Campus Times

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Schools may ban cell phone use

Bill seeks to combat teen anxiety

Alondra Campos
Staff Writer

A proposed state law would require school districts to restrict cell phone use during school hours.

Assembly member Al Muratsuchi, D-Torrance, introduced Assembly Bill 272 this year, a measure he hopes will decrease teen anxiety and improve their mental health.

The bill would amend existing school policies by requiring the governing body of a school district, a county office of education or a charter school to adopt a policy to limit or prohibit its pupils' use of smartphones while they are in school.

The proposed law would affect K-12 students in California.

It would allow students to use a smartphone under specified circumstances – in case of an emergency or threat, if granted permission by a faculty member, or if a physician determines it to be necessary.

Arwen Chenery, chief of staff for Muratsuchi, said the bill could provide a balance of smartphone use for students and improve teens' mental health.

"Student use of technology, including smartphones, is on the rise," Chenery said in an emailed statement.

"AB 272 brings awareness to the correlation of smartphone use and student mental health and achievement by requiring school districts to adopt their own policies that strike a balance...preventing (smart phones) from interfering with a student's educational, social, and emotional development," Chenery said.

According to a 2015 Pew Research report, 73% of 13-to 17-year-olds had, a smartphone or access to one, and 24 percent said they were online almost constantly.

Growing evidence shows that smartphone use at schools not only interferes with a student's education, but also increases cyberbullying, depression and suicide rates in students, Chenery said.

In 2018, France adopted a nationwide smartphone ban in all primary and secondary schools to promote pupil achievement and healthy social development.

The London School of Economics and Political Science published a study in May 2015 that found test scores improved at schools that banned smartphone use. Underachieving pupils showed the most improvement.

University of La Verne Professor of Psychology Leticia Arellano said the bill is long over due, and she is pleased to know the issue is being taken up in Sacramento.

"I am happy to see that the issue is being attended to both inside and outside the classroom," Arellano said. "Even executives from Silicon Valley ban their children from screen time, and that says a lot."

As a professor, Arellano said she has had her own experiences with the trouble of dealing with technology in the classroom.

She said the misuse of smartphones and the distractions that come with it have occurred during her class sessions.

"We need to be mindful and recognize that it is a problem," Arellano said.

Arellano said that as a parent, she has not given her 12-year-old daughter a cell phone because she wants her child to interact in person with people.

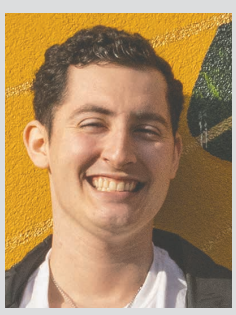
"We try to emphasize the importance of social and communication skills," Arellano said. "Improper use of cell phones can diminish that, especially in young children."

Zion Grant-Freeman, a freshman film and psychology major, said he agrees with the idea of the bill, but the method to prevent the issue is not appropriate.

"I do like the purpose of the bill because it would force people to talk and that's a problem

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Bringing the Storm



Molly Garry

Drag queen Storm Chaser performs at a drag show, part of the Claremont Colleges' GAYpril events. The show at Scripps College featured student performers as well as professional drag queens Saturday at the Pitzer Gold Student Center.

Student remembered for kindness

Maydeen Merino
Staff Writer

Arturo Corona Jr., a University of La Verne junior kinesiology major and former baseball player, died in a car accident in Pomona on April 12. He was 22.

Mr. Corona grew up in Claremont. He attended Our Lady of Lourdes in Montclair then in second grade went to Oakmont elementary school then El Roble middle school and graduated from Claremont High.

"He had a really good heart, even as a little kid," Mr. Corona's mother, Adriana Valerio, said. "At a young age he was a little terror, and we knew we were going to have our hands full."

Mr. Corona played basketball, soccer, and football but he always stuck with baseball, which he began playing at age 5 with the Upland American Little League.

"When he started baseball he used to catch and bat, right and left handed, and then they started having him only using his left," Valerio said.

Mr. Corona also played for little leagues in Montclair and San Dimas, where he played on several all-star teams and even went to state championships.

"He had tons of friends because he played sports in so many different leagues and different cities," Valerio said.

At Claremont High, he continued as a left-handed pitcher.

He continued his education and baseball career at Citrus College before transferring to the University of La Verne in 2017.

"One thing that really stood out to me at Citrus, is that me and him both kind of came in at the same time and didn't really know what to expect about college baseball, school, and life in general," said Ryan Aguilar, senior first baseman, who played with Mr. Corona at both Citrus and ULV.

"I think from getting to know him since day one at a junior college we really just tried our

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Modern political storytelling analyzed

Erica Rae Sanchez
Arts Editor



Ariel Torres

Professor of Political Science Jason Neidleman speaks on his interpretation of political imagination and how it influences philosophy and emotion in his individual work with political theory, Tuesday in the Executive Dining Room.

Jason Neidleman, professor of political science, delved into his research about Rousseau and his impact on philosophy and politics during his talk titled "My Reason Chooses the Sentiment My Heart Prefers: Rousseau on Political Imagination."

Students and faculty filled the Executive Dining Room to listen to Neidleman's explanation about science, philosophy and emotion in political theory Tuesday.

"Politics is the study of power, how it works, what renders legitimate or illegitimate," Neidleman said.

Neidleman discussed the importance of truth-telling in politics, the idea of Rousseau's that people are inherently good, and the Trump administration claiming that they are pragmatic.

"One reason that I am attracted to this idea of politics as storytelling is because typically those things are seen at odds," Neidleman said. "But if we see both as forms of storytelling and begin to analyze the components of a political story, we can see that as two parts of one overarching larger question of what the structure is of political argument."

In an introduction to a book, Neidleman wrote that Rousseau believed humans were born without evil. Rousseau believed evil was a product of society and if humans changed the system, then evil could potentially become non-existent.

"In some ways it's quite an optimistic idea, that what we have to do to save ourselves is get our institutions together," said Jon Leaver, professor of art who attended the lecture. "If we can rectify society, we can save ourselves. The idea that in order to get ahead we have to put others down, I do not believe that and I do not think that benefits us in any way."

Rousseau also believed that corruption lived within the arts and sciences because of the immense competition to be recognized by the masses, he said.

Neidleman said the idea of self-love is based off the welfare of the community and that a collective society is a successful one because fewer malice intentions exist there.

He discussed the improper use of the word "pragmatic" and how the Trump administration uses this word to describe the president, despite it not being the best word for his actions.

"I was so interested in how he was tying all of these threads together," Myra Garcia, senior director university initiatives, said.

"The whole concept of political storytelling and comparing and contrasting what we are experiencing today to other countries around the world."

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Cell phone use...

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(for many) nowadays," Freeman said. "But the bill is flawed because many schools already prohibit phones on their campuses and students still use them during school."

Freeman shared his experience with his former school's attempt to ban smartphones during his senior year of high school.

"The school tried to do this my first semester of senior year and it didn't work," Freeman said. "Students would still bring their phones to school and use them when they weren't supposed to. When second semester came, administration stopped trying so hard since it wasn't working."

Freeman said mental health related issues in teens deal more with social media than actual smartphone usage.

"Social media contributes more to mental health related issues in teens more than anything because smartphones are an easy access to any social media," Freeman said. "I don't have Twitter because it is toxic for my well-being."

According to a study by Child Mind Institute, heavy users of social media, those being teenagers and young adults, increase depression risk by 27%.

Teens reported that Twitter, Snapchat, Facebook, and Instagram were social media platforms that caused the most feelings of anxiety.

Shannon Stamp, freshman political science major, said she disagrees with the bill and said the issues the bill is trying to take down can easily be presented through other outlets.

"There is more usage to phones than what the bill is trying to stop," Stamp said. "Plus, the bill won't ultimately end cyberbullying or issues such as teen depression since it isn't the only outlet that these issues can come through."

Stamp said the use of smartphones at school can be replaced by the use of other electronic devices at home. As a result, cyberbullying will not take place in school but can take place at home, she said.

Stamp had an experience in middle school similar to Freeman's with the ban of smartphones.

"I was in Florida for seventh grade of middle school and I could use my smartphone on campus," Stamp said.

"In eighth grade, I moved to Connecticut and the schools I attended there didn't allow for the use of smartphones. This shift made it difficult for me to settle into my new surroundings."

Stamp said she had a difficult time making new friends at her new school because she had no means of obtaining their contact information or social media during lunch hours or breaks.

When it came to high school, Stamp said the school also attempted to ban smartphone use during her junior and senior year, but that it only resulted in the opposite of what was being aimed for.

"There was an escalated use of smartphones in my high school after they tried to restrict it since it was seen as this 'rebellious act,'" Stamp said. "Snapchat and other social media was blocked but students would find a loophole around the system."

Stamp said eventually the school reacted to the unfavorable result and retracted from fighting the issue of cellphone use.

Surprisingly enough, students began to use their phones less since the school wasn't trying so hard to force restrictions on them, Stamp said.

"I think many people oversee the merits that come with smartphones," Stamp said. "Not every student uses their phone for irrelevant things."

Gene Pizzolo, assistant principal at Bonita High School, said that although the limitation of smartphone use in classrooms would enhance a student's academic performance, AB 272 is not feasible due to the popularity in technology today.

"Cell phones have become part of student culture," Pizzolo said.

"It's hard enough to confiscate a phone in a student's possession. With the bill, we would have to take away a student's phone just because they have it on them."

Rather than completely revoke smartphones from students on school sites, Pizzolo said the process of limiting the use of smartphones should be made more gradually.

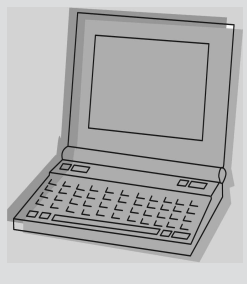
"At Bonita High School, we do a phone tally, where students place their phone in a container before they sit so they won't have their phones with them during instruction," Pizzolo said. "This is just one way of reducing distractions in the classroom."

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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***.

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Former cop to head campus safety

Savannah Dingman
Staff Writer



Katelyn Keeling

New Director of University Safety Operations Ruben Ibarra speaks to faculty and staff about his plans for campus safety during a meet and greet March 25 in La Fetra Lecture Hall. Ibarra is a former Santa Ana police officer.

Ruben Ibarra, a retired Santa Ana police commander, was named the new campus safety director at the University.

Before starting at the University last month, Ibarra worked for the Santa Ana Police Department for 27 years.

He made his way up through the ranks of the department. He initially rose to the position of field sergeant and eventually advanced to an area commander position, which oversees a population of roughly 160,000 people over 12 square miles.

Once the opportunity to retire presented itself, he decided it would be a good idea, but he did not want to stop serving the community.

"I wanted to do something different, but still related to what I was doing so I could utilize my experience and knowledge I've gained over the years," he said.

Ibarra entered his position as the new campus safety director just before the arson attack and apparent hate crime occurred on campus. Ibarra was able to apply prior knowledge he gained in the police department in order to handle the situation sufficiently.

"I come from a very large and busy department," he said. "As the investigations commander, I was used to overseeing very major crimes, so when this situation happened I was able to bring some of my experiences to be able to really address this issue," Ibarra said.

The La Verne Police Department is conducting the current investigation.

"We want to make sure we are working with the La Verne Police Department, and we want to make sure they have everything they need to support them in the investigation," Ibarra said.

While Ibarra ensures the La Verne police are working daily on the investigation, there is no further information on when it will be completed.

Ibarra assured his commitment to serving the students, and is hopeful about the current and future climate on campus.

"While this is a situation that concerns us all, overall, our campus is still very safe. Compared to other campuses locally, we are safe," Ibarra said.

In order to continue to improve campus safety, Ibarra says students can play a big part in enhancing the safety on campus.

"The students can be our eyes and ears. If students see something suspicious, let us know so we can follow up" Ibarra said. "We all have to take care of one another, that's going to be the way we keep our campus safe."

To take additional steps to increase campus safety, the security department strongly encourages students to download the LiveSafe app on their mobile devices.

"If students are here late at night and need an escort from the library to their dorm, we will do that," Ibarra said. "We are here to support the students in every way."

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A child is calling for help.

Bills would help renters, homeless

Protecting low-income residents

Aryn Plax
Politics Editor

California has the highest homeless population in the nation and few restrictions exist to protect tenants from drastic rent increases.

That is what the authors of three assembly bills are attempting to change.

The three bills, nicknamed the "Keep Families Home Bill Package," by the Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment, or the ACCE, aim to increase protections for low income renters by restricting rent increases and requiring landlords to cite just cause for eviction.

"Most tenants are one rent increase away from being able to afford food, healthcare or even becoming homeless," said Assembly Member David Chiu, D-San Francisco, author of one of the bills.

California has 23.55% of the national homeless population, according to the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness.

According to a February 2018 report from California Department of Housing and Community Development, 30% of renters devote more than 30% of their income toward rent, and for another 30% of renters, their rent uses more than half of their income.

Renters make up 46% of the total households in California, according to the National Low Income Housing Coalition.

Chiu's bill, Assembly Bill-1482, would prevent rent gouges by restricting the amount a landlord could raise the rent by yearly.

AB-1481, authored by Assembly Member Rob Bonta, D-Alameda, would prohibit landlords from evicting tenants without just cause.

AB-36, known as the Costa-Hawkins reform bill, is a second effort by Assembly Member Richard Bloom, D-Santa Monica, after the three assembly members had attempted to repeal Costa-Hawkins in 2017.

Proposition 10, a citizen-initiated ballot measure which sought to repeal Costa-Hawkins, was voted down in November 2018.

The 1995 Costa-Hawkins law restricts rent control in two ways: it prohibits application of rent control on buildings constructed after February 1995, single-family residences and condominiums, and it also prohibits vacancy control, which is a type of rent control that restricts landlords from raising rent to new tenants.

AB-36 would weaken Costa-Hawkins by allowing rent control on single-family units and on buildings that are at least 10 years old.

Chiu said that AB-1482 and AB-36 address the issues of rent in complementary ways.

"The Costa-Hawkins reform bill that's been proposed by Assembly Member Richard Bloom addresses the reality in rent control jurisdictions: that every year, we lose rent control stock because of how that law has been written," Chiu said. "That law is meant to apply to the two million or so Californians in jurisdictions that support rent control. My law would apply and help the 15 million renters who do not live in jurisdictions that are subject to rent control."

Chiu said that the ACCE, Western Center on Law and Poverty, and PICO California were the primary groups lobbying in favor of the bill package.

Lobbying against the package was the California Apartment Association, which represents landlords.

Ben Benoit, vice president of public affairs for CAA-Inland Empire, said that CAA's membership opposes rent control on principle.

Benoit said that landlords may raise rent for a few reasons: the landlord needs to make upgrades or repairs to the building, or, as a result of property values rising, landlords face higher property taxes.

Rent increases can also occur when ownership changes hands.

Property taxes on a building could spike just by virtue of being sold from one owner to another, after years of the building's property tax remaining low due to Proposition 13, which limited tax increases on properties to no more than 2% annually as long as the property never exchanged hands, and if the property is sold, its value is reassessed.

"My experience in most cities is when there's a lot of complaints, that there's a group coming to the dais, almost 99% of the time, it's because the new owners have come in, bought a property, and is now faced with a higher property tax or they want to make improvements," Benoit said.

Yesenia Miranda Meza, organizer for Pomona United for Stable Housing, faced such a situation last year.

The former owner of an apartment building she lived in failed to make repairs that the tenant requested, and she said that the apartments became "unlivable."

After the apartment building switched hands, the new owner implemented a rent increase between $200 and $250.

The only protection in place for tenants was that, if a landlord were to raise rents over 10%, tenants are owed a notice 60 days in advance, and if the rent increases were less than 10%, the landlord has to notify tenants within 30 days.

After Meza and fellow tenants were mired in litigation against the landlord, Meza teamed up with PUSH member and former Pomona city councilman John Nolte to get signatures for the Pomona Housing Stabilization, Fair Rent and Homeowner Protection Ordinance.

The ordinance, which did not get the number of signatures needed to be put forward to Pomona City Council, would have required restrictions on rent increases.

For example, landlords would be prohibited from pursuing rent increases if he or she did not comply with maintenance requests from tenants.

Landlords would be limited to one rent increase per year, and would be subject to just cause requirements similar to those in Bonta's bill.

Rent increases would be limited to a specific number per year – a measure later adapted into Chiu's bill.

"If I move out, that landlord has the right to raise the rent again," Meza said. "He has the right to go ahead and put it at the (consumer) index price of the surrounding area. So, it's not like if there's rent control and I move out, that apartment will still be at $1,150 (for example). It's just that you give tenants the opportunity to stay there for as long as possible and possibly save some money."

Meza went to Sacramento April 8 to lobby for the bill package on behalf of ACCE.

Though CAA opposes rent control policies, Benoit said that CAA supports the development of affordable housing, and that a number of its members are involved in the development of low-income housing.

Benoit said one of the largest barriers to development generally is high building costs and NIMBYism. NIMBY stands for "not in my backyard," and NIMBYism is the tendency for residents of any given area to resist development or local projects within their areas.

Meza said that PUSH does not generally oppose development within Pomona, but wants to limit the effects of gentrification so as to protect low-income residents.

"Gentrification is going to happen, no matter what," Meza said. "People are going to get pushed out, like they did in Los Angeles. For now, this is our solution to it because we need a solution now. We don't need 'oh, but they're building low-income housing.' Sure, but it's not coming in fast enough."

AB-1482 and AB-36 will be heard by the Assembly Committee for Housing and Community Development on April 25.

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Student remembered...

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best to motivate each other, every day, no matter if it was in school or baseball."

Aguilar said he made many memories with Mr. Corona both on and off the baseball field, but one memory in particular really stood out to him.

"It was our last sophomore game at Citrus and we were all the way up in Bakersfield," Aguilar said. "We lost on a walk off. He usually keeps his emotions in check – just in general for pitching you need to keep your cool – but we lost on a walk off and I don't think I have ever seen him so mad.

"He has always been a generally nice guy, and I think this one memory that stuck to me is because he obviously cares. Even if he doesn't show it, he cared about anything he did."

Both Aguilar and Mr. Corona moved on to play baseball at the University of La Verne. They continued their friendship, and made more memories at their new school.

"Once you really got to know the guy, he always made sure he tried his best and made sure everyone was okay before himself," Aguilar said.

Mr. Corona had the chance to leave his hometown and go to school in Kentucky, but he decided to stay local and attend ULV, Valerio said.

"He was originally going to go to school in Kentucky, but he said it was too cold," Valerio said.

"This was his home base. I could literally see him never leaving. This is where he was going to raise his family. He would say he was never going to move far away."

While attending ULV as a full-time student, he studied kinesiology and worked two jobs – one at Poke Dot in Claremont and another at the Dugout in Ontario.

"He was a good boy, never gave me any problems," Valerio said.

Mr. Corona also created new friendships on the baseball team with students like junior pitcher Logan Frye.

"He was a really enjoyable guy to be around, especially outside of baseball. We were always having fun, joking around," Frye said. "Every time I would be with him we would always be laughing, and he was a really light-hearted guy."

Head baseball coach Scott Winterburn also fondly remembers Mr. Corona's playful personality.

"(He was) pretty quiet, pretty reversed to most people who didn't know him, but he had a good sense of humor," Winterburn said. "He was very funny and a really nice kid."

Mr. Corona's family enjoyed playing games like Lotería when his cousins, aunts and father would gather at his grandma's house during birthdays and holidays.

"He always had a smile on his face and was always laughing, joking around," his aunt Laura Corona Escalera said.

In August 2016 Mr. Corona grandmother took all her grandchildren to Kailua Kona in Hawaii.

They ate poké, went to the beach, and he danced with the Hawaiian girls on stage in the luau, Escalera said.

Mr. Corona also enjoyed listening to music. Some of his favorite artists were 4B, Travis Scott, RL Grime, Logic, Flume and Boombox Cartel, Aguilar said.

His favorite sports teams included the Dallas Cowboys, Los Angeles Dodgers, Lakers, and the UCLA football.

Arturo Corona Jr. was born on August 26, 1996. He is survived by his mother Adriana Valerio, father Arturo Corona Sr., sister Ariana Corona and brother Oscar Corona.

"He passed away, but he wouldn't want us to be down about it, obviously we are going to be sad and it's a horrible thing to happen but he would want us to keep living," Frye said.

"I know for me he would tell me, why are you sad, keep living your life, don't make it all about me. Go live your life, go do what you want to do. I am just going to say, live through Art."

A GoFundMe has been created for Corona to help the cost of service for the family. The page has exceeded its goal of $3,000, raising $13,050. People can continue helping the Corona family by donating to "Arturo Corona's Funeral Expenses," created by Arturo's best friend Tyler Tinajero, at **gofundme.com/1lt1byyx9c**.

The University will hold a time of remembrance for Arturo led by University Chaplain Zandra Wagoner at 7 p.m. Monday in the chapel.

His family will hold a rosary from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on April 24 at the Todd Memorial Chapel in Claremont.

A funeral mass will be held from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. April 25 at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church in Claremont with the burial to follow at Bellevue Memorial Park in Ontario.

The reception will be from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the United Church of Christ banquet hall in Claremont.

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Citizenship question would mislead

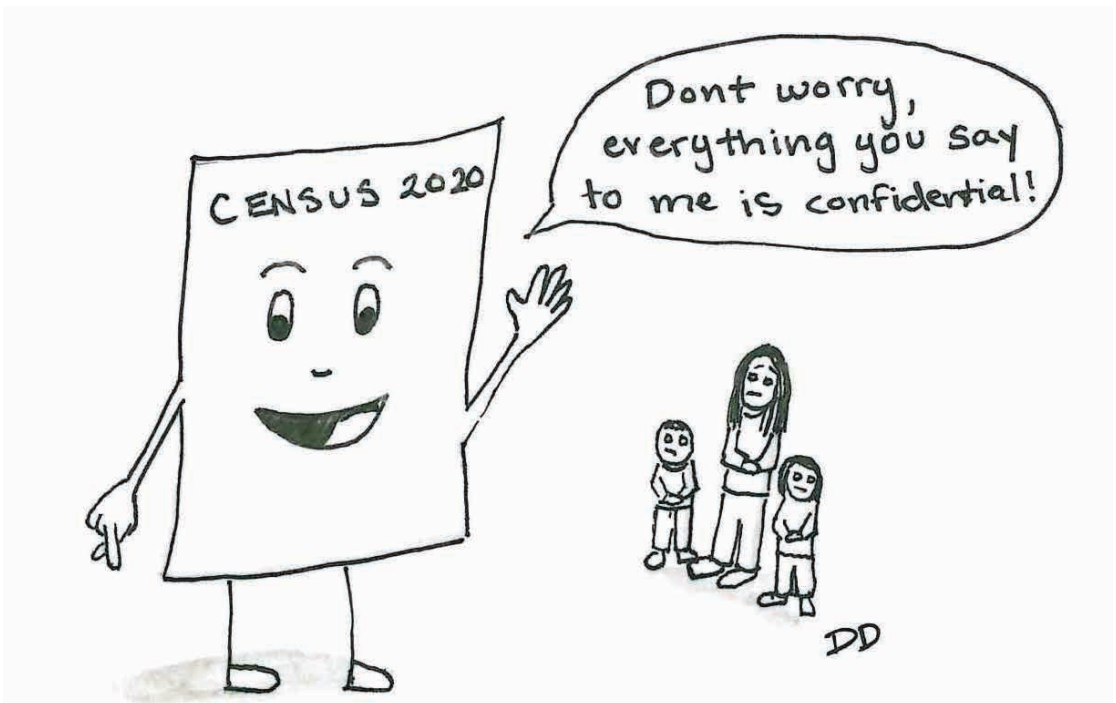
The U.S. Department of Justice is planning to add a question about citizenship to the 2020 Census American Community Survey, a change which, under the Donald Trump administration, may result in an inaccurate count of the country's population.

The question, which has not been asked on the Census Bureau survey since 1950, is phrased as follows: "Is this person a citizen of the United States?"

There are five options in response to the inquiry, including four that indicate the person is of United States origin, and one that indicates the person is not a citizen.

The question does not initially appear to be a hindrance to the democratic process. However, coupled with the contentious political and social climate fostered by the Trump administration, many non-citizens may choose not to answer the question out of fear of deportation.

The Justice Department added the question to gain an understanding of the voting population that can only be calculated through the Census Bureau survey.



editorial cartoon by Danielle De Luna

The survey samples only 2.6% of the population, and the Justice Department has proposed that adding the question to the mandatory Census will help ensure protections for minority voters enforced under the federal Voting Rights Act, according to the Pew Research Center.

Although Census responses are supposed to be kept confidential, privacy protections have been violated by the U.S. government before.

The Japanese American Citizens League issued a statement in opposition to the proposed citizenship question, referencing the Census Bureau's release of Japanese Americans' names and addresses to the U.S. Secret Service during the 1940s.

An inaccurate count will be a detriment to the democratic system in the United States. If immigrants shun the census, it could reduce the number of congressional seats and the amount of federal funding in states with large numbers of foreign-born residents, such as California, which has more than any other state, according to the Pew Research Center.

As the Supreme Court considers the citizenship question on the 2020 Census, it is imperative that they analyze its effect in relationship to the political climate the Trump administration has fostered concerning immigration and the safety of immigrants. The humane and democratic decision requires that the question be considered outside of a vacuum of perfect ethics.

Uber, Lyft need safety upgrades

Uber and Lyft are popular transportation programs in the United States, particularly for college students and young adults looking for cheaper and faster ways for transportation, yet the program has not shown any dedication to improving consumer safety, even after a series of cases where riders have been robbed or even killed while riding in an Uber or Lyft.

On March 29, University of South Carolina student Samantha Josephson mistakenly got into a vehicle that she thought was her Uber ride. This has prompted more people to be aware of their surroundings, including scanning the cars' license plates and asking the drivers who they are here for.

Uber and Lyft need to improve and revamp their method of recruiting employers. The qualifications for both companies include: having a car that is less than 10 years old, a clean driving record, be at least 21 years old and have at least one year of driving experience in the U.S. (three if under 23 years old).

On paper, the requirements sound strict, but are actually minimal compared to cab drivers. For example, in San Francisco, where Uber and Lyft were established, cab drivers are required to show proof of residency, clean hygiene, speak English and complete taxi driving training.

In Los Angeles, they are required to have fingerprints on file and pass a nationwide FBI criminal background check. Passengers may still be at risk in a taxi, but their chances of being a victim of rape, robbery or murder are a lot slimmer compared to Uber and Lyft's qualifications, which demonstrates the crucial importance of placing stronger background checks.

Within weeks after the death of Josephson, Uber announced that they will plan to launch a social media campaign and send push notifications during pickup to remind passengers to take safety precautions, while Lyft will continue to provide driver photos and vehicle information. A South Carolina bill was also introduced last week that would require Uber and Lyft drivers to have illuminated signs, which is a step toward consumer safety.

A 2018 study by the University of Chicago and Rice University found a 2-3% increase in motor vehicle fatalities and fatal accidents since the arrival of rideshare programs.

Although Rideshare programs are convenient in terms of saving money and time, along with easier traveling across a big city, but should not cost someone's life or safety and it is now the rideshare programs duty to amend this issue.

Consider our commuters

On Nov. 14, 2018, the University of La Verne hosted its annual Commuter Day, a day that caters to the school's commuter population. Great, but with nearly three-fourths commuter students, one day a year is not enough.

The University hosts plenty of events each month that are meant to strengthen the school's sense of community and reflect our core values, but many start so late that it is unreasonable to expect commuter students to attend.

Some commuter students work during the day and therefore take 6:50 to 10 p.m. night classes. Many of the school's events, like Campus Center movie showings, start at 10 p.m. and go until midnight, which is far too late for the average commuter student to drive themself home after an already long enough day.

For example, the University's Campus Activities Board hosted a showing of "Love Simon" this past Tuesday night from 9 p.m. to midnight in the La Fetra Auditorium. Many night classes do not end until 10 p.m.

It is wrong to expect commuters to stay on campus so late during the middle of the week, especially because many of these students have class the following morning. Perhaps it would be more beneficial to host events closer to the weekend as opposed to the beginning and middle of the week. The University could host a "movie day" on a weekend, that way it could accommodate to students' varying schedules.

Only about 30% of the University of La Verne's students live in dorms, meaning the other 70% are commuter students. It is not right for the University programming not to consider such a large part of its student body.

Because the commuter students are unable to attend many of the school's events, this creates a disconnect where commuters do not feel like an integral part of the community. The University, including student leaders, needs to ask the input of the school's commuters frequently to find better times throughout the day, week and month to host events – which commuters too can attend.

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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
SPRING 2019

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Student triumphs following cancer

Layla Abbas
Editorial Director

After taking a year off to receive 18 rounds of chemotherapy with three different chemotherapy drugs, three surgeries and plenty of physical therapy sessions to learn how to walk again, Andrew Tompkins, sophomore business administration major, has returned to the University of La Verne.

Tompkins initially noticed his knee was inflamed during Thanksgiving break and never imagined it was a result of cancer.

The doctors thought it was a meniscus tear or bursitis which is fluid in the knee, but instead found it was a type of bone cancer called osteosarcoma.

"I went to get an x-ray to see if there was fluid in my knee and they found holes in my femur instead," Tompkins said. "At first I was like, 'Oh my God, I have a flesh eating bacteria,' but then I realized my flesh was fine, it was my bone. I got an MRI five days later and the next day they said I had cancer."

That day was Dec. 19, 2017, a day that Tompkins' little sister Julia Tompkins remembers vividly.

"My dad was searching for a notepad and started writing down dates for chemotherapy," Julia said. "Chemotherapy is not typically talked about unless it is cancer, so my first thought was 'Am I hearing this right?'"

"My dad thanked the doctor and we all went back outside to sit," Julia said. "My dad is a strong firefighter, and not one to show much emotion. After the call he just starts crying and said, 'Son if I could carry this cross for you, I would.' and that is when I knew it had to be cancer."

During Andrew's time in the hospital, Julia said she tried to be her brother's clown and best friend. She remembers a time when laughter took over a time of excruciating physical therapy pain for her brother.

After Andrew's leg surgery, the physical therapist drew funny faces on hospital socks that they took home the next day, Julia said.

"'Mamma Mia 2' was our jam," Julia said. "I put the puppets on my hand and we were lip syncing to 'Mamma Mia 2' which was the funniest thing ever."

Andrew said the hardest part of his journey was seeing his friends continue on with their lives while he was in a stagnant and terrible place.

"They were still able to live their lives normally while I was stuck in a hospital receiving chemo," he said. "I understood my friends had lives to live and of course I did not want to prevent them from living their normal lives, but it was hard to see them do that while I was not able to do the same thing."

Tompkins had three surgeries in total: an emergency appendectomy, a surgery to insert a port catheter into his chest to receive chemo and a leg surgery to remove 14 centimeters of his femur that had the cancer and input a prosthetic in his leg.

Tompkins said learning how to walk again was a tedious and frustrating process.

"I had already known how to walk for 19 years of my life and then all of a sudden I couldn't anymore," Tompkins said. "People would walk to go get a drink or use the bathroom, and I could not do that. I needed a walker or someone to help me up."

Before his diagnosis, Tompkins was on the diving team at La Verne. When he was given the options for surgery none gave him the ability to ever dive again.

Diving was his escape and area for growth; he currently holds a La Verne diving record and qualified for the NCAA Division III Regionals his first semester on the team.

"My dive career ended with my cancer diagnosis," Tompkins said. "It was very hard because I was not prepared for it. I still felt like I had a lot left in me before I had to give up the sport."

Tompkins is now helping coach the diving team on a volunteer basis.

"I really enjoy helping out because it is the closest I can get without physically diving again," Tompkins said. "If I can just use my diving knowledge of 12 years and live through the diving of others, then I would rather have that than no diving at all."

Tompkins said his transition back to school was overwhelming since he was completely dependent on others for nearly everything during his time in the hospital.

"I was also very excited because I knew the minute I had a withdrawal from school that I just really wanted to be back," Tompkins said. "I knew when I returned to school it would be a sign that I had beaten cancer and gotten through this journey. My first day back was scary and I was nervous. But I fought really hard to get back here, so I will not let that opportunity slip away."

Julia said seeing her brother back in school is an indescribable feeling and makes her happy to see, but she misses him.

"I know my brother is doing so much good," Julia said. "He was just telling me how he got back into the pool the other day and that just made me smile."



Jaysin Brandt

Andrew Tompkins, sophomore business administration major and former diver for the University, celebrates being cancer-free by inspiring others with his personal motto, "Andrew Wins." He was diagnosed with bone cancer in 2017, and took a year off from school to beat the disease.

Julia said if she could describe her brother in one word, it would be courage.

"If you ever need him he is going to have an answer for you," Julia said. "Whether it takes him five seconds to answer or he does the research behind it, he will get you the answer. He is so uplifting and good at finding the silver lining in situations."

Briana White, senior theater arts major, is one of Tompkins' closest friends who has supported him throughout his year-long journey.

"It was a little harder for me to be there physically for him since he does live in San Diego," White said. "I went down every couple months just to see him, so I tried to maintain that constant communication and show my support for him."

White said it is interesting to pick up where their friendship left off a year ago since Tompkins is in the same place but with

Continued on page 7

Speaker offers leadership strategy

Hannah Rogers
Staff Writer

T.J. Sullivan, author of the book "Motivating the Middle," spoke to 15 students and faculty on the various engagement levels of members of an organization April 11 in the Executive Dining Room.

Josh Bay, senior public affairs major, invited Sullivan because he enjoyed reading about Sullivan's ideas in his book and wanted to spread those ideas to people on campus.

"Sullivan's ideas are useful not only for fraternities and sororities, but also for smaller clubs, resident assistants, and the workplace," Bay said. "Bringing Sullivan was good so he could talk and explain thing in ways I could not."

The book promotes a notion of leadership that focuses not on the most or the least driven members of an organization but on those in the middle. This is based on the idea that students in such scenarios can be grouped into thirds, with the top being most motivated and the bottom, the least.

The top third does most of the work. They send text message reminders, and act as spokespeople for the group. They are always at the table talking to potential new members, Sullivan said. People can have different priorities and be engaged at different levels, he said. They do not have to be the president to be a contributor to the organization. A lot of student leaders who are top third leaders think they are the ideal that everyone else needs to be like them, he added.



Kayla Salas

Author T.J Sullivan addresses student leaders of several on-campus organizations in the Executive Dining Room April 11. His book, "Motivating the Middle," offers suggestions for leaders to motivate other members of their clubs and organizations.

Top third people do not like when they see apathy in the organization, when the organization looks bad and when tasks not done, Sullivan said.

The bottom third members have, for whatever reason, disengaged from the organization, Sullivan said.

"(They) drive the top third members crazy by not missing an opportunity to take down and make the organization weaker," Sullivan said. "We are all bottom thirds somewhere of our lives," he added.

The last group is the middle third, who care a lot about having balance in all the groups and creating relationships. They are only part of the organization if it works out with their lives and if they can have fun. The middle care a lot about the leaders and will support and help them. They show up to be with friends and do not care about the agenda, Sullivan said.

Tiffany Casillas, sophomore business administration major, is in Delta Sigma Pi and has been around student leaders since joining the sorority.

"A great leader understands how to inspire everyone in the organization or club not in their own vision but in what everyone wants to do to contribute," Casillas said.

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Triumphs...

Continued from page 6

a new mindset.

"It is surreal to have him back on campus," White said. "The year he was out felt like such a long time but now that he is back it feels like it was yesterday this all happened. It was hard to go from having him every day, to him being gone for an entire year."

White said Tompkins is one of the kindest people she knows and he taught people how to fight a life threatening illness with kindness and love.

"He brought a lot of awareness to not just osteosarcoma, but battling any disease in general," White said. "Anyone who has met him or who has been a part of his journey is really lucky because he is inspiring to everyone. It was amazing to be a part of his journey, and we are lucky he fought so hard and never gave up."

Tompkins said his dream job after he finishes college would be to work in the marketing department for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Working with children who are battling life threatening illnesses would be his way of giving back, he said.

"I would be able to grant them a wish of their choice and allow them to have some hope or motivation to keep fighting through such a terrible process," Tompkins said. "It would be my way of passing it forward to all the doctors, nurses, family members and friends who helped get me through my own horrible process."

Layla Abbas can be reached at ***layla.abbas@laverne.edu***.

Spring in the Farm brings country to the city



Jaysin Brandt

Traveling Forge makes two sizes of horseshoes for purchase at Spring in the Farm at the Fairplex on Saturday where Families with young children could experience American agriculture. Kids made rope, learn about hydroponics and aquaponics, and more. Educational booths were set up with information on how to make sustainability more affordable and accessible.

Roll Call

We put five La Verne sushi spots to the test

by Emily J. Sullivan • photography by Kayla Salas



The kamikae roll at Wabi Sabi includes langostino, crab meat, shrimp tempura and avocado on the inside and is topped with spicy tuna and mayonnaise sauce. Wabi Sabi is located in La Verne at 2345 Foothill Blvd. and is open seven days a week.

So where do you find the best sushi in town? I tried five of La Verne's most poppin' sushi joints and this is what I discovered.

Aoki Japanese Restaurant in downtown La Verne at 2307 D St., just a hop and a skip from the University of La Verne campus, is likely everyone's first go-to when asked, "where can I find some decent sushi around here?" But here is the thing – the sushi is far from decent.

Yelp gives the Japanese restaurant 3.5 stars, generous considering the fishy, plastic-like salmon sashimi that topped my stale crunchy shrimp tempura roll when I tried it out recently.

Aoki's was the first sushi in my long and substantial sushi history where I did not finish my roll and threw it away.

Fukuya Sushi, located at 2084 Foothill Blvd. in La Verne, about a four-minute drive from the ULV campus, also scores 3.5 stars with Yelp, which I'd say is an accurate rating.

The fish here was fresh and tasty but the rolls were oversauced.

When the sushi chef handed me my roll on a wooden platter, it was a glorious sight, but a messy undertaking.

The soy and ponzu drenched the roll, spilling off the sides of the platter.

I had to try and eat my roll as quickly as possible because it grew soggier by the minute, the rice falling apart between the time I picked it up with my chopsticks and transferred it to my mouth.

I ended up leaving with sauce all over my phone and wrists.

The sushi here would have received a thumbs up from me had it not been saturated with sauce to the point of disarray.

Shogun Restaurant located at 2123 Foothill Blvd. in La Verne, is a teppan grill and sushi bar.

I ordered the Shogun fave roll combo, a plate that includes four pieces of the eel special roll, kamikaze roll and crunchy dragon roll along with soup and salad.

The crunchy dragon roll, a classic sushi bar favorite, is a shrimp tempura roll topped with spicy tuna. It was great.

The kamikaze roll was tasty but nothing mind-blowing, and the eel special roll was a little iffy.

The sushi here was fine. I wish I had a better adjective, but "fine" really defines my take-away most appropriately.

Wabi Sabi Teppan Steak and Sushi Bar located just up Fruit Street near the 210 freeway at 2345 Foothill Blvd. in La Verne, is fabulous.

The sushi menu itself offers great pairings as far as the roll construction is concerned.

The sushi rolls are made nice and tight, with nothing falling apart before it hits your lips.

The fish is fresh, the rolls are made quickly and expertly, and the rolls come with the perfect amount of sauce and crunch.

They also have fun items like the sushi burrito, which is made with soy paper – it looks like a burrito but it is filled with spicy tuna, crab, rice, shrimp tempura and avocado.

It comes with a great sauce for dipping as well.

I could go on and on raving about the sushi at Wabi Sabi.

It is far and away the best sushi close to the ULV campus.

Shota Sushi, located at 2855 Foothill Blvd., about three minutes north-east of the ULV campus, blew me away.

They just opened up in 2018, coming to La Verne from Vancouver, Canada.

Man, are we La Vernians lucky because Shota Sushi brought La Verne a real gem.

The lunch special included a special roll and a side of my choosing – the spicy tuna sashimi, soup and a salad.

It was only $11, which was a complete steal.

I would have paid $25 for the dishes I received.

The establishment itself feels like a fine dining take on your classic sushi joint, but with prices that might reflect a happy hour menu.

Everything I received was perfectly crafted, the fish was fresh and delicious, the sashimi had me making "mmm's" and other various gobble noises, the presentation was gorgeous – it was fantastic.

Oh, and order a Thai tea.

Without a doubt, the battle of the La Verne sushi bars was a blast. I had sushi every day for a week and enjoyed almost every bite – sorry, Aoki.

I highly recommend Wabi Sabi and Shota Sushi for your sushi dining pleasure.

Enjoy.

Emily J. Sullivan can be reached at ***emily.sullivan@laverne.edu.***

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Wellness café has groovy offerings

Maydeen Merino
Staff Writer



Molly Garry

Feeling Groovy Wellness and Café offers yoga classes, Reiki healing, infrared saunas, CBD workshops and more. The menu includes smoothies, fresh juices, salads, healthy bowls and even grass-fed bone broth. Feeling Groovy is in Claremont at 863 W. Foothill Blvd.

Customers are transported back to the 1970s when they walk into Feeling Groovy Wellness and Café on Foothill Boulevard in Claremont.

Amid the rainbow flower power decor, Feeling Groovy provides various holistic health services, including healthy food, yoga and more unique services, such as Reiki and crystal healing, to balance and cleanse the mind and body.

The center sells cannabidiol, or CBD, creams and oils, designed to provide many benefits for those who have chronic pains, inflammation or want to improve their mood or sleep.

CBD is a non-psychoactive chemical found in marijuana and hemp plants, that provides a variety of health benefits.

"We have a lot of different options, whatever are your needs, whatever fits your lifestyle, we have something for everybody, which is another thing we pride ourselves on," said Hannah Ritchey, the café manager.

Feeling Groovy also offers frequent CBD workshop that teaches people the benefits of the substance.

And the space also includes small boutique on the side of the café with organic and handmade products such as soap, lotion and beauty products.

"In the boutique we try to have a big variety of things," café worker Alexis Moreno said. "Everything is handmade from small shops, promoting good and healthy businesses."

The wellness center services include s a float pod for sensory deprivation, hemp massages, salt room sessions, cupping, natural teeth whitening, foot detox, infrared sauna and more.

The salt room is a fully covered room filled with pink Himalayan salt that helps cleanse toxins from the lungs and improve the immune system, said Sydney Keever, Feeling Groovy's general manager.

The float pod is a sensory depuration tank, which aims to decrease stiffness in the body and release toxins.

"Rather than using medication, and basically deterring your body while taking pharmaceutical drugs, you're coming in here and you're trying all different alternatives so that its better for you're body and you're releasing the toxins ... while also having a good time," Keever said.

The café is unique because of the vibrant colors of orange, pink, purple and yellow that fill up the room, along with peace signs, flowers, and art work painted throughout the café with classic 1970s music playing in the background.

There is a fully organic café that serves coffee, oatmeals, breakfast bars, hot bowls, wraps, smoothies, acai bowls and CBD shots that can be added into drinks as well.

"There's not a lot of places in the village where you can get organic and made-from-scratch food," Ritchey said.

Recently the café launched a new breakfast menu with options for everybody including vegetarians, vegans and gluten free items.

"We don't use potatoes, we use sweet potatoes for our hash browns. Pancakes are made out of plantains, and there is also an eggplant scramble for vegans," said Santiago Lupian, a line cook.

The café also has a list of many types of milks such as banana milk, oat milk, coconut milks, and almond milk.

"A lot of people come in, and a lot of people go out, but everybody has a good experience in some way, whether its the café or any of our services, or just the one-on-one communication with our staff the majority of people have a great time," Keever said.

Feeling Groovy is open\ Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The comprehensive list of service offered can be found at the store's website at **feelinggroovywellness.com**.

Maydeen Merino can be reached at ***maydeen.merino@laverne.edu***.

College students prepare for success

Delta Sigma Pi hosted "Backpacks to Briefcases" Wednesday to give students a chance to learn about what to expect in the work world, and what they should be doing now to prepare for professional success.

The event speaker was Daenon Gault-Vasconez, a recruiter for Geico, with two employees he'd recruited.

"When we have these discussions, it pique's the curiosity of students (who may) not have considered Geico as a career option," Gault-Vasconez said.

Gault-Vasconez talked about how to build a resume, how to interview and what questions to ask during the interview process.

He said he always jumps at the opportunity to speak on college campuses, not only for exposure, but to help students learn about work-life balance and other helpful tools.

"The event was very beneficial ... with helpful tips and advice on what it takes to obtain a job or internship," said Aaron Zamora, a political science and economics major. "I came out of the event with more confidence on life after college."

The speakers also discussed benefits, such as medical and retirement, and encouraged students to research those type of things when looking for a company to apply to.

They also explained that the interviewing process is sometimes long, so students should keep that in mind while interviewing with different companies.

"All three speakers did a wonderful job of explaining what to do and what not to do ," said Dani Sanchez, junior business administration major.

Delta Sigma Pi will host another event called "Interviewing 101" at 6 p.m. Thursday in the Howell Board Room.

—Stephanie Joseph

Teaching sex-ed



Katelyn Keeling

Carlos Gomez, a health advocate for Bienestar Human Services, leads "Let's Talk About Sex: LGBTQ Edition," Wednesday in the Campus Center. Gomez explains the services that Bienestar Human Services including: HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention, mental health services and substance use and harm education.

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HAPPENINGS

'The Little Mermaid'

The Inland Pacific Ballet's original production of Hans Christian Anderson's story of "The Little Mermaid" will feature puppets and ballet dancing on April 27 and 28 at Bridges Auditorium in Claremont.

For more information, call **909-607-1139.**

'Bright Star'

The Candlelight Pavilion in Claremont will feature Broadway's "Bright Star," which tells a story of love, loss and redemption during the 1920s and 1940s set in the deep South featuring a Grammy-nominated score.

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

'Best of La Verne'

An annual tradition the music department, will feature a collaboration of faculty and students as they come together to display their various talents.

The performance will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. May 5 in Morgan Auditorium.

Claremont Orchestra

The Claremont Symphony Orchestra will host a free concert directed by Robert Sage in honor of its 66th season. The concert will be from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. May 5 at the Bridges Hall of Music at 150 E. Fourth Street in Claremont.

'Machinal'

The theater department will present the play "Machinal" at 7:30 p.m. May 1-5 and at 2 p.m. May 5 at Daily Theatre.

The suggested donation for admission is $5 for students and $15 for the general public.

Write con Nosotros

Cáfe con Libros in downtown Pomona will host an event that welcomes writers to write in a welcoming environment at 6 p.m. April 28.

—Emily J. Sullivan

Leo Factor delivers

Talent and sass

by David Gonzalez

photography by Nikky Huynh



Trista Rios, junior kinesiology major, performs a cultural Polynesian dance from the island of Tahiti at the Leo Factor talent show Wednesday in Morgan Auditorium. The Campus Activities Board sponsored the event, which gave students a chance to show off their skills and talents to their peers.

Morgan Auditorium was filled with cheers, laughter and yells at the second annual Leo Factor Wednesday night, where six students showcased their talents.

The grand prize of $300 was awarded to the top act of the night, who was chosen by a panel of three judges, Alexis Patterson, Shane Rodrigues and Preston Parker.

The host for the night was drag queen Ongina.

Thomas Del Carmen, junior music major, participated in last year's Leo Factor, and came back to stun the audience with a chilling cover of Imagine Dragon's "Demons."

"Last year I performed as well and I got third place," Del Carmen said. "I performed an original song, so I wanted to see if singing a cover would make a difference."

Del Carmen's performance was electrifying and received a lively applause from the full house.

Throughout the song, Del Carmen showcased how versatile his range could be, silencing the audience for seconds as he hit a stunning high note.

At the end of the six acts, Ongina announced the top three finalists, only to name Del Carmen as the winner of the Leo Factor.

"I'm really thankful, and I'm going to keep doing what I do because it tells me that this is really my passion and is something that I was meant to do," Del Carmen said.

Patterson, senior communications major said she was impressed by all six contestants, but the judges were shocked at how talented Del Carmen was.

"His talent really commanded the stage, and when he hit that high note I think everyone for a second was like, 'Oh wow. He's legit'," Patterson said.

> 'I wasn't doing it for the money. I was doing it because it's something that makes me truly happy.'
> *—Thomas Del Carmen, junior music major*

The night was filled with different performers that showcased how talented the student body is on campus.

"Honestly I was just happy to perform," Del Carmen said. "I really did it because one of my friends asked me to perform. I wasn't doing it for the money, I was doing it because it's something that makes me truly happy."

The other performer who joined Del Carmen in the top two was Joren Francisco, junior kinesiology major.

He performed an interpretive dance that was meant as a coming out statement. He wore his heart on his sleeve the second he walked out on stage. While the judges thought his dancing could have been executed better, he received a roaring applause that ended with the audience chanting his name.

"I wasn't expecting to be in the final two at all because my training has been a little sloppy because I haven't been dancing," Francisco said. "I wasn't expecting to be in the top three at all."

Alana Rodriguez, senior kinesiology major, said she was most impressed by Trista Rios, who performed a Tahitian dance.

"She did a Polynesian dance that was absolutely fantastic to keep her movement up and her energy up throughout the entire three minutes of song," Rodriguez said.

The audience was lively as they roared for each contestant, but one main reason for the excitement was Ongina.

Ongina kept the crowd entertained with sass, flirt and jokes that were not in the least bit appropriate.

She performed two lip sync performances to "One Kiss" by Calvin Harris featuring Dua Lipa and Ariana Grande's "Breathin," with constant cheering and laughter.

David Gonzalez can be reached at ***david.gonzalez9@laverne.edu***.

Movie Review

'Little' falls short

Erica Rae Sanchez
Arts Editor

The movie "Little," which released this past weekend, did not leave an impressionable mark.

The storyline has been seen before in "Big," starring Tom Hanks, but this version features a successful middle aged woman who wakes up in her 13-year-old body.

Regina Hall plays the leading role of Jordan Sanders, a business owner who is overwhelmed with the pressures of a failing business while remaining a respectable boss.

Traumatized by her elementary school experience, Jordan is given a second chance to come to terms with what she went through.

The role of Jordan felt forced down the audience's throat, she is fierce but in a way that halts the viewer from feeling any intimate connection toward her.

As Jordan drowns in the stress of her failing business, she passes a majority of her tasks off to her assistant April Williams, played by Issa Rae.

April is her counterpart, one who holds her accountable for all of her wrongdoings while simultaneously respecting, but hating her, at the same time. However, she needs the job and will not quit because deep down they understand each other like best friends.

Marsai Martin's performance as younger Jordan Sanders was impressive, as she managed to seem like an exact replica of the adult Jordan.

Sanders' standoffish personality is also transferred over, making the little version of herself no better than the older one.

Overall, the movie lacked majorly needed character development.

There is no turning point throughout the film where Jordan learns her lesson, that she does not have to be feared to be respected.

There were also several storylines introduced that were never brought up again, which was frustrating and made the film feel like it was just buying the audience's time.

The movie missed its mark, sparking neither inspiration nor the "feel-good" attitude expected if movies such as these. Jordan is never humanized, and still remains the same person she was at the beginning.

Martin has made her mark at only 14-years-old, being the youngest movie producer in Hollywood.

With the child-like humor, it came as no surprise after learning her age.

It almost felt like a Disney movie with the way the audience was given specific allotted times to laugh.

"Little" fell short, lacking continuity and climax while unimpressively interrupting the development with storylines that were never completed.

Although a rocky start for Martin, the future is bright as she casted a truly diverse group of characters.

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

Movie Review

Think twice before seeing 'After'

Jaycie Thierry
Social Media Editor

The movie adaptation of Anna Todd's bestselling novel "After" hit theaters Friday, but the film, unsurprisingly, failed at doing the book justice, leaving me disappointed.

"After" follows Tessa Young, played by Josephine Langford, the wide-eyed good girl heading into her freshman year of college.

She quickly becomes acquainted with the mysterious British bad boy Hardin Scott, played by Hero Fiennes-Tiffin.

Tessa's life is shown through a timeline of what life was like before Hardin and what it is like after.

As the film began, Tessa's voice echoes throughout the theater, "There are moments in our lives that seem to define us."

As cliché as the story already sounds, it is just that – cliché.

Transitioning the characters and storyline into a film was a valiant effort by director Jenny Gage, but as someone who previously read Todd's novel when it was an original online release, it fell short.

The two-minute long trailer was much more exhilarating than the film itself.

"After" could be compared to "Twilight," and could even be viewed as a teenage, underdeveloped "50 Shades of Grey."

Tessa is given an obvious warning that Hardin is "complicated," but is still drawn to him; completely ignoring that his persona screams, "I have feelings underneath this hardened exterior but I use my daddy issues as an excuse to be disconnected."

Fiennes-Tiffin's character rarely says more than five words at a time in a single sentence.

For someone who loves to read romantic literature but does not believe in love, you would think Hardin could utilize that expansive vocabulary a bit more.

The film speeds through themes and scenes that could have potentially had more depth and development, but just when you think it could maybe pack a punch, "After" continues to only just scratch the surface.

"After" is the kind of mind-numbing and cliche romantic drama I would have lived for at 14 years old, and in fact did. It was originally published back in 2013 as a One Direction fan-fiction on Wattpad, a social storytelling platform.

By 2014, the book and the others that followed it in the "After" series were published to hard copy and sold in stores.

Since then, the novel has racked up over a billion online reads and has become a worldwide phenomenon.

Although the film leaves potential for a follow up sequel, this is not the first time a Wattpad story has been made into a movie, and it most likely will not be the last.

The buzz was all about Netflix's "The Kissing Booth" with Joey King leading the cast just last May, yet originally the storyline came from Beth Reekles who, at just 15 years old, had published the story online in 2013.

If this is the direction the film industry and streaming services are moving toward, we cannot keep wondering why young girls are attracted to the idea of a bad boy, when genres like these only fuel a toxic cycle.

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Commentary

Saying goodbye to Bring Me The Horizon



Jocelyn Arceo

Bring Me The Horizon is a rock band from Sheffield, England that formed in 2004 and has had a heavy presence in the emo and scene subcultures of rock music. Since their formation, they have released one EP and six albums, with their most recent release of "Amo" in January.

Their first three albums consisted of a heavy, metalcore sound with passionate lyrics mixed in. Oliver Sykes, the front man, provided the deep, guttural screams while the other members provided the aggressive, energetic breakdowns. Although not everyone's favorite sound, I fell completely in love when I first discovered them in the sixth grade.

Bring Me The Horizon has been an integral piece of my life growing up. Their lyrics spoke to me as they were one of the few bands I so constantly relied on to express how I felt when more often than not I was unable to. It was more than just teenage angst; it was a struggle with mental illness that only Sykes appeared to be able to put into words.

With lyrics like, "I've said it once, I've said it twice, I've said it a thousand f****** times/That I'm OK, that I'm fine, that it's all just in my mind," from their song "It Never Ends" and, "My skin's smothering me/Help me find a way to breathe," from their single "Sleepwalking," it is hard to argue that the band lacks substance.

Fans began to see a shift in their heavier sound when they released their 2012 album, "Sempiternal." Sykes' usual growls were replaced with more coherent yells, while the band began to play heavily with synth.

The shift was executed appropriately enough to not strip the music of its substance, which worked incredibly well in their favor. Their versatility was duly noted, and their attempts to branch out in another direction turned out to be exactly what they needed to stay relevant.

Although not as heavy as most fans had been used to, it was a fresh change that nobody could argue against because it was still them. It appears that "Sempiternal" had been a step in a different direction, while the album that came after, "That's The Spirit," had been an entire leap.

"That's The Spirit" was different. Some songs, like "Oh No" and "Run," reminded me of the music you would hear on the radio—which is funny enough because one of their first songs I had ever heard play on the actual radio was "Throne," which came from this album.

Having gone through ridicule from my peers over the harsh sound and vocalist that "no one could understand," I felt a tug at my heartstrings realizing that air time could mean only one thing: they would be heading away from their rigid, emotional sound that I attached to my angsty teenage years to a more easy to digest and universally liked production. I welcomed the idea of them receiving the recognition they deserve, their talent is impeccable, but I did not want to think about the changes that would thus result.

Although different, the album was not too far off from their usual sound. Fans could hear the obvious shift, but who they once were still remained and could easily be heard through lyrics like, "And I really wish that you could help/But my head is like a carousel/And I'm going 'round in circles," off of their single, "Drown."

Unfortunately, with their most recent release of "Amo," the band has undergone a complete shift in musical direction, which proved to be an overwhelming disappointment.

Take, for instance, "sugar honey ice & tea" off of the new album, which has lyrics like, "You could tell the Messiah/His pants are on fire, I'll politely decline," or the song, "wonderful life," which features the lyrics, "You got the FOMO coursing through my veins/This is not a drill, no, this is the real world," which just leaves me wondering, what happened?

The lyrics are not the only thing that has had such a crucial change, their new sound gives off an air of a wannabe Linkin Park more than anything else. Drifting from their original metalcore sound may have given them a higher chance at air time, and an invitation to the Grammys, but it has led me to mourn who they once were.

As Bring Me The Horizon says goodbye to the teenage angst that helped me cope for an upwards of 8 years, I am also forced to say goodbye. Maybe my disappointment lies in the fact that I have a reluctance to let go of the angst I have grown comfortable in while refusing to grow up; however, they could have at least kept the same level of substance within their lyrics.

"Amo" may have just been the death of Bring Me The Horizon, and to that I say: *rest in peace.*

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Artist fuses glass and bronze figures

Alondra Campos
Staff Writer

Artist Kelly Akashi brings photography to life through bronze sculptures and glass-blowing.

Los Angeles-based artist Kelly Akashi spoke about the inspiration and techniques behind her art at Claremont Graduate University April 11.

Akashi's art consisted of sculptures that included candles, blown glass and bronze figures that incorporate the elements of fire, air, and time into physical objects.

Akashi bends, forms and twists materials into abstract objects that she uses to depict nature, or photographic images.

"I want to maintain a sense of life among art," Akashi said. "Or better yet, I want to maintain a sense of art among life."

Akashi initially began studying photography and quickly found interest in analog photography, a form of visual arts that uses a progressively changing recording medium.

From there, Akashi created sculptures based on materially engaged photography, where images included a variety of materials formed into untraditional shapes.

She moved onto candle, glass and sculpture making.

During her lecture, Akashi displayed images from her previous art shows located in different galleries.

"Ramen Candle" is the second candle Akashi made while experimenting with the shape and canvas of the candle.

"I wasn't happy how erect the candle was," Akashi said. "The only way I could make a non-erect candle was dipping it, bending it, and forming it. It is a lot of work but that is the only way."

The candle appears to be dripping, as if it were stuck in the middle of the process. The shape of the candle is not precise, which is what gives the melting effect.

Akashi spoke about her sculpture of a coffee table, where she dipped felt in wax and made that the top part of the table. She used a trunk to serve as the base and even placed chewed gum under the felt to make the sculpture appear more realistic.

"If you get on your knees and look under the table, you can see the chewed gum," Akashi said. "It makes it look even more like a coffee table."

Akashi has practice in glass-blowing and creating bronze sculptures of bodily figures, particularly human hands.

She said she strategically uses her bronze sculptures as pedestals for her other art to enhance the visual and metaphorical aspect to her audience.

"I've started to create my own pedestals instead of buying them because I realized they can give so much more meaning to art," Akashi said.

In her art piece "Feel Me," Akashi created an amber colored glass blown oval with a bronze hand that can be seen placed on top of the glass.

The fingers are situated to appear as if the hand is bending the glass while the glass is bent at the end of the fingertips.

By creating texture in the glass and strategically placing the fingers to look as if they move on their own, the art is given a more human aspect.

Gan Uyeda, director of the Francois Ghebaly art gallery, attended Akashi's art lecture and said the lighting Akashi chooses to use within her art is an eye catching detail.

"For the art show she had in our gallery, Kelly had pre-custom lights to give different impressions of her glass art," Uyeda said.

Uyeda said Akashi's approach to lighting was something new for the gallery, and worked out great with her art.

"She is driven by curiosity and is constantly searching for answers to her questions," Uyeda said. "And then she lets those answers guide her to new questions."

Caitlyn Lawler and Madeline Arnault, master of fine arts students at Claremont Graduate University, are the coordinators of the art lecture series.

They said it was interesting how Akashi uses traditional techniques with modern technology.

"She bridges the gap between traditional and new tech," Lawler said. "It's a really great way for her to stay relevant as an artist in today's world."

Arnault said she appreciates the use of unique pedestals in Akashi's work because it provides a different perspective to art.

"Pedestals are viewed as underrated objects," Arnault said. "You think it's just something to put the art on but Akashi proved that it is so much more than that."

Arnault added that Akashi's hand made pedestals add conversation to her artwork as well as elevate the standards of art.

The Claremont Graduate University features various artists within their Peggy Phelps Art Gallery, with new exhibits featured weekly.

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'Supernova' shines light on hidden personality

Natalie Gutierrez
Staff Writer

Claremont Heritage presented "Supernova," an exhibition that featured American folk singer-songwriter and painter, Norma Cecilia Tanega's artwork.

Tanega's exhibition was composed of 36 works of paintings and mixed-media.

The Scripps College alumna's bold and colorful art pieces hung on the white walls of Claremont Heritage's Garner House. Her work spans over the last few decades, with pieces made in the 1970s to her newest piece in the collection that she created in 2010.

As well as geometric lines and shapes, her use of bold colors was a predominant theme in the exhibition.

Nine pieces from "Supernova" were named after prescription drugs, such as Xanax and Paxil. She called these pieces her "Medicine Heads."

Her piece "Prozac," also named after a drug, depicts a woman with piercing eyes and feather-like lashes.

"Norma's paintings provoke a lot of emotions through the colors used," Victor Lozano, Cal Poly Pomona alumnus, said. "Her work makes you feel some type of way."

"My favorite piece is 'Scream Diptych'. I interpreted it as a cry of frustration." Lozano said. "It's very powerful."

Tanega's mixed-media pieces were composed of an old plank of wood, crushed soda cans, and rusty nails. Her final product depicted a boy's face.

"My favorite pieces from the 'Supernova' exhibition are the two mixed-media pieces from 1996 titled 'Found Brother' and 'Found Brother II'," said Sean Stanley, archivist for Claremont Heritage.

"I like the idea of using found objects and discarded items such as scrap metal, wood, and aluminum cans to create something new and unique," Stanley added.

David Shearer, executive director of Claremont Heritage, said Tanega's pieces conveyed various emotions and feelings.

"It's very raw. It's almost kind of naïve," Shearer said.

Tanega's art, a contrast to her introverted personality, seems to be an outlet for her emotions, Shearer said.

Another prominent section of the exhibition were Tanega's paintings of landscapes.

"These remind me of the '60s and '70s, or of David Bowie," Shearer said.

Her landscape paintings are strong, bold images and they seem to be mirroring planets like Earth and Mars, Shearer said.

"She doesn't talk much about her work, so it's difficult to find out what her inspirations are," Shearer said. "She's basically like, 'I just paint.'"

Tanega said the lack of explanation gives the audience the opportunity to interpret her art. Shearer's favorite art piece from the exhibition is Tanega's self-portrait, as it gives one a sense of the artist's personality,

The portrait does not necessarily look like Tanega, but it evokes a sense of the person's soul, he said.

"You can kind of get lost in it without really having to analyze it," Shearer said. "Her use of color and composition draws you in."

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Librarians in famous films



Jaysin Brandt

University of La Verne librarian Donna Bentley discusses Marian the Librarian from the film "The Music Man," her personal favorite, last week in the Wilson Library. Bentley discussed different films and television shows that have famous library scenes, such as "Shawshank Redemption," "The Mummy" and "Buffy the Vampire Slayer."

Water polo swims through CMS, 9-8

Rex Sample
Staff Writer

The women's water polo team came out on top after four quarters of battle, defeating Claremont-Mudd-Scripps in a big 9-8 road win Saturday at the Axelrod Aquatics Center.

The win put the Leopards in a great position heading into the final weeks of Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference games.

The Athenas were the first on the board early in the second quarter.

The Leopards responded with a three-point run to make it 3-1 in the middle of the second quarter.

The game went back and forth for the remaining two and a half quarters, but the Leopards were able to fight off the Athenas through multiple defensive positions.

"The team mentality was to come out strong and play really good defense. Last time we did go into overtime," sophomore attacker Jassmine Kezman said.

Kezman finished the game with a pair of goals, which came off La Verne's penalty shots.

Senior attacker Guarina Garcia led the Leopards on both sides of the pool with three goals and four steals.

"One of the things was finally figuring out, was the goalie was baiting us to shot cross cage, and finding that shot and shooting down the line," Garcia said. "Also producing a lot of ejections and those two penalties for Kezman."

The Leopards' ability to control the ball on offense and prevent the Athenas from going on a two goal switch after a big stop kept the game in the Leopards' paws.

"We played great organized defense and would have a mental lapse to then get blown up," head coach Pat Beemer said. "I think we generated at least half of their goal by really poor defensive rotation, but that's something we can be better at for sure, but the truth is I think we could be plus three or four."

The Leopards converted 50 percent of their 6-on-5 opportunities, which is better than they have been doing in past games, but the team still strives to perform better.

"Our 6-on-5, even though we scored the big one at the end, it wasn't good enough," Beemer said. "I haven't looked at the stats yet, but if it's not 50 percent then it's not good enough."

Ilene Guerrero, junior center, sealed the deal in the fourth quarter for the Leopards by converting two goals.

The last one was the game winner, scored by converting the power play with 1:14 remaining in the game.

"It came down to who had the better defense and who has the catch and shoot mentality," Kezman said.

Kezman leads the conference with 74 goals, 20 more than the second place player, Lexi Rond of Cal Lutheran.

The Leopards traveled to Cal Lutheran on Wednesday, where Garcia led the Leopards with six goals.

But the team fell just short, losing 10-8 after slow starts in both halves.

La Verne now falls to fourth in SCIAC with an 8-5 conference record and 10-13 overall.

The Leopards return for their final conference game of the season against the Occidental Tigers at 11 a.m Saturday at the La Verne Aquatic Center.

The game has postseason implications for La Verne.

The Leopards control their own destiny, so if they beat Occidental, they earn a berth in the four-team SCIAC tournament.

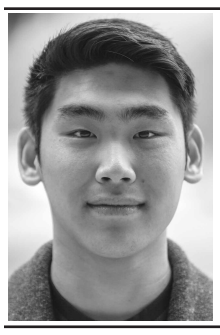
If the Leopards lose, their berth will depend on the results of Claremont's and Redlands' games.

The tournament starts April 26.

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Commentary

New XFL gives players more opportunities



JOEY MATUSZAWA

Vince McMahon, the chairman and CEO of World Wrestling Entertainment, shook the sports world when he announced that the XFL football league would make a dramatic return in 2020.

With the recent crumble of the Alliance of American Football, competition for the NFL is in short supply and the XFL has the opportunity to succeed where the AAF could not. While its first outing was a universally recognized failure, the XFL's return in 2020 could be exactly what the game of football needs.

In 2001, McMahon partnered with NBC to create his league, that would start just weeks after the Super Bowl in February. The XFL was marketed as the more entertaining equivalent to the NFL, or the "No Fun League" as McMahon would coin it, with the XFL emphasizing violence and sex appeal.

The new league set itself apart from the NFL by establishing some rule changes like eliminating the fair-catch during kicks and there would be a "scramble" between a player from each team before the game to decide opening possession. Unfortunately these rule changes led to many injuries. The XFL was very much inspired by the entertainment from wrestling, having the players choose nicknames to wear on their jerseys instead of their last names and every player was to be mic'd up with cameramen present on the field as well as having a camera rig suspended above the field. These decisions were quite innovative at the time, as they lead to the high production that we now see in NFL games.

Unfortunately despite a strong start, the XFL's ratings soon began to nosedive, continuing to drop all the way till the $1,000,000 Championship at the end of the season.

Many viewers tuned in because of the flashy content, with the XFL debut game drawing 54 million viewers, but many soon realized that the low quality of play was simply not good entertainment. It became painfully evident that the XFL cared much more about the entertainment factor of the sport than the actual quality of football play. NBC soon pulled their involvement with the XFL and with no place to broadcast their games, the league was quick to fizzle out.

This time around, McMahon has promised audiences that the new XFL would be without the cheesy gimmicks from before and with more dedication to the sport of football.

"The new XFL will be fan-centric with all the things you like to see with less of the things you don't – and no doubt a lot of innovations along the way," said McMahon in the league's introductory press conference. "We will present a shorter, faster-paced, family-friendly and easier to understand game."

McMahon also announced that the league will be composed of eight teams, 40-man rosters comprising the teams and a postseason with two semifinals and a championship game. The XFL will pay its players through a tiered contract system with four tiers, from a single "franchise-tier-one" contract (ranging from $25,000 to $60,000 per game) all the way down to the fourth tier ($5,000 to $6,000) with 18 slots per team.

The new XFL is coming off the heels of the fleeting AAF, a new recent league that had a bright start but soon folded. The AAF began its short-lived inaugural season Feb. 2019 – just six days after the Super Bowl. Signing big-name ex-NFL stars like Johnny Manziel and Trent Richardson, the AAF looked to be in a good spot.

Similar to the XFL, the AAF also implemented new technological innovations like RFID chips the players would wear, as well as having everyone on the field mic'd up.

On Feb. 18, it was announced that CEO of the NHL's Carolina Hurricanes, Tom Dundon, invested $250,000 into the new league and in the process became the chairman. The management of the AAF very much wanted the AAF to become partners with the NFL eventually, serving as a minor league to the NFL, where players could be sent back and forth in between seasons.

Unfortunately the NFL's Players' Association was ardently against this idea, as because the AAF plays during the NFL's offseason, players would not have time to rest in between seasons if they were moved back and forth.

On April 2, Dundon made the decision to cease all league operations. Players found out about the fold through the internet and social media before coaches could confirm the news and were evicted from the hotels that they were being housed at, having to pay their own way home as well as any other medical expenses as they were not given severance either.

It is worth noting as well that there is speculation that the AAF simply existed as a proof-of-concept test for the gambling software that was implemented into the league's app. With the concept proved and the league running out of money, folding would have been the easiest option for Dundon.

The reason why the XFL can succeed where the AAF could not is because the XFL's whole strategy is opposite to that of the AAF and has the financial backing it needs to succeed.

Where the AAF's founders almost fully relied on Dundon's financial aid – basically giving this Dundon the keys to the castle, the XFL is soundly backed by its chairman AND founder Vince McMahon – a person who truly wants his league to succeed.

The AAF had the long term goal of partnering with the NFL which is something that severely crippled the league. As soon as the NFLPA voiced issues ardent stance against the AAF, everything crumbled.

The XFL is firmly their own league, with no reliance on any other entity other than itself. Not only is it wholly self-reliant, the XFL can also give college players a viable alternative to the NCAA, an organization that is plagued with problems when it comes to athlete compensation.

For college athletes that have the skill to go pro, but are too young for the draft, the XFL could provide the perfect situation, a place to further hone their skills at a professional level and develop a personal brand.

While its first outing was far from a success, the new XFL can provide a great alternative to the NFL and NCAA.

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Leopards split series with Oxy, CMS



Ariel Torres

Sophomore Jiana Rojo pitches against Claremont-Mudd-Scripps in game one Saturday. The Leopards lost both games of the doubleheader against the Athenas, 5-1 and 7-5.

ULV drops to fourth in SCIAC

Nicolette Rojo
Social Media Editor

The softball team powered through Occidental on Friday at Campus West, sweeping the doubleheader 5-0 in game one and 15-3 in game two.

However, the Leopards were tripped up by No. 5 Claremont-Mudd-Scripps in Saturday's doubleheader, losing both games, 5-1 and 7-3.

The Leopards entered the weekend in fourth place with a 13-17 overall record and 9-9 in Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference play.

Sophomore Jiana Rojo got the start in game one and pitched a three-hitter, striking out three in seven innings to pick up her eighth win of the year.

Rojo also credits the consistency on both offense and defense for picking up the victories against the Tigers.

"I think being in and out on defense and then being able to produce runs each inning was very helpful," Rojo said. "Being able to not stay there on defense for so long and producing runs were the keys."

After a 1-2-3 inning for Occidental, the Leopards' offense surged immediately in the bottom of the first inning, when senior right fielder Sienna Kendricks hit a two-run blast to right center to drive in sophomore first baseman Gabriella Underwood.

"It was the beginning of the game, I was just feeling loose and also feeling good from the start of the game," Kendricks said. "We always practice getting those runners in, so my goal was to just hit it hard and it ended up going over."

In the bottom of the second, senior center fielder Carly Condon hit a two-out double to center, setting up for junior shortstop Shelby Tevis, who hit an infield single and beat the throw from senior shortstop Cora Roberts.

The aggressive base running distracted the Tigers as Condon was able to score from second, increasing their lead to 2-0 after two outs.

Condon, who experienced offensive woes throughout the season, credits her recent success on staying loose and remaining calm during the game.

"It's definitely been a struggle for me this season," Condon said. "But I just started letting loose a little more for today, saying 'what ever happens, happens' and I have been spending more time outside of practice working on my swing, building that confidence."

In the bottom of the third inning, Underwood singled to left field and advanced to second after a wild pitch from freshman pitcher Delaney Russell.

Kendricks continued her red hot hitting streak by crushing a double off the right field wall, bringing home Underwood.

The Leopards led, 4-0, after three innings.

Rojo maintained a no-hitter for four and a third innings for the Leopards, until senior first baseman Madison Romero doubled to left center to break up the streak in the top of the fifth.

However, the Leopards got back to back outs by striking out freshman third baseman Drew Samson and jamming junior designated player Cassie Carter with an inside pitch, causing her to ground out to Rojo.

At the bottom of the fifth inning, Occidental gave up another double from Kendricks, her second of the game.

Afterward, junior designated player Katheryn Navarro drew a walk to put Kendricks in scoring position with no outs.

Senior catcher Melissa Garcia reached on a fielder's choice as the Tigers got Kendricks out at third.

With one out, junior third baseman Justice Borden singled to right field to score Navarro from second base, increasing La Verne's lead by one run.

After two shutout innings from both teams, La Verne sealed game one with a final score of 5-0.

Navarro picked up her seventh victory of the season in game two, behind La Verne's surging offense led by Kendricks' two RBIs, one a solo home run, Tevis' three run home run, senior left fielder Rachel Ogata's sacrifice fly, junior center fielder Kayla Giannatasio's RBI single and Underwood's RBI double.

The game was ended by the mercy rule after five innings.

Interim head coach Henry Moranchel credits the team's aggressive base running for their recent success, including the Occidental series.

"We've been working on it, they're just starting to apply it a little bit later in the year," Moranchel said. "We give them a lot of freedom because they worked that all year and now I feel they're getting a little more comfortable in recognizing the situations and being able to go ahead and take advantage of that."

The Saturday losses put the Leopards in a tie with Whittier for fourth place with an overall record of 15-19 and remaining at .500 with at 11-11 in SCIAC play.

CMS continue to hold first place, improving to 27-6 overall and 21-1 in SCIAC, while Occidental remained in seventh place, dropping to 4-29 overall and 3-19 in SCIAC.

La Verne will hit the road to take on Whittier in a doubleheader at noon and 2 p.m. Saturday.

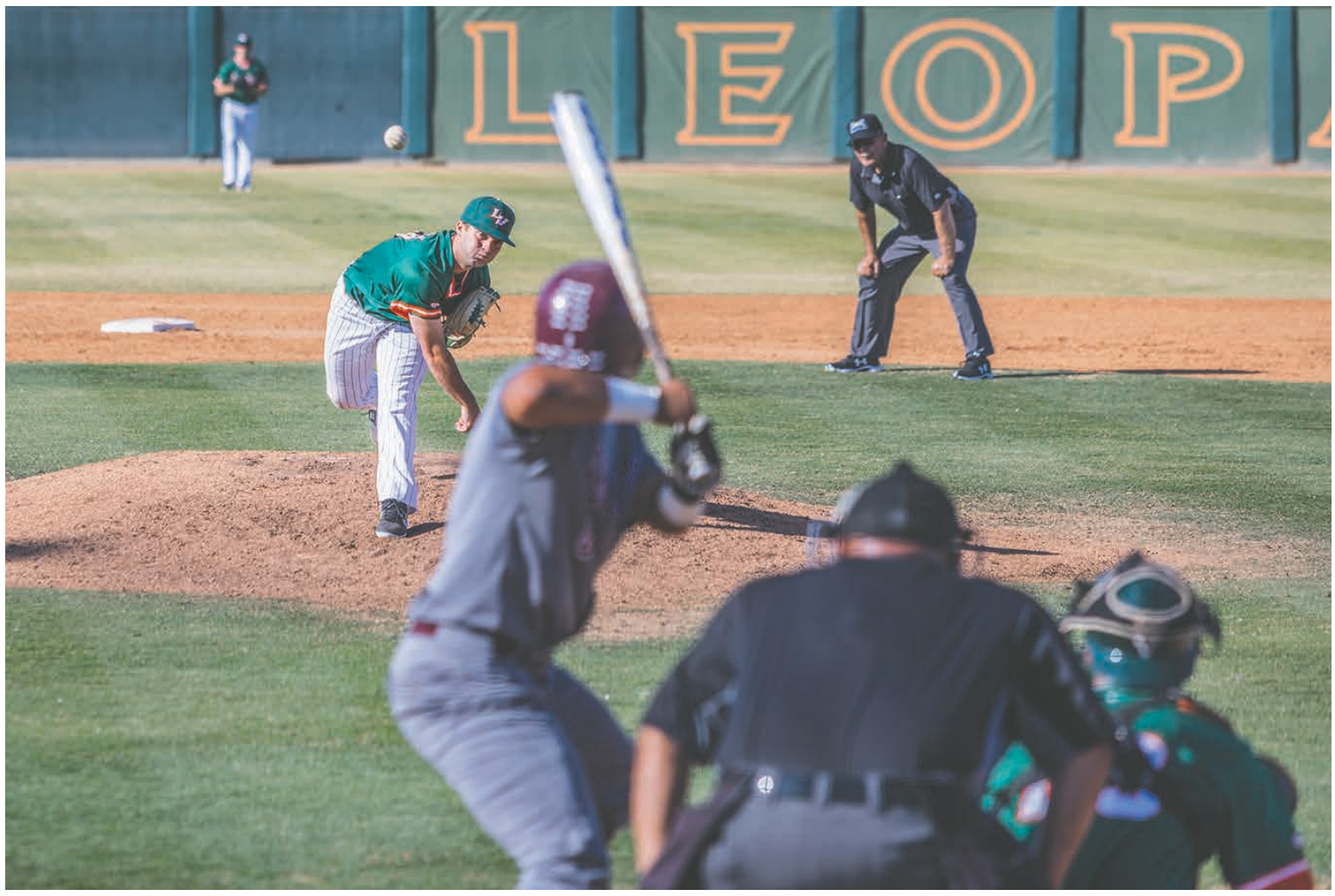
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Baseball cleans up Redlands in sweep

Norman pitches a clinic

Christopher Livingston
Staff Writer



Jaren Cyrus

Junior pitcher Cody Norman strikes out a Redlands batter in the fourth inning Friday at Ben Hines Field. The Leopards won, 8-0.

The Leopard baseball team continued their winning streak in a convincing victory over Redlands, shutting out the Bulldogs 8-0 in a Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference match up at Ben Hines Field on Friday.

The Leopards would go on to win the next two games in their series against the Bulldogs 8-2 and 8-7, completing the sweep and extending their win streak to nine games. The team now improves to 13-3 in SCIAC and 23-8 overall.

The game started out slow for both teams as neither team would register a hit in the first inning.

The slow start ended in favor of the Leopards.

In the second inning, junior catcher Adam Santa Cruz got the ball moving with a double to left center field.

Santa Cruz advanced to third base after a called balk on sophomore pitcher Chris Fousek Jr.

For the second straight week, a call by the umpire prompted the opposing manager to argue the call. The result was the ejection of Redlands head coach Aaron Holley.

With Santa Cruz in scoring position and with no outs, all it took was a sacrifice fly by senior utility player Christopher Peres to advance Santa Cruz to home and give the Leopards their first run of the game.

Redlands finally got their first hit of the game in the third inning with a single, hit by senior infielder Eduardo Martinez-Razo. Redlands could not muster any further offense for the rest of the inning.

Things only got worse for Redlands at the bottom of the third inning when the Leopards offense exploded for five total runs.

Peres, senior left fielder Christopher Ligot, senior center fielder Brandon Vogel, senior second baseman Ryan Galan and freshman first baseman Tanner Siffert all contributed runs for the Leopards in the third inning.

The goal for the Leopards offense was to rattle Fousek's confidence and take him out of the game early.

"I think we all played well as a team, I think we all had the same mentality," Ligot said. "We really wanted to get into the bullpen and get that guy out of there."

The Leopards continued to add to their lead in the fourth inning as junior third baseman Tanner Browning was able to reach home during a Santa Cruz ground out double play.

Ligot added his second RBI of the game by advancing Peres to home on a single to left giving the Leopards an 8-0 lead.

As the Leopards offense began to cool down for the remainder of the game, all eyes focused on junior pitcher Cody Norman who continued to shut down any offensive momentum that Redlands tried to build.

"I was just bearing down and making good pitches when it mattered most," said Norman.

Redlands added a little drama to Norman's complete game shut-out bid as senior first baseman Brendan Moore was able to work his way to third base in the ninth inning.

Peres made a great defensive play late in the game by catching a fly out in right field from Martinez-Razo, then showed incredible arm strength by throwing the ball back into the infield to keep Moore on third base and preventing any runs from being scored.

"I think I helped my team more on defense than on offense," Peres said. "I tracked down some tough balls in the gaps and down the line. I think my energy carried over to help the team win this game."

Norman went the distance pitching all nine innings and allowing zero runs off of nine hits.

"We did a lot of things well today," said head coach Scott Winterburn. "We got a great pitching performance from Norman… we had some really good defense, real good pitching and some timely hitting."

With the series win against Redlands the team completed their second straight sweep against a SCIAC opponent.

Santa Cruz lead the team through the sweep and has proved to be invaluable to the team in the past few weeks. Santa Cruz went 8-13 at the plate in the series, scoring five runs, a home run, a double and racked up six RBI throughout the contest.

Santa Cruz's 41 RBI leads SCIAC, with Peres in second with 38. The junior catcher also ranks third with 47 hits and his .409 batting average.

For his winning efforts, Santa Cruz was awarded the SCIAC Athlete of the Week honors on Monday.

Sitting in a tie for second place with Occidental, with two of their next three series against non-top-four teams – Whittier and Claremont-Mudd-Scripps – the team is in firm control of its postseason destiny.

The Leopards hope to keep their hot streak alive as they hit the road to take on conference foe Occidental in a three-game series starting at 3 p.m. Friday, where the team looks to attain sole possession of second place behind Chapman.

The Leopards' next game is at Occidental at 3 p.m. Friday, followed by a doubleheader at 11 a.m. Saturday at Ben Hines Field.

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