculty are trained and held accountable by student evaluations, tenure, and post-tenure processes.

During the 30-minute demonstration, it was clear to us that faculty members had great difficulty accepting responsibility for the roles they played in the perpetuation of discrimination and microaggressions across campus. Faculty members do not want to be held accountable for their part in creating a toxic environment for students on campus and would rather blame student leaders than hold one another accountable. Since the protest, all faculty was sent a petition through Change.org to reinforce their commitment to students and their adverse experiences. As of today, only 57 out of 767 faculty members have shown their commitment by signing the petition.

If you are interested in the proceedings of the demonstration follow **@DCULV2** on Twitter.

Decolonize ULV

Editor's Note: Decolonize ULV is a student group that describes itself as "a collective and organized group representing students of multiple social identities."

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**.

CAMPUS TIMES
FALL 2018

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Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the Campus Times editorial board. Signed columns are the opinion of the individuals and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Campus Times. Letters to the Editor are due by Tuesday at 3 p.m. Letters must be typed, no more than 400 words in length, relate to a topic covered in the Campus Times, and are subject to editing for clarity and space.

Letters and comments may be sent to **ctimes@laverne.edu**. The Campus Times may be found online at **lvcampustimes.org**. For advertising information, call 909-448-4761 or email **ctimesad@laverne.edu**.

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HAPPENINGS

'Distancing'

The Carlson Gallery in Miller Hall is featuring the exhibit "Distancing" by Kes Efstathiou. The landscape photographs will run through Dec. 14.

Admission is free.

West African Drum Recital

Students in the West African Drumming class are dedicating a night to the percussive traditions of West Africa, combining the historic hand drum, djembe, with other instruments at 6 p.m. Wednesday in Morgan Auditorium.

Admission is free.

Holiday Spectacular

The University Chorale and Chamber Singers will celebrate the holidays while performing traditional and classic Christmas songs at their annual holiday concert at 6 p.m. Dec. 9 in Morgan Auditorium.

Admission is free.

Tall Wall Space

"Edifice Artifice" by Cole M. James is on display in the Tall Wall Space in the Arts and Communications Building. Materials include velvet, lace, and glitter among others.

The exhibit runs through May 17, 2019.

Admission is free.

'The Perfect Christmas'

The Candlelight Pavilion Theater is hosting a Christmas themed musical dinner theater titled, "The Perfect Christmas."

After the performance, Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus will stay to meet guests, as is tradition.

For tickets and information, call **909-626-1254.**

Chinese Lantern Fest

The Fairplex in Pomona will hold a Chinese lantern festival with handcrafted lanterns, live martial arts and other various activities through Jan. 6, 2019.

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

—Emily J. Sullivan

Exhibit takes on new light

Erica Sanchez
Staff Writer

Claremont hosted an art exhibition focused around the concept of light.

The exhibit featured several light fixtures designed by artists Rob Lewbel and John Neiuber.

The exhibition was titled "Glow: The Fusion of Light and Art," held at the Ginger Elliot Gallery at Claremont Memorial Park.

These two artists use various materials to make light fixtures, some include alcohol bottles, wood, pipes, globes and picture frames.

Lewbel approached David Shearer, the executive director of Claremont Heritage, about his art and wanted to showcase some of his most custom work, said Shearer.

Shearer is in charge of deciding which art pieces and different concepts will be showcased at the Heritage.

Each month he chooses a different collection of art that will most reflect the artists body of work while showing a history, or a chronological view, of their work, said Shearer.

"November is a good time to do a show about lighting because people are more attune to looking at light because of the darkness," said Shearer.

The lights shown were unique and not necessarily about how much light was reflected, but instead about the art of the lamp and how it was presented.

These lights are different from other pieces of lighting because they are designed from unique materials that are often recycled, and artifacts that would not necessarily be associated with lighting, said Shearer.

Lewbel's business took off with the idea to cut a wine bottle and make it into a light fixture, which is what led to the start of his own store Heirloom, located in Claremont.

This was the first time that Lewbel's pieces were being shown in an art exhibit.

Two of his featured pieces were similar to chandeliers, but they were both round to the shape as if one could expect to see them overhead a circular table in a more intimate setting.

"I wanted to display my lights in a way that has never been seen before, my business is primarily online and I don't have a showroom," said Lewbel.

"I wanted to use this as showroom experience and to see how people react to my creations in person."

Lewbel takes items that he finds and makes them functional by incorporating them into his art, said Shearer.

Lewbel collaborates with many different artists to create his work, and when he gets the opportunity he works with glass blowers, woodworkers and other diverse artists, said Lewbel.

"Each one is hand made and is different from anything else, these pieces are not mass produced," said Shearer.

However, Lewbel's business has gone further than just Claremont.

He has traveled to several countries all over the western world installing his work into different buildings, said Lewbel.

Neiuber's work differs from Lewbel's, where he puts to use more random artifacts and is focused on the obscurity rather than the lighting specifically.

"I look at something and I get an idea, sometimes I'm sitting here surrounded with everything I can see in the studio, with all of these different parts," said Neiuber.

"Sometimes they grow from one piece, it is a process of creating as one goes."

Light affects the experiences people have in any situation, said Neiuber.

"I have this fascination with light. Light is such a central thing to everything and light to me creates mood and an ambiance," said Neiuber.

"These light fixtures all had a reason for being built which made them more interesting," said Claire Arredondo, resident of Pomona.

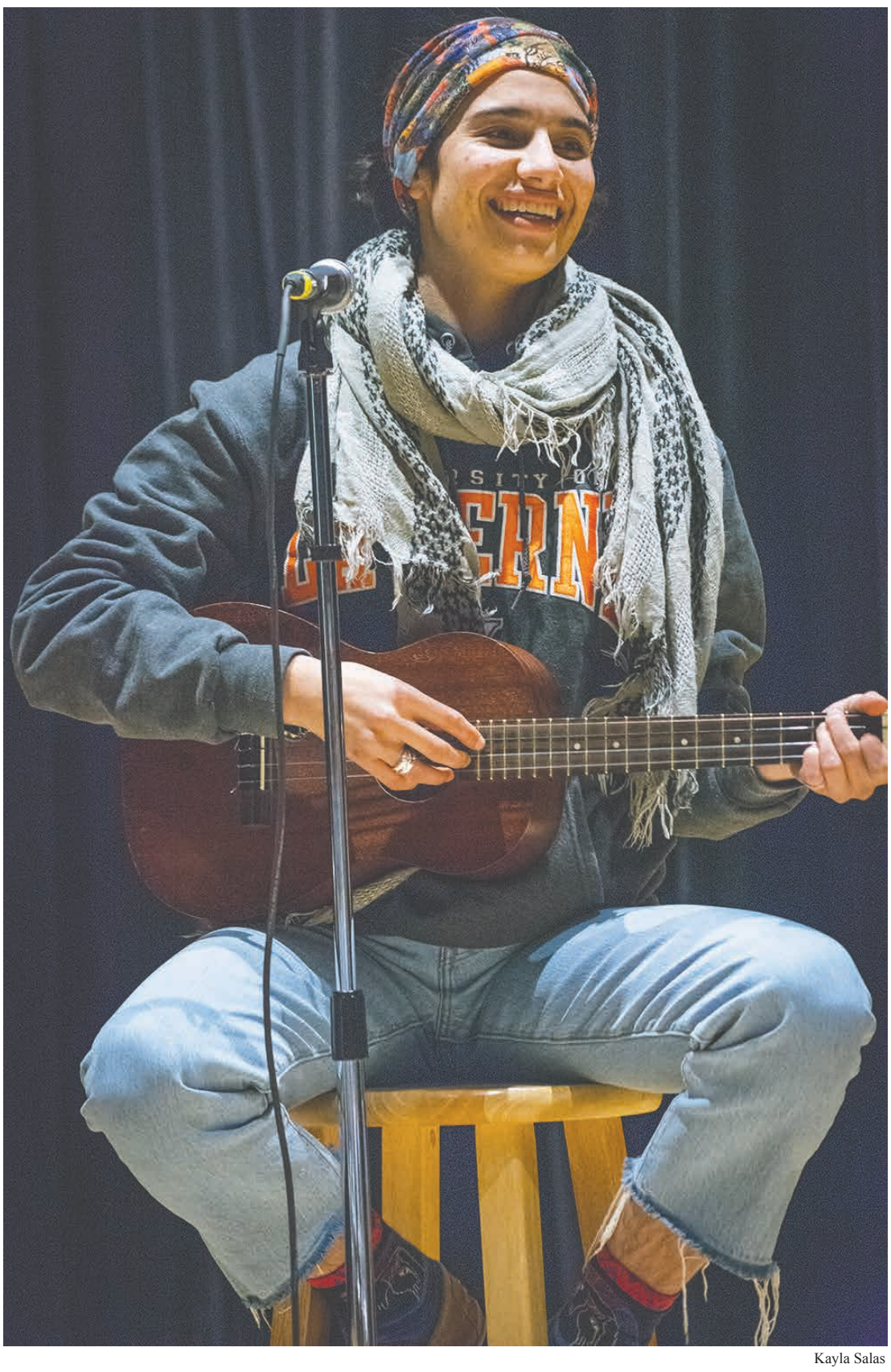
"I thought it was interesting that he kept the labels on some of the alcohol bottles because he could have easily taken them off, but it added a whole other level of artistry."

The Claremont Heritage hosts different artists every month, showcasing many artists from the local area.

Next, Claremont has planned an educational and entertaining event titled "The Mexican Players Serenade Revisited" Dec. 5 at the Padua Hills Theatre.

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'Moonshine'



Kayla Salas

Senior anthropology major Lorali Mossaver-Rahmani performs an original song called "Moonshine" at an open mic night Tuesday in the Jane Dibbell Cabaret Theatre. Mossaver-Rahmani, who is also a music minor, is part of a two-woman band called The Companions, with University of La Verne alumna Annie Johnson.

Night of dancing fills the Morgan

Arianna Rodriguez
Staff Writer

Members of the University of La Verne dance team held a dance showcase titled, "World of Dance."

The performance consisted of various dance numbers put on by the team and several different students Wednesday in the Morgan Auditorium.

The seats in the auditorium filled completely as students gathered in for the performance, with only about 10 seats left empty by the time of opening statements.

The Campus Activites Board and the Associated Students of La Verne sponsored the event.

CAB members presented the dance team as it came to a start, while keeping the audience entertained all throughout with jokes and prizes thrown out to the crowd.

Members of the dance team opened the show with an upbeat group performance to the song "Dem Beats" by Todrick Hall while showing off their dancing talent.

"The initial purpose of this show was to make our campus community more aware of our existence, since many don't known that La Verne has a dance team," Jackie Sanchez, junior dance captain, said.

A lyrical solo titled "Waiting Game" performed by freshman Olivia Tawekjian, showed emotion and flexibility through her performance.

"My solo was just for me personally," Tawekjian said. "I love doing lyrical so I had a lot of fun putting it onto this amazing song, and just dancing for myself. I just wanted everyone to feel happy in their hearts and souls because dance definitely has the power to do that."

The audience appeared to get hyped up when a group of six dancers performed a hip-hop routine to the famously known song, 'Sicko Mode" by Travis Scott.

The dancers were "pop and locking" to the song as the audience danced along in their seats.

"I feel great, I believe it was an amazing turnout and it gave the other team member the opportunity to try genres of dance that we may not typically have the opportunity to learn and perform," Tawekjian said.

One performance stood out when dance member Angela Garcia performed a solo of a Mexican Folklorico dance that she said represented her Hispanic roots.

While clad in a vibrant, colorful skirt that she swung back and forth during the performance, it seemed as though the audience could not get enough of her as they cheered and yelled with full energy.

"The Folklorico dance had to be my favorite because it represented the Hispanic culture that I feel it doesn't get represented much in this community, so it was amazing to see such a beautiful performance," audience member Janet Garcia said.

The dance team performed other memorable performances and the energy was at an all-time high throughout the night.

"I feel really happy about it. The other girls and I are really proud of the event and are really glad that people enjoyed it and it definitely inspires us to do more events like this in the future," sophomore dance member Alex Torres said.

The show closed with a hip-hop performance performed by the entire dance team.

The team wore matching black tops and camouflage pants. At the end of the performance they passed their bows to the audience as a thank you.

"We are very appreciative of the large audience and their enthusiasm because we were able to build off of their energy and it made the experience even more cherishing," Tawekjian said.

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'Distancing' reception



Melody Blazauskas

Brooke Aruffo, junior studio art major, snaps a shot of herself and photographer Kes Efstathiou at the "Distancing" photo gallery reception in the Carlson Gallery Nov. 14. The exhibit features black-and-white silkscreen prints of Efstathiou's photographs of landscapes in Maine, Montana and New Hampshire. Efstathiou lives in New York and was unable to make it to the reception, but talked about his work via Skype. "Distancing" will run through Dec. 14.

Movie Review

'Grindelwald' misses mark

Emily J. Sullivan
Staff Writer

"The Crimes of Grindelwald" fills theaters with magic, monsters, 1920s-era glamour and action in a follow-up film to the "Fantastic Beasts" franchise, brought to us by the queen of witchcraft and wizardry herself, J.K. Rowling.

"The Crimes of Grindelwald" brings back Rowling's alternate universe where wizards tame and care for magical beasts, muggles fall in love with witches and angsty orphans burst into violent black ooze.

While the first film in the franchise had a more structured storyline that lays the foundation for the series, the second film crams so many plots, tangents, character history and drama into the two-hour and some change big screen extravaganza.

However, one thing still strikes me as incomplete and unfulfilled – Newt Scamander, the film's socially awkward but sweet protagonist, lacks the lore of a blockbuster hero, or of any well-developed character really.

The most memorable trait of Scamander, other than his comfort among strange creatures, is his distracting inability to look anyone in the eye.

The most memorable characters in the film, the ones the audience inevitably falls in love with, are the supporting cast of characters like Queenie, the doll-faced and irresistible mind-reading witch, Leta Lestrange, the sultry and perfectly damaged witch played by Zoe Kravitz, and our favorite "no-mag" baker Jacob Kowalski, who stole our hearts in the first film.

Even Johnny Depp's performance as the film's antagonist, Grindelwald himself, was underwhelming.

It was a treat, however, to see the young Albus Dumbledore, played by Jude Law, who captured the character's heart in a satisfying way.

Much like the "Harry Potter" franchise, the "Fantastic Beasts" franchise seems to grow darker with each film.

While "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" was mostly light-hearted, funny and exciting, "The Crimes of Grindelwald" takes us into a world where evil wreaks havoc on even the most innocent characters.

Fascism fills the underground with rhetoric suggesting "pure-bloods" should be ruling over all non-magical beings, using fear-tactics to manipulate wizards and witches to turn to the dark side and join Grindelwald's ranks.

The film in its entirety seems to serve as one big build-up for the next film in the series, a film that shall not be named, or otherwise known for now as "Fantastic Beasts 3."

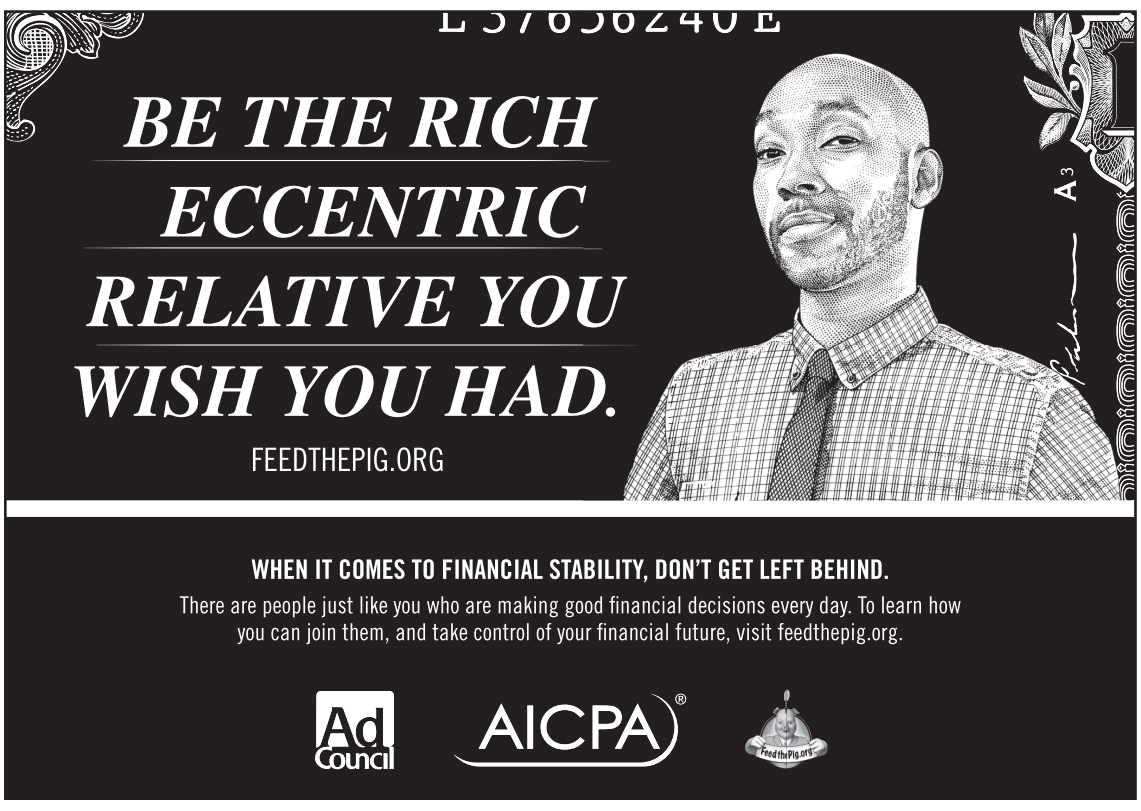
The film is already set to release in November 2020 and will be the third film in an overall five film series.

Each film takes place in a different city set in a past era. "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" was set in New York City in the 1920s, while "The Crimes of Grindelwald" was set in Paris, France in the late 1920s.

"Fantastic Beasts 3" is rumored to be set in Rio de Janeiro in the 1930s.

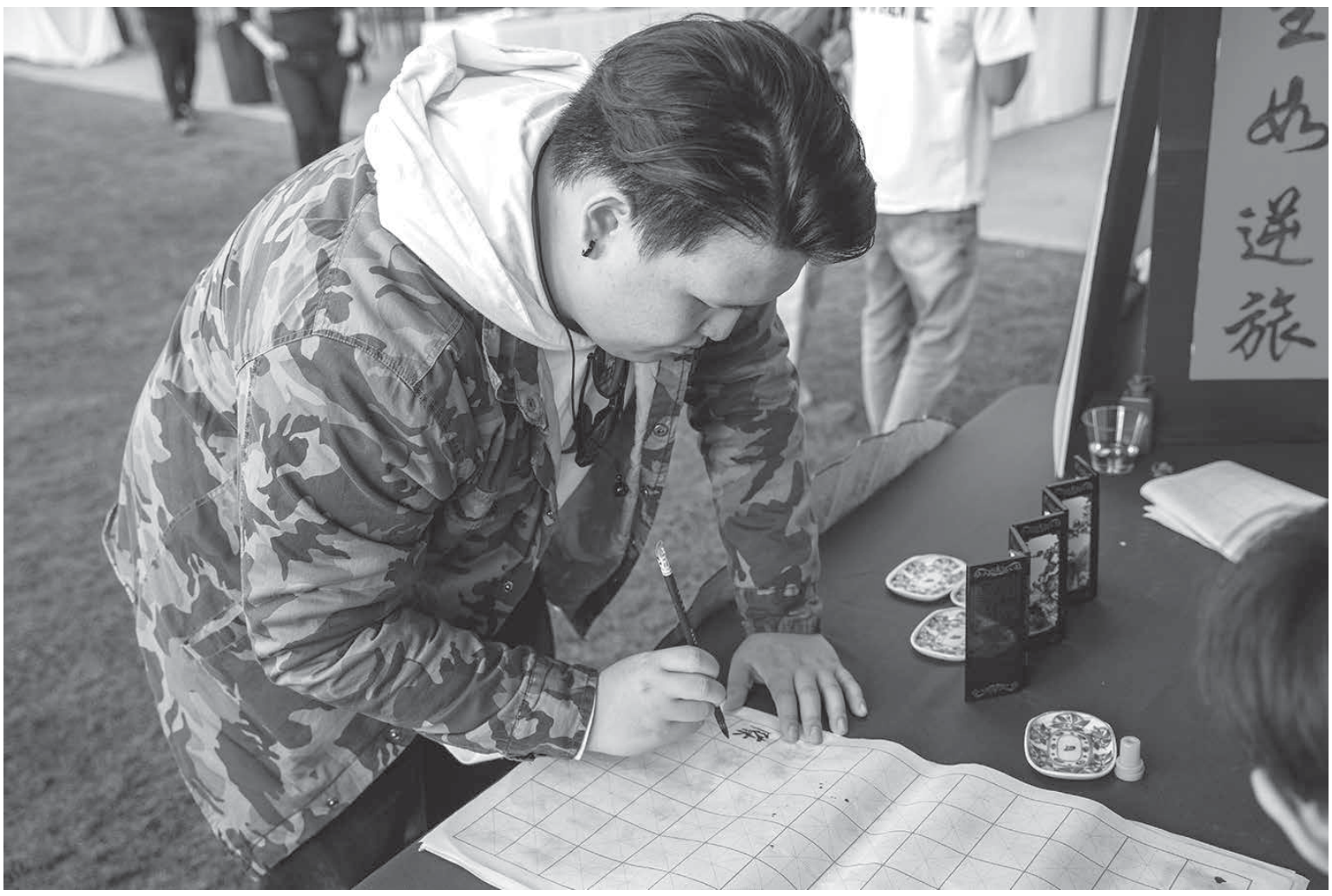
One thing we can expect for certain is a visually stunning film in a romantic city, with lovable quirky characters that cast spells and fight duels with a whip of their wands, in a magical world we have all come to know and love.

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Festival celebrates traditional cultures

Ashley Mubiru
Staff Writer



Jaren Cyrus

Senior psychology major Xingda Zhu writes Chinese characters at the Chinese booth at the International Education Festival Nov. 15. The festival, hosted by the Office of International Services and Engagement, encouraged students to learn about different cultures.

Students learned about customs from around the world and educated one another on different traditions and cultural practices at the International Educational Festival.

Presented by the Office of International Services and Engagement, the festival took place on the Citrus Lawn Nov. 15.

Booths filled the lawn, each representing a different country, offering activities and food.

Students were presented with fake passports so they could get a stamp from each group, and turn in the passport, in hopes of winning a prize from a raffle.

The countries presented were Iran, Kenya, South Korea, Japan, Australia, Cambodia and Vietnam.

The Kenya booth was run by sophomore English and Spanish major Dyamond Gray.

"I'm part of BSU (Black Student Union) and the Language and Culture Club so I thought this is the perfect opportunity for me to showcase an underrepresented country or culture," Gray said. "To me, that was Kenya."

Dyamond said that having everyone exposed to different cultures helps decrease prejudice in the world.

"The more we know about other people around us, the easier it is for us to understand them, to be less discriminative of them," Gray said. "It is to be more inclusive and provide unity."

Lorali Mossaver-Rahmani, senior anthropology major, hosted the Iran booth not only because she is half Iranian, but because she wanted to debunk the negative representations of Iran in the media.

"Before the revolution, the flag had a lion and a sword on it representing the Persian Dynasty's Persepolis, the ancient Zoroastrian religion still practiced today," Mossaver-Rahmani said.

Mossaver-Rahmani said that after the revolution, when it became an Islamic state, the flag had an Arabic symbol for Allah in the middle.

"There are a lot of Iranian people in Los Angeles, and you can see their political stance based on what flag they're flying," Mossaver-Rahmani said.

Mossaver-Rahmani said the mission of the Language and Culture Club is to educate people on language and culture, and the International Educational Festival allows them to do just that.

The English Language Services mentor program also had a booth at the festival.

"As the students apply and sign up, we have our International students who are here learning English before they matriculate to the University," said ELS mentor program director Carrie Woods.

The ELS mentor program pairs students up by common interests so they can meet.

The program helps international students become more integrated in the University campus, making their transition to a new environment easier.

"We want the students to feel a part of the University at large and not just the international community," Woods said.

Sharon Kim, sophomore biology major and vice president of the International Student Organization, hosted the Korean booth, which offered kimbap, a traditional dish.

"I'm from an Asian community," Kim said. "Coming to La Verne was a culture shock because I wasn't really familiar with a different culture."

The International Student Organization brings in American and international students to build a bridge between the two.

"I like how they added the passport idea where the students can learn more about the cultures," Kim said.

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Black Friday features more deals, fewer shoppers

Andrew Alonzo
Staff Writer

Another year of Black Friday deals is behind us and while some waited until Monday to acquire the Cyber Monday sales, there are still those who embrace the waiting lines.

Black Friday has complimented and competed well with Cyber Monday, but over the years the Black Friday craze has turned into a four-day-shopping weekend.

This has allowed Black Friday deals to be more accessible to the public, and helps stores gain the business of those who have to work on Black Friday.

According to the Wall Street Journal, foot traffic in malls have seen a steady decline on Black Friday over the years.

The Wall Street Journal used RetailNext, a service that uses cameras to track people in some malls and retailers, and traffic has gone down between five and nine percent since 2017.

"I usually come on the weekends now just because most of the deals are the same and the lines have died down by the time Saturday rolls around," said shopper and La Puente resident Jesus Barcenas.

"Last year I worked on Black Friday at midnight, so by the time I got out early in the morning most of the deals on the stuff I wanted was gone."

Richard Tran, San Gabriel resident, tries to stay clear of the Back Friday traffic, sometimes waiting until Cyber Monday to get a majority of his shopping done.

"On Thanksgiving day is when I'll look for the deals on things I want," Tran said. "I won't do my physical shopping until later in the weekend."

Big name retail outlets like Target, Macy's and Best Buy gave shoppers a head start on Thanksgiving at 5 p.m., and Walmart opened their doors an hour later.

Electronics such as Samsung TVs and the newest gaming systems are what a majority of the crowds lined up for as door buster deals ranging from 50 to 80 percent off store-wide made $1,000 items merely a few hundred.

Stores like Bath and Body Works were decorated with flashy and bright holiday colors, with advertisements of $3 fragrances and more on every shelf.

"We just had a new fragrance come back, Forever Red, which was available until 9am only on Black Friday for $4.99," said Andrea Alinise, a sales associate for Bath and Body Works West Covina. "We did this in an attempt to get more people to come in and shop."

As people got their fix of shopping, stores made sure to leave a lasting impression on customers by gifting them items and leaving special offers in their bags.

At Victoria's Secret, consumers received a free blanket once they reached a spending limit of $85.

Aeropostale placed items in a red sturdy bag with their 60 to 70 percent off store-wide sale printed on the sides.

Stores bombarded their online subscribers with online coupons that were good for the day or a catalogue of what was going to be on sale.

"I subscribe to the stores that I like, and when they send coupons and emails, it lets me know what's out there and encourages me to shop more," said San Gabriel resident Lucy Le.

Some shops may be done with in-store deals but a new trend called Cyber Week has sprung upon local and big name retailers.

Walmart, Target and Amazon are still offering their Cyber deals until Saturday so there is still time to get some shopping done.

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Restaurant Review

Sol Flower provides sweet treats, boba

Rose milk tea offers rich taste

Jocelyn Arceo
Arts Editor

Upon entering the new Sol Flower café, a pink wall embellished with what seems to be hand-painted flamingos, toucans and foliage draws your eyes in immediately.

Sol Flower, at 2320 Foothill Blvd. in La Verne, has been open for a month and a half as part of their soft opening with plans for a grand opening still in the works.

The menu consists of several different types of drinks to choose from such as flavored milk teas, various hot or iced teas, flavored sparkling drinks, coffee, and iced sea salt cream.

As far as food, Sol Flower offers cheese breads, rice pudding and Belgium waffles.

Rose gold light fixtures hung above six scattered dark brown tables with a wall adjacent to the register that was clad in fake vines, encircling their pink Sol Flower logo.

According to the cashier, the jasmine milk tea, rose milk tea and honey milk tea are among the most popular drinks.

She also offered samples of their rice pudding and cheese bread.

I first taste tested the milk tea rice pudding, with Oreos on top. It tasted sweet, and the Oreos added a great touch.

Guests have the choice of Oreos, Fruity Pebbles, boba and almond slices as toppings for the rice pudding.

The drinks all come with the option of boba.

I decided to buy the rose milk tea and the milk tea rice pudding instead of only sampling since it was so good.

The wait did not take long and my order was brought to my table.

The milk tea rice pudding came in a heart shaped container with a miniature clear spoon, while the rose milk tea was baby pink and served with a pink straw that matched the walls.

The rose milk tea was not nearly as sweet as I expected; all of my other tries at it have been overwhelming.

The milk tea also had just enough of the rose flavor, not too much.

I thoroughly enjoyed the tea; it may have been my favorite rose milk tea yet.

The rice pudding was my favorite overall. The heart shaped container it came in completely won me over.

No other boba place I have visited previously offers those little details. The texture was constant throughout, with no hard rice or weird squish at any bite.

The taste of tapioca was pleasant all around, and the Oreos on top really pulled it all together. I enjoyed my $10 snack, as the drink and the rice pudding complimented each other well.

They have a wide menu with multiple options for everyone.

Their prices range from $3.50 at the lowest and $7.25 at the highest.

With prices such as these, and the adorable pink setup inside, Sol Flower definitely deserves a try from everyone.

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Queer education...

Continued from page 1

bic, but started to hear the rejection others had toward the LGBT community in school.

"It was harmful to me to be closeted in such a way where you are hearing the pastors say homosexuality is the equivalent to stealing and murder," Lao said. "I did not like it, and I did not believe it."

Lao said she has not faced any discrimination because of her sexuality, but has had uncomfortable experiences.

"I felt closeted again when I first began college," Lao said. "I say I first came out because coming out is always a continuous process. So when I entered college I am around new people, it is a different closet now."

Urich, who participated via pre-recorded video clips, said he is culturally Jewish although many prayers he does are inspired by Islam.

"I have never been kicked out of a religious faith or been abused on the basis of religion," Urich said. "I was kicked out of my grandma's house but that was just her being an Evangelical Christian."

Urich said he has the privilege of being perceived as a cisgender male, one whose gender identity matches the sex assigned at birth but is a transsexual male.

"I use this term to speak to my unique journey," Urich said. "I was born anatomically female and have undergone medical intervention hormonally and surgically to align my primary and secondary characteristics with my identity as a male sex and male gender."

Urich said one of the coping mechanisms he used while at ULV was reaching out to people he knew would not predict his next word but instead listen.

"I confided in (Wagoner) and other staff," Urich said. "It allowed me to have a space where I felt respected, safe and honored to voice some of these things I was navigating at the time."

Kim Dieu, assistant professor of school psychology, said there is a difference between someone who is religious, which is a man made concept, and someone who is spiritual.

"Religion has been used to oppress people and has marginalized individuals," Dieu said. "Religion has changed, but there are still institutions that are very resistant to embrace cultures that have (new) identities that."

Lao said she has found support at ULV through the Center of Multicultural Services, professors who identify as bisexual, queer positive friends and Wagoner.

"I think 2017 was our awakening to build community for LGBT students in a very public way," Lao said. "It is very important to have these events because it shows, 'You are fine here, you are cool here, and we support you.'"

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Layla Abbas

Damairis Lao, senior art and art history major, and alumna Jedaun Carter share stories of their journey to sexuality, spirituality and religious faith at the second Queer Education 101 session Nov. 15 in the Campus Center Ballroom. The session, led by University Chaplin Zandra Wagoner, shed light on the disparity between the LGBT community and lack of religious acceptance.

Students sing to de-stress

The Campus Activities Board hosted a karaoke night with free food and a pop socket giveaway Tuesday in the La Fetra Auditorium.

Around 30 students attended the event to sing their stress away ahead of upcoming finals and eat Persian food like rice, kabobs and pita bread.

It did not take much more than the song "Don't Stop Believin'" by Journey to get everyone up on their feet.

"I made this event as a stress reliever and way for students to have fun before finals week coming up," said CAB concerts chair and junior sociology major Alexxandra Nevarez.

Nevarez said she wanted this event to allow students to get to know each other.

"It's fun to be surrounded with people, music and free food," Nevarez said.

The students who were scattered around came together and hugged one another rocking side by side singing along to, "O-o-oh Child" by Five Stairsteps.

After several more performances, the night drew to a close .

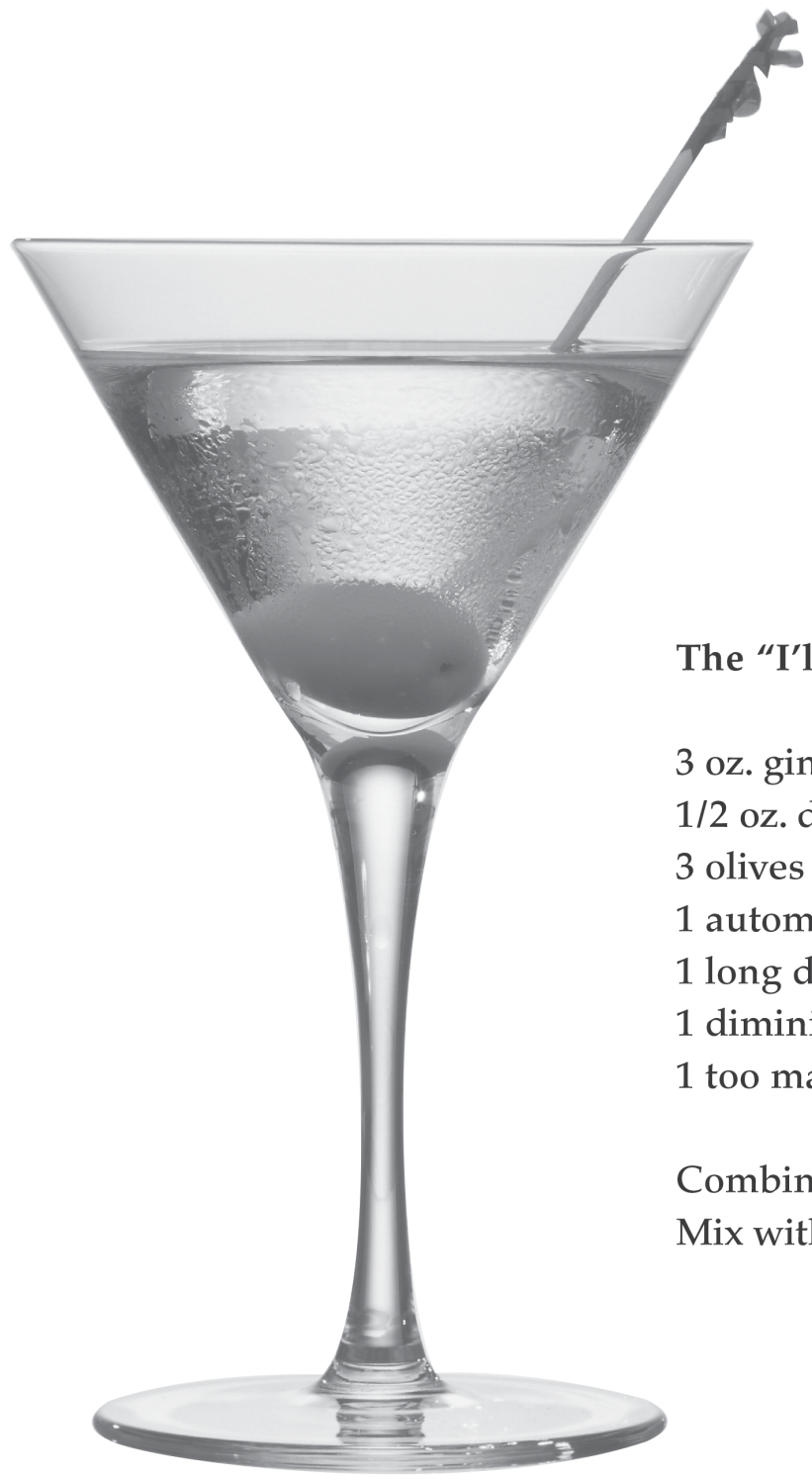
"I think these events are important because everybody can come out and socialize," said junior kinesiology major Mark Vasquez.

—Destinee Mondragon

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The "I'll Just Have One More" Martini

3 oz. gin or vodka
1/2 oz. dry vermouth
3 olives
1 automobile
1 long day
1 diminishing attention span
1 too many

Combine ingredients. Drink. Repeat.
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Leopards drown Poets, get 1st win

Men's match comes down to final race

Joey Matsuzawa
Staff Writer



Ariel Torres

Senior biology major Kirsten Knoblach swims the women's 100-yard breaststroke Nov. 17 at the La Verne Aquatic Center. She won the event with a time of 1:19:49. The women's team finished the meet against with 148 points and the men put up 124 points for men, good enough for a sweep of the Poets. La Verne's next home meet will be at 10:30 a.m. Jan. 12 against Occidental.

Coming off of a difficult loss to Redlands in their season opener, the men's and women's swim teams bounced back in their home opener against Whittier at the La Verne Aquatic Center Nov. 17.

It was a hard-fought win, with the men's team winning 124-121 and the women winning 148-138.

"I think we did great," senior C.J. Woodward said. "We got a lot of points that we weren't expecting to get in a lot of close races, so we were all pushing, really trying to get our hand on the wall first."

The women started off strong by winning the 200-medley relay, with senior captain Kayla Yip and senior Rachel Fox securing the win.

Fox would go on to compete in many of the long-distance events throughout the day, placing second in the 1,000 freestyle and first in the 500 freestyle.

Fox would also pick up a win in the 100 breastroke. Yip would go on to win both of her butterfly races (100 and 200 yards) and placed second in the 100 freestyle.

Freshman Alondra Camacho was another standout performer for the women's team.

She swam the first leg of the medley relay and would win both of her backstroke events (100 and 200 yards) and placed second in the 200 IM.

"It's been a little difficult managing the college workload with practice, but it's been going well," Camacho said.

Senior Brandon Pon handled the distance events for the men, winning both the 500 – with freshman Trevor Ichiki placing second – and the 1,000 freestyle.

"Swimming as a senior in high school to a freshman in college has definitely been a new experience for me," Ichiki said.

Woodward won the 100 butterfly for the men and placed second in the 100 freestyle – just out-touching senior teammate Kristofer Grigorian.

Woodward, who previously competed in backstroke, transitioned to butterfly this year, with sophomore Lorenzo DeLeon taking his place in backstroke.

"It's been kind of a weird transition for me, from backstroke to fly, but it's been fun," Woodward said.

DeLeon just barely got the win in the 100 backstroke, finishing 56.45 – out-touching his opponent by .17 seconds, and would also win the 200 backstroke, with Woodward finishing in third at 1:00.33.

"First places are weighed a lot more heavily, so we were just trying to get the wins wherever we could, we were ready to race. We knew it was going to be a close meet," senior Kris Grigorian said.

Heading into the last two events, the men's and women's 400 freestyle relay, the women's team had secured their win via their strong performances throughout the day, but the men's team was still trailing 113-117.

That meant it all came down to the last relay – whoever won the race would win the meet.

"I told everyone, 'Just swim as hard and as fast as you can no matter how far ahead or behind we are,'" Grigorian said. "Sometimes even if you're ahead in a race, you never know who's coming next and if you slack off they'll beat you."

Pon swam the first leg of the relay and managed to stay even with Whittier's sprinters.

Grigorian took the second leg, but was unable to pull away and mostly stayed neck-and-neck with Whittier's Devin Gaude.

DeLeon, who had a standout day thus far, entered as the third leg and managed to gain a five second lead over Whittier's Ruben Gallegos.

With the lead, all Woodward had to do as the anchor leg was protect his lead, and he did just that, out-touching Whittier's Yehya Nasser by 17 seconds.

"We knew we had to win that relay to have any chance of winning," Woodward said.

The Leopards will compete in the Collegiate Winter Invitational Saturday and Sunday, starting at 10 a.m. both days, at the South Gate Swim Stadium.

"I think if we keep the team's energy up we can really have a solid Winter Invite," Woodward said.

Joey Matsuzawa can be reached at ***joe.matsuzawa@laverne.edu.***

> 'We got a lot of points that we weren't expecting to get in a lot of close races, so we were all pushing, really trying to get our hand on the wall first.'
> *—C.J. Woodward, senior swimmer*

Golf dominates fall matches

Mark Acosta
Editor in Chief

The men's golf team wrapped up its winter season with a fifth-place finish at the Firestorm Invitational in Arizona on Nov. 13.

Freshman Nathan Stepanski led the Leopards, shooting a two-under 70 on the first day and closed out the second day with a one-over 73.

The invitational featured competitors from NCAA Division II, Division III, junior college and NAIA teams.

Junior Hisham Hussein also showed well, finishing the tournament in 11th place.

The reigning Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Association Athlete of the Year had a rough start after day one, sitting tied for 44th place.

But one day two, Hussein rocketed up the leaderboard with a three-under 69.

Freshman Connor Dunlop finished the tournament in a tie for 26th place after shooting an even 72.

This was the third and final event of fall season for men's golf. They have looked strong and showed well in all of the tournaments thus far.

previously, La Verne took third at the Marymount Fall Invitational in Palm Desert at the end of October. Hussein led ULV in that tournament, finishing in a tie for second place, with a six-under 210.

Before the Firestorm tournament, ULV played against Biola in a head-to-head at Sierra La Verne.

Biola is Division II, but the Leopards played good enough golf and took it to Eagles, 281-313.

Sophomore Jake Littlejohn led La Verne in the win shooting two-under. Hussein shot one-under while Conner Davis, Jason Brown and Dunlop all shot even.

The Leopards will resume action in the spring.

Mark Acosta can be reached at ***mark.acosta@laverne.edu.***

Smith steps down as softball coach

Julie Smith has stepped down as head softball coach and assistant athletic director, Interim Athletic Director Scott Winterburn said Thursday morning.

In her 11 seasons as head coach, La Verne never had a losing season. She leaves with an overall record of 287-185 and a .608 winning percentage

Smith guided the program to three Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference regular season titles, three SCIAC tournament titles and four appreances in the NCAA playoffs.

During her tenure, Smith had 36 of her players named first-team All-SCIAC. Smith also won a gold medal with Team USA softball in the 1996 Summer Olympics.

Henry Moranchel will serve as the interim head coach for the 2019 season, Winterburn said. Moranchel has been on Smith's staff for three years, serving as assistant head coach and recruiting coordinator for the past two. Moranchel is a La Verne alumnus.

—Mark Acosta

Turnovers prove costly in ULV loss

Leos get blown out at home

Nicolette Rojo
Staff Writer

The women's basketball team could not protect the ball nor capitalize on three point shooting, losing 66-41 in the Leopards' first Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference game of the season.

The Leopards committed 23 turnovers and went 1-for-25 behind the three-point line.

After finishing 5-20 overall, with a 3-13 record in SCIAC play last year, head coach Jason Pruitt primarily focused on recruiting transfers to La Verne.

The Leopards were without their leading scorer, senior guard Clarissa Perez, who is expected return during winter break. Perez was second in the nation in scoring last season at 24 points per game.

"The game plan hasn't changed," Pruitt said. We play hard, box out, rebound, we do the small things no matter who's in the game. Unfortunately, tonight we didn't do those things."

Both teams got off to a slow start on offense, as La Verne took a different approach and did not follow their aggressive, run and gun system.

Whittier quickly hopped on the board with senior forward/center Monica Hanna scoring five points in under a minute and their defense to slow down the Leopards' offense.

Junior guard Cali Cubel hopped on the scoreboard immediately by aggressively looking for the right cuts from her teammates, which led to 7-0 run in the first quarter and the game.

With 5:20 left, freshman guard Jazzlyn Johnson made a 17-foot jump shot to get the Leopards on the board.

Junior forward and center Hannah Rogers followed with an easy lay up after a nice entry pass from junior guard Monica Garcia Silva.

Senior guard Angie Steel made a free throw to end the quarter, with Whittier winning 16-5.

The second quarter was full of energy and emotion as players on both sides played more physical, with a spoonful of shoving and pushing as they hustled for the rebound and loose ball.

> 'The game plan hasn't changed. We play hard, box out, rebound, we do the small things no matter who's in the game. Unfortunately, tonight we didn't do those things.'
> —Jason Pruitt, head coach

The Leopards switched to a zone defense to slow down Whittier's tempo, which lead them to score nine unanswered points and cut the lead down to six.

Steel was dragged to the ground throughout the game a few times but focused on keeping her composure as it progressed.

"I just outlook on the next play since we have another play, possession and substitution," Steel said.

"There's always another play, so that was a way to stay positive."

Despite the first quarter adjustments made, the Poets bounced back on the offensive side, rotating and filling in each spot on the floor, led by Cubel's six points.

Whittier stretched the lead to 30-15 at halftime.

Throughout the second half, La Verne was unable to hit most of their shots and were out-rebounded by Whittier's post players due to the height difference and fatigue from the Leopards' side.

This caused the Leopards to make more adjustments as the game progressed.

La Verne played in a completely different tempo compared to their regular game style, which put a negative strain on the players and ability to score.

"We had to speed the game up; we were trying to play a half court set and that is not our game," Johnson said.

"In the second quarter, we just had to run and when we did so, we cut the lead down."

The Leopards had costly turnovers from mental mistakes and were unsuccessful at stopping Whittier's aggressive fast break attacks to the basket.

Whittier quickly increased their lead, led by Cubel, sophomore guard Teani White and senior guard Zaria Branch.

Whittier led 45-31 to begin the fourth quarter.

La Verne's second and third units successfully slowed down Whittier's attacks, but could not convert on the offensive side, despite adjusting to their usual run and gun style of play.

As a result, Whittier was able to capitalize on the Leopards' mental errors and turnovers, tiring them out and stealing the victory from them.

The Poets defeated La Verne 66-41, led by Cubel's 21 points and White's 15 points.

"It was probably one of the worst performances we had since I've been here," Pruitt said.

The Leopards' bright spot was Johnson's SCIAC debut performance. The freshman had 14 points, six rebounds and one assist and was the only Leopard who scored in double digits.

Despite the loss, senior guard Bailey Kurahashi remains hopeful sees the team's potential for the rest of the season.

"I think we have huge potential," Kurahashi said.

"Despite this loss, I think if we could put this behind us, we're in good position to continue to win."

La Verne falls to 2-3 overall and 0-1 in conference, while Whittier improves to 4-0, with a 1-0 SCIAC record.

The Leopards look to bounce back on the road against Redlands at 2 p.m. Saturday.

Nicolette Rojo can be reached at ***nicolette.rojo@laverne.edu***.



Natasha Brennan

Senior guard Angie Steel shoots and misses at the end of the third quarter Wednesday against Whittier. The Leopards fell to the Poets, 66-41, in their Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference opener.

LEOPARD SCOREBOARD

AT THE BUZZER

Men's basketball, Nov. 24
UC Santa Cruz - 70
La Verne - 57

Men's basketball, Nov. 25
La Verne- 73
Dominican - 69

Women's basketball, Nov. 28
La Verne- 41
Whittier-66

SCHEDULE

Saturday
Men's and women's swimming @ Collegiate Winter Invitational, prelims 10 a.m. / finals 5 p.m.
Men's and women's diving @ Collegiate Winter Invitational, 1 p.m.
Women's basketball @ Redlands, 2 p.m.

Sunday
Men's and women's swimming @ Collegiate Winter Invitational, prelims 10 a.m. / finals 5 p.m.
Men's and women's diving @ Collegiate Winter Invitational, 1 p.m.

Wednesday
Men's basketball vs. Occidental, 7 p.m.

Thursday
Women's basketball @ Occidental, 5 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL STANDINGS

	SCIAC	Overall
Chapman	1-0	4-0
Whittier	1-0	4-0
Pomona-Pitzer	1-0	4-2
Cal Lutheran	1-0	2-3
Claremont-M-S	0-0	4-1
Caltech	0-1	3-2
Occidental	0-1	4-3
La Verne	0-1	2-3
Redlands	0-1	2-3