Campus Times

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Sawyer contemplates existentialism

Donya Rouzbehi
Staff Writer



Amore Mason

Dane Sawyer, instructor of philosophy and religion, hosts the Socrates' Cafe on Nov. 13 in the Hanawalt House. He discussed his research in his lecture, "The Buddha and an Atheist on What We Owe Each Other and the Planet."

Philosophy and religion instructor Dane Sawyer discussed "The Buddha and an Atheist on What We Owe Each Other and the Planet" Nov. 13 as the featured speaker in the Socrates' Cafe series sponsored by the department of religion and philosophy.

The talk was based on Sawyer's research on Buddhism and Jean-Paul Sartre, and centered on ethics, morality, existentialism and our place as human beings.

Sawyer considered Buddhist philosophy's similarities with Sartre's writings on existentialism, and their similarities.

"Everything you do impacts everybody, everywhere, all the time," Sawyer said.

He also considered where the philosophies differ.

Buddhists believe everybody suffers due to attachment, craving and ignorance, Sawyer said.

Buddhist philosophy and Sartre's existentialism challenge philosopher David Hume's "is-ought" distinction by making it impossible to separate them in theory and practice, Sawyer said.

Morality is a product of how humans see the earth and each other, and moral cultivation is the development of an appropriate engagement with the planet, he added.

Sawyer references Buddhist claims and explained how humans have greed, hatred and delusion.

He used everyday examples to demonstrate these negative emotions, such as someone cutting you off on the freeway and almost causing an accident.

Although these actions obviously frustrate everyone, it's wrong to expect everyone to act the way we want them to, Sawyer said.

"It's a belief that doesn't actually match up with the way the world really is," Sawyer said, adding that it guarantees disappointment.

Suffering is inevitable and a natural part of life. Buddhism says that resisting suffering will only lead to more suffering.

Suffering is also a moral problem to be dealt with and managed, Sawyer said.

Olivia Serbin, a senior political science major, who attended the event said she thinks people can apply these notions to work better with others with different beliefs.

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Provost shares his career inspirations and role models

Cassidy Diaz
Staff Writer

Provost Ken O'Donnell was this month's speaker in the "What Matters to Me and Why" lecture series Nov. 13 in the Ludwick Center Sacred Space.

Before an audience of around 50, O'Donnell talked about his inspirations for his career and life.

"I'm used to giving presentations about other things, like the work we all need to do, or how the University could do better, or how the students are doing," O'Donnell said.

"It's weird to get up and give a whole speech that's just about yourself."

O'Donnell, who has worked in higher education for 25 years, took the helm as Provost here in June, after serving as vice provost at Cal State Dominguez Hills for almost a decade, and holding faculty and leadership positions at Chapman University previously.

He started his career in the film industry. He said that what mattered to him changed from a focus on a creative career to supporting students and education.

"When I was first getting turned on to (education)... all of a sudden I'm happy because I feel like I'm helpful," O'Donnell said.

O'Donnell said he has been inspired by leaders and intellectuals including Neil deGrasse Tyson, Edward O. Wilson and Simone de Beauvior.

"Here's how de Beauvoir puts it: 'Embrace the limits, embrace the finiteness, and I just love it'," O'Donnell said.

"What it all means, where it's all pointing, what we help each other toward matters to me desperately," O'Donnell added.

Debbie Deacy, director of purchasing and procurement services who attended the lecture, said the talk helped her to know the new provost a little better.

"I really enjoy learning what makes people happy, and what really matters to people on campus because we're a tight-knit community," Deacy said.

The final "What Matters to Me and Why" lecture of the year on Dec. 4 will feature College of Arts and Sciences Dean Shannon Mathews.

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On the Cover

Christopher Cummings, senior English literature major who plays Algernon Moncrieff, and Kyriaki Papadatos, junior English literature major who plays Cecily Cardew, yearn for each other on stage Monday during tech rehearsal for "The Importance of Being Earnest" in Dailey Theatre. The play runs through Sunday. / photo by Mia Byington

Professor shares education journey

Alexander Hernandez
Staff Writer



Kyla Stubbs

Abe Helou, professor of finance, speaks about his educational journey from Lebanon to the United States on Wednesday in the Ludwick Center Sacred Space. His talk was part of International Education Week.

Abe Helou, professor of finance and former college of business dean, shared his journey from living in wartime Lebanon, to beginning an academic career in the United States.

Helou's presentation, "From Beirut to La Verne with Dr. Abe. Helou" took place at 1 p.m. on Wednesday in the Ludwick Center Sacred Space before an audience of roughly 40.

When the Civil War of 1975 broke out in his own backyard, Helou's life was thrown into chaos, as he worked his way toward earning his high school diploma into his college years, during what he called the chaos of Lebanon.

"There were no processes, there were no procedures," Helou said. "People do whatever they want to do, but they get it done. So we moved from organized chaos to hectic chaos."

Helou started college in Lebanon in 1978 at the Lebanese University, majoring in accounting and finance and graduating in 1982.

He persevered during the war.

"We would be in shelters at 5 p.m.," Helou said. "At 6:30, they would stop trailing the area, and by 7 we would pick each other up to have a good night of drinking. Human spirit is unbreakable and we can never really understand our limits as human beings."

As the violence continued in 1982, and with support from his family, Helou applied to Loma Linda University's master of business administration program. He received his I-20 visa September of that year and moved to the U.S. to continue his studies.

"We were 42 kids in front of the U.S. Embassy in Cyprus," Helou said. "And you have to get there at 1 o'clock in the morning. Out of 42 guys, only two of us got their visa."

Helou earned his degree from Loma Linda in 1986 moved on to Arizona State University where he earned his doctorate in finance in 1992.

He also taught at Arizona state, then moved on to another teaching position at William and Mary University, and he finally landed at La Verne in 2003, where he served as associate dean, then later dean of in the College of Business and Public Management until he stepped back into the faculty in 2021.

Helou said his decision to establish himself and his family in La Verne came down to what made him happy.

He offered this advice: "Go for the institution where you feel you are home. Money will come later, but happiness will not. You need to be in a place where you feel comfortable and you're happy."

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Students learn about study abroad

The opening of International Education Week, hosted by the Office of International Services and Study Abroad, was held Monday at Johnson Plaza.

About 15 students attended the event, which included booths that offered information about study abroad programs in Mexico, Japan, Africa and more.

Maribel Rodriguez, director of international services, emphasized how valuable it can be to study in a different country.

"It's about the exchange of ideas and culture and learning that we're all … connected even though we come from different backgrounds," Rodriguez said.

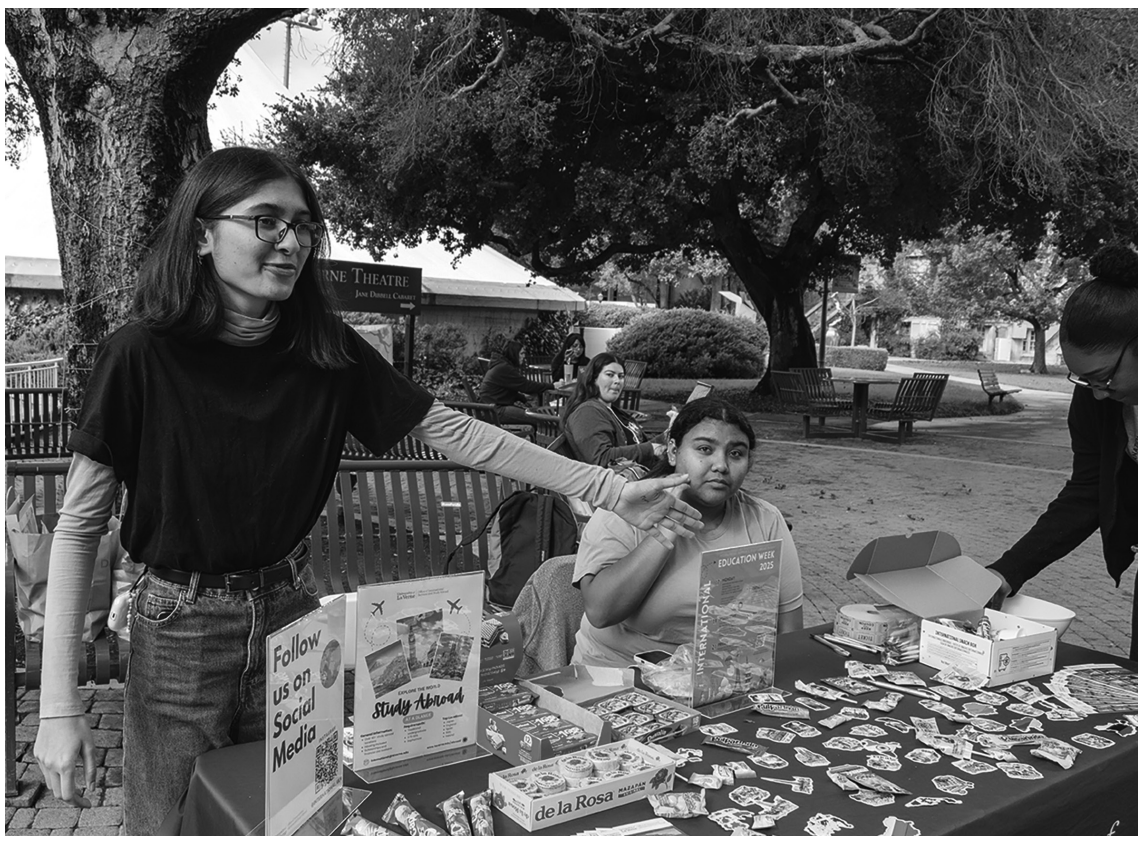
Tobias Brewster, freshman information technology major who attended the event, said he was happy he did.

"I think events like this are important," Brewster said.

Ahmad Tarifi, senior kinesiology major, agreed.

"It's really important to educate people about other cultures."

—Kalayah Frazier



Kyla Stubbs

Gargi Darade, junior computer science major, and Isabella Alonso, freshman international business and language major, direct students to their booth Monday in the Johnson Family Plaza. Their table offered information about the Study Abroad program for the first day of International Education Week, sponsored by the Office of International Services and Study Abroad.

Sawyer...

Continued from page 2

"I think spreading the idea that we are all individuals working together is effective," Serbin said. "Like we all need air to breathe, we all need human interaction to survive. That's an important fact of life."

Savannah Adams, a freshman political science major who attended the event, found Sawyer's lecture to be very relevant today.

"Everything that we do has an effect on everyone else and there doesn't need to be a higher power to test our morality but rather just the suffering that we all have," Adams said.

Some also made a connection to the lecture with the feeling of loneliness many college students everywhere experience.

"A lot of us struggle with feeling isolated even within a close-knit community," said freshman McGuire Lennon who also attended last week's talk. "Recognizing that most of us are on auto-pilot, listening to our music or on our phones while walking on campus, helps us make the effort to engage with others. Creating this sense of community is more beneficial for our mental health, long-term."

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Students dish on holiday traditions

Olivia Russo
LV Life Editor

With Thanksgiving around the corner, many families will gather to feast on the traditional foods. While the existence of the holiday has questionable origins for some, it is an undeniable American tradition.

The classic meal for Thanksgiving includes turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, green beans, cranberry sauce and either a pumpkin or apple pie.

While those are considered the staples of the dinner, some students at the University of La Verne like to put a twist on the classic.

"Usually for the ham, I help over the ham because the turkey I'm a little scared of," Yadhira Flores, junior sociology major, said. "I put some pineapple juice on top and then some cherries, to give it a sweet flavor."

As for the turkey, Flores' family tends to switch up the recipe every year.

"My mom cleans it for sure, and then she ends up putting some seasoning, every year is different," Flores said. "It could be like a lemon pepper seasoning, a cajun seasoning, or mix and match."

The most common way it seems to make the turkey is roasting it.

"Typically we started with letting it marinate the day before," Isabella Laura, senior biology major, said. "Then we marinate it with a lot of butter and rosemary, and we let it sit. We make garlic butter on the side to put on the outside…then we start to put it in the oven for hours, probably for four hours or longer."

Other students mostly share that they partake in the traditional foods set out for Thanksgiving including Emily Mendez, a freshman psychology major.

"We usually eat turkey, ham, biscuits, mac and cheese, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce and stuffing…" Mendez said. "My mom cuts up the ham and then she puts pineapple slices between each cut and then cooks it in the oven."

For most, they are not as involved with the cooking process during the holidays, letting their parents take care of most of the work, especially their moms. Regardless, students always look forward to going home for the food and time spent with their families.

"I just get to show up and eat everything," Andrew Bernal, junior history major, said. "We have pretty much the standards: turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce. I got a really good brisket last year."

Bernal, shared that he does not question how his family makes their food, but knows that it is always something to look forward to.

"It's normally my aunt that prepares the turkey and I don't know what she does, but I trust her," Bernal said.

While most of the time, many families will have both turkey and ham on the table, some just pick one or the other.

"We do the turkey," Samantha Campos, senior psychology major, said. "We used to do ham but we stopped because no one really liked it."

In addition to the classic Thanksgiving meal, some add side dishes inspired by other cultures, like Lola Hills, freshman child development and legal studies major, whose stepmom includes foods that are not as common.

"My stepmom would make either gumbo or jambalaya or red beans and rice," Hills said.

When describing her plate, Hills mixes the traditional American Thanksgiving plate with her own culture.

"I always have honey cornbread," Hills said. "I have a big, fat slice of honey glazed ham, with red beans and rice and cornbread."

On the other hand, senior psychology major, Janine Sevillana, incorporates her Filipino heritage into her meal.

"Usually my aunt or uncle hosts a potluck and they'll do it at their home," Sevillana said. "It's like a potluck, there are some of the traditional foods but they'll also buy lumpia, Filipino barbecue, a type of Filipino noodle like Pancit."

Sevillana said that usually her traditional Thanksgiving dinner includes turkey, ham, mac and cheese and cornbread.

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Expo shares internships



Aaliyah Alamillo

Senior psychology major Ahsha Jones and Tri-City Mental Health program coordinator Michelle Robinson talk to a student about internship programs at Citrus Lawn on Nov. 13 at the Community Partner Expo. The event, highlighting the many outside organizations the University of La Verne partners with, was sponsored by the Office of Civic and Community Engagement.

Commentary

Gatekeeping enhances originality and community



Olivia Russo

Fashion trends come and go, either reflective of a decade gone past or using more modern day concepts to create something entirely new. Currently, there is a rise in fashion from the 1980s, with blazers and military jackets coming back into style. However, there is a new concept that is shaking the fashion world: gatekeeping.

The concept of gatekeeping is not new nor is it exclusive to just fashion, many other circles take part in gatekeeping something about their niche interest. However, gatekeeping comes at a certain cost for social media.

In May, there was a situation that went viral where TikTok influencer Cat Limket shared her experience at a Los Angeles flea market, where a girl would not share where she had gotten her boots from.

She was blasted on the internet for not being a girl's girl or gatekeeping a pair of boots that could be easily shopped online, all because she did not want people copying her.

With this situation, it sparked controversy of how big of a deal gatekeeping is, and what good does it do for the community?

Those who are not in favor of gatekeeping, say it does not promote community and promotes exclusivity which is already a problem in fashion spaces. In a HighSnobriety article titled "Read This Before You Decide to Work in Fashion," writer Eugene Rabkin shares his opinion on gatekeeping.

"(Fashion) nods enthusiastically to demands for inclusivity with token gestures," the article reads. "Fashion's gatekeepers keep the gates tightly shut, promulgating the you-can't-sit-with-us mindset."

Many of the people against gatekeeping think this concept is elitist and reinforces old ideas in fashion that people have to act and dress a certain way to be included in a subculture. Some feel like it can exclude those who genuinely have an interest in the group.

Despite its faults, gatekeeping is not all that bad. With today's trends on social media, there is no self-curation for clothes anymore, but just replicating what someone on TikTok says to wear.

This year alone Kendall Jenner went viral on social media for wearing a $2 Hanes tank top, something people have been wearing for decades. Something people could find on their own while doing a Google search. With trends like this, it is hard to believe others would not want to gatekeep their more interesting items.

The Haute Diary, in the article "Yes, I'm Gatekeeping. No, I'm Not a Hater," shares they will be gatekeeping until further notice for this same reason: no one curates their own clothes anymore.

"Now, discovery is often replaced by consumption," the article said. "Aesthetic has become a fast-moving commodity, not a cultivated expression."

By getting asked where something is, the curator can feel like they are just another trend which will disappear in a few months, when it is truly authentic to who they are.

The trend cycle is already moving faster than it ever has. When an article of clothing gets traction on social media in the winter, it will be called ugly by summer. It is not limited to just clothes, a new water bottle becomes the talk of social media at least once a year.

This movement is mainly due to social media and how easy it is to procure a trendy item. When something gets popular, people will buy it, talk about it incessantly so everyone else will start to get bored.

Suddenly, without much time even in the spotlight, the sweater everyone was rushing to buy is deemed ugly or not worth the price tag. With a cycle as fast as it is moving, some do not want their favorite piece of clothing to turn into a trend that will not even stay until the year is over.

Gatekeeping is here to stay and there are solid reasons that not everyone has to know what everyone is wearing.

Olivia Russo, a senior journalism major, is LV Life editor for the Campus Times. She can be reached by email at ***olivia.russo@laverne.edu***.

Happenings

'Holding Up the Sky'

The Harris Gallery in the Landis Academic Center is hosting the show "Holding up the Sky," until Dec. 4. The exhibit explores the connection between the physical and spiritual worlds. The gallery is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Thursday. For more information, visit **artsci.laverne.edu/art/exhibition/holding-up-the-sky.**

'Light, Shadow, and Legacy'

The Irene Carlson Gallery of Photography in Miller Hall is showing the exhibition "Light, Shadow and Legacy" featuring La Verne photo department alumni, running through Dec. 12. The gallery is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday. For more information, visit **artsci.laverne.edu/photography/exhibition/light-shadow-and-legacy.**

'Studio Focus–COLOR!'

The "Studio Focus–COLOR!" exhibit in the West Gallery features paintings by students in the Painting I class from spring 2025 semester. Works are on display through Dec. 1. The West Gallery, on the second floor of the Abraham Campus Center, is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information visit **artsci.laverne.edu/art/exhibition/studio-focus-color.**

'Alike in Our Differences'

Students from Photo 356 will be hosting their reception to display their work for the semester. The exhibition will include Vicente Rodriguez, Mia Byington, Liberty Garcia, Aaliyah Alamillo, Ronald Banks, Emily Casillas, Antonio Ceniceros, Jesse Juarez, Amore Mason, Joseph Nocero and Kyla Stubbs. Reception will be at 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Nov. 25 at the Miller Hall Ground Floor Gallery.

For more information, email Fred Brashear at **fbrashear@laverne.edu.**

—Campus Times Staff

Satirical play highlights

Double life

by Margaret Contreras

photography by Mia Byington



Kyriaki Papadatos, junior English literature major who plays Cecily Cardew, and Harley Mathews, freshman education major who plays Miss Prim, perform during tech rehearsal for "The Importance of Being Earnest" Monday in Dailey Theatre. Cecily is the woman being courted by the character Algernon.

The theatre arts department is showing "Importance of Being Earnest," by Oscar Wilde, directed by senior theater major Erin Fleming.

Written in 1895, it's a comedy based in the upper class Victorian of England.

The play centers around Jack and Algernon who create alter egos, Earnest and Bunbury, to escape from their social duties. One wanting to escape to the city and the other to the countryside.

The play follows Earnest, or Jack, in a self discovery and his double life. It also follows Algernon and Jack comedic deceit to their lovers; Gwendolen Fairfax and Cecily Cardew.

"I really wanted to do a comedy," said senior theater major and director Erin Fleming. "I felt like there was no better playwright than Oscar Wilde to do that. And I thought it would be fun to try to get his words connected to a modern audience through physicality."

Monday night was the first dress rehearsal for the production. The chemistry between the actors and their characters were palpable.

"We didn't really solidify who the characters were, right until we started getting it up on our feet and interacting with each other," Hailey Garcia, junior creative writing and who plays Gwendolen Fairfax, said.

Jack Worthington is the main protagonist leading a double life as Earnest. The secondary character is Algernon Moncrieff.

"I think one of my biggest fears coming into it as director was missing jokes," Fleming said. "I think, as a director, I have to remember that the audience is going to find different things, humorous or funny.

Fleming has added her own twist in the production with choreography that shows the emotions and frustrations of the characters. Which also added to the comedy of the written play.

> 'I feel like every one of these characters has their own sense of humor.'
> *– Erin Fleming, senior theater major and director*

"The moment we started doing the blocking, it was easier to see how these dynamics were formed," Nick Onalfo, freshman business administration who plays Jack Worthington/Earnest, said.

The first act had the introduction of three of the four main characters; Jack/Earnest, Algernon and Gwendolen.

The show has a total of two intermissions, where the character and the stage change. In the intermission there are small comedic acts played by the two servant characters that appear sporadically in the play.

"I feel like every one of these characters has their own sense of humor," Fleming said. "I wanted to have, like, moments where they could shine. And I also just love doing fight choreography."

The first act takes place in the home of Algernon. The second act was in the gardens in the home of Jack and the final act was inside his home.

The stage had a shadow box upstage to help with the ambiance of feeling either inside or outside. Placed throughout the stage were the props and furniture to help enhance the setting.

"I think the first time is definitely more jittery, and when we get that out of our system, it's like, okay, it's up from here," Christopher Cummings, senior English literature who plays Algernon Moncrieff, said. "Our worst is still pretty good, and there's something that's comforting in that idea. And I trust in our cast, and I know our chemistry together works well on stage, and it creates a welcoming environment…comedy in general is inviting an audience to let them know it's good to laugh, or to set the environment."

The show opened Thursday and runs through Sunday. Performances will be at 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday with matinees at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, in the Dailey Theater.

Admission ranges from $7 to $13.

For tickets, visit **eventbrite.com**.

Margaret Contreras can be reached at ***margaret.contreras@laverne.edu.***

Prose reading shares vulnerability

Olivia Russo
LV Life Editor



Ronald Banks

Sophomore creative writing major JJ Wilson, senior psychology major Adonis Borer,senior creative writing major Janira Hernandez and senior creative writing major Arely Hernandez answer audience questions after their readings during the second Student Prose Reading of the Fall 2025 semester Wednesday at the Ludwick Center Sacred Space.

Arely Hernandez, JJ Wilson, Adonis Borer and Janira Hernandez shared their works at the final creative writing prose reading Wednesday in the Ludwick Center Sacred Space.

Each of the stories continued the trend of the previous readings, focusing on political messaging or baring their souls in their projects.

Arely Hernandez, senior creative writing major, served as both a moderator and presenter, both introducing the students as well as sharing her own pieces.

She started the reading with two flash pieces, a form of short story. Hernandez started with "Crimson Figures," a story commentating on how true crime podcasts glamorize brutal murders for content.

"It was a piece of her that didn't belong to her anymore," Arely Hernandez read. "She sobbed to herself as the bloody water ran down the bathroom. He agreed with the Satanic worship theory. Police never confirmed anything."

The next presenter, JJ Wilson, sophomore creative writing major, rewrote a version of The Three Little Pigs for her class, titled "The Pigs and the Wolf." This story was a chilling tale of how love can bring out the worst in someone, as even the nicest of people have the ability to change.

"Why don't you love me," Wilson read. "I'm so gentle with you, so why aren't you with me?', the wolf asks. Its voice strained and hurt while continuing to try and eat the second pig."

When discussing her inspiration behind the story, she was drawn to The Three Little Pigs because of how other students would not use it for their stories.

"I had to write a fairy tale for my class and I chose the little pigs because no one is writing about the little pigs," Wilson said. "I decided to make it inspired by cannibalism as a metaphor for love, but not cannibalism because he's a wolf and their pigs."

Adonis Borer, senior psychology major, was the third presenter who shared three pieces: two poems and one non fiction piece, all of which have been published.

The first poem was titled "Pirkei avot 2:21," a piece that covers the inner struggle Borer feels while practicing Judaism and reflecting on the rage he feels when seeing the genocide occurring in Gaza.

"My ancestors were martyred with their lips upturned to God," Borer read. "There are times I wished to join them."

The nonfiction prose piece, "Notes to Hillel," Borer's first international publication, shares the same intent, balancing the issue of practicing faith with standing up for what is right.

The second poem, "Train stations are transitory," which takes place during the train ride Borer takes when visiting his girlfriend. When asked about the positives and negatives of discussing both political and personal matters, Borer said everything in some sense, is political.

"For me, I am of the belief that kind of anything, everywhere, all the time is inherently political," Borer said. "I think especially art is political, and for some people, art is supposed to be political, and that's what I feel with my work."

The final reading fwas from Janira Hernandez, a senior creative writing major, who was inspired by her own experiences since high school.

She read a series of flashpieces from her work "Mask," which included "Hiding," "Growing Pains," "Stomach Aches," "Steps for Losing" and "Solitude."

Her pieces cover themes of self-discovery, self-worth and grief over a loved one.

"Just forcing myself to be open," she said. "I think that's a difficulty I have while doing my work, especially when writing the more vulnerable pieces."

The reading ended with a question and answer period, where those in attendance and Sean Bernard, creative writing professor, discussed specifics about their work and process.

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Commentary

Music is A-Changing



MARINA BRAVO

At 7:48 p.m. on Nov. 4, before polls closed, New York City mayor candidate Zohran Mamdani released a video on social media platforms like Instagram and X titled, "New York is A-Changing," which featured the song "The Times They Are A-Changing" by music icon Bob Dylan.

His whole campaign for mayor was centered around being the start of a "New Era for NYC."

In his video campaigns and advertisements, he was spreading the word of the change that was going to soon hit New York City. The campaign was a glimpse that soon things would be brighter.

That he would bring change and a positive one. He wants to create a city where everyone has the right to achieve the American Dream.

This song by Dylan was a prolific piece of its time that is to be considered one of the anthems of the Civil Rights Movement with its release in 1964.

This song challenges the listener to "start swimmin'" because the times around us are changing. It is a song that is relevant today just as much as it was back in the 1960s.

Dylan didn't necessarily consider himself a protest singer, but it goes without saying that many of his most powerful songs are songs of protest.

Mamdani having this song in his campaign was an alert to others that New York was on an unavoidable change that was on the rise.

Mamdani is the newly elected mayor of New York City. He is a democratic socialist and is the first ever Muslim mayor elected by the city. At only 34 years old, he dominated and won the hearts of many.

Among all of the hatred in the world and amongst conservative peers he has become a refreshing face and a beacon for hope.

By Nov. 5, the ad was removed from X and all platforms were replaced by a statement stating that the video was disabled by the copyright holder across all platforms.

Universal Music Publishing Group (UMPG) released a statement saying that the song by Dylan was not approved for the ad. That no Bob Dylan song should have any political intent with its use.

Dylan was a protestor of his time through his lyricism. He encouraged people to think about the world around them and reflect on the issues that affected their communities.

The removal of "The Times They Are A-Changing" from Mamdani's campaign ad for it being too political is shocking especially due to the origin of the song.

A song that is meant to wake people up and alert them that there is change on the rise is apparently not political. The song that shouted to writers, politicians and people everywhere to wake up–is not political.

Dylan sold his songwritings to UMPG back in 2020 for more than $300 million.

Dylan is not one to have a public appearance, he leads a very private life. So, a response coming directly from him is very unlikely.

The quick removal of this song is something to think about and to challenge. Especially with the White House's official TikTok account constantly using music to ridicule and mock immigrants.

Taylor Swift's new song, "The Fate of Ophelia" was used in a video made by the White House TikTok account on Nov. 2 and still the song and video are both on the page.

Olivia Rodrigo also had her song "all-american bitch" used but she had requested for it to be removed immediately.

Both artists release music under the UMPG and have the ability to remove their music from anything they don't agree with.

The decision however in Dylan's case came from the UMPG itself. Another artist in the same situation is Bruce Springsteen, who sold his music for $500 million to Sony Music.

"Born in the U.S.A." by Springsteen was an anthem for Trump in his 2016 campaign. It looks like times are a-changing because Mamdani was silenced but that never stopped the people from singing along.

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La Verne loses to Schreiner, 89-86

Karina Rodriguez
Sports Editor

The La Verne Leopards lost to the Schreiner Mountaineers, 89-86, Nov. 14 at Frantz Athletic Court.

Head coach Richard Reed takes credit for La Verne's mishaps during the game.

"We've been working on communication, defense, situational switching and moving the ball on offense," Reed said. "We're not doing a very good job of that and that starts with me as head coach."

Reed also said that the Leopards have a tough schedule ahead for them this season.

"There is no one on our schedule that is weak … this is exposing the things we need to work on to have a successful season in conference," Reed said.

The first half started off slow for the Leopards with the Mountaineers gaining six points quickly in the first minutes of the game.

Junior forward guard Kason White helped La Verne gain its first points with a successful layup and free throw to bring the score up to 6-3.

"If anything, my teammates did a really good job hitting me when I was open," White said.

Both La Verne and Scheiner gained points to come to a tie of 8-8 at 17:07. A successful three point shot by senior guard Carlos Bedolla gave the Leopards the advantage of 11-10.

Both teams came to a tie of 12-12 at 13:39 of the first period.

After Schreiner pulled ahead again, La Verne caught up at 09:57, with a tie of 19-19.

La Verne took the lead with 22-19 before Schreiner caught up, bringing the score to a tie of 22-22.

The next several minutes both teams found themselves going back and forth with La Verne gaining a slim advantage of one point, 26-25, at 06:45.

At 01:18, La Verne junior shooting guard Jackson Gray had two successful extra point shots, bringing the score to 33-32 for the Mountaineers.

"I thought I shot the ball well and did some good things on the offensive end and just got to clean it up on the defensive end," Gray said. "This game, it was a lot of working off of pick and rolls and they were getting easy buckets that way."

The Mountaineers led at halftime, 38-35.

Early into the second quarter La Verne fell behind, 42-38, at 19:53. A successful three-point shot made by White helped narrow the gap, bringing the score to 42-41.

La Verne soon after gained a three point advantage, 46-43 at 17:13, with Schreiner taking the advantage of 49-46 less than a minute after.

Both teams went back and forth with Schreiner widening the gap, 54-49, at 15:25.

La Verne narrowed the gap through successful points brought in by White and Bedolla. However, La Verne still fell behind and only gained the advantage at 08:49 of the second quarter. Junior point guard James Christian narrowed the gap, bringing the score to 70-69 at 08:23.

"I wasn't being super aggressive, slow on reads and not making extra passes," Christian said.

Throughout the rest of the game La Verne failed to gain the advantage against Schreiner.

La Verne severely fell behind Schreiner at the end of the second quarter with a score of 87-79 at 01:10. Both teams found themselves going back and forth to end the game with a loss for the Leopards, 89-86.

The Leopards are 1-3 overall. They will play Lewis and Clark at 5 p.m. Friday at Frantz Athletic Court.

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Rylee Fournier

La Verne sophomore guard Higgy Katoa jumps high to save the possession, sending the ball back toward a teammate in the game against Schreiner on Nov. 14 at Frantz Athletic Court. The Leopards lost a tight game to the Mountaineers, 89-86. They will host Lewis and Clark on Friday.

Leopards trail behind Banana Slugs, 77-67

Miguel Navarro
Staff Writer

The La Verne Leopards lost, 77-61, to the UC Santa Cruz Banana Slugs on Saturday at Frantz Athletic Court.

The Leopards are coming off back-to-back Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic conference Championships and entered play with a 1-1 record.

"We're gonna talk about the idea that we have the energy, so now we just have to put our focus on some specific areas," head coach Anthony Mason said. "We're right there to turn that corner and make this go our way."

From the start of the game, both sides brought intensity to their offensive and defensive efforts.

Early on, Santa Cruz took advantage of costly turnovers from La Verne, which led to easy fast-break points. This momentum fueled their fast-paced play on offense as they scored quickly on their possessions.

After the first quarter, La Verne trailed, 28-14, allowing UC Santa Cruz to shoot over 60 percent from the field and over 50 percent from three.

Throughout the game, La Verne struggled to secure rebounds, allowing Santa Cruz to create more chances on offense.

La Verne was outrebounded, 37-28.

"We have got to look at our boxing out and our rebounding more," Mason said. "We need to really look at attacking those things and how we can own the boards a little better."

The game shifted into the second quarter, and the Leopards came out in a full-court press to put pressure on Santa Cruz.

As a result, the Leopards forced six turnovers and kept the game close. In the quarter, the Leopards struggled from the field, only shooting 30 percent and failing to sink a three-point shot in five attempts.

"Just continue working on our shot making, we are getting some good looks," Mason said. "We have confidence that we're good shooters, so they're going to start to fall."

Going into the second half, the Leopards found a new sense of energy, cutting into the deficit. The Leopards used substitutions, allowing their bench to give the Santa Cruz defense different looks.

The Leopards cut the lead down to single digits, 41-32, for the first time since the first quarter.

A key catalyst for the comeback was junior guard Bella Musolff, who continued to get her teammates involved, finishing with three assists in the game.

"We're still finding out how we can all trust each other and work together," Musolff said. "When you have a confident point guard or just someone that's leading the team that really sets the tone."

Entering the fourth quarter, the Leopards' comeback attempts were short-lived as Santa Cruz began to separate themselves on the scoreboard.

After allowing an 8-0 run, the Leopards trailed by 23, which was their largest deficit of the game.

As the time wound down, the Leopards were handed their second loss of the season, 77-61.

"We're not executing, and that's really it," sophomore guard Jasmine Prajitno said. "We have one or two good possessions and then it'll go bad, so it's also a consistent thing."

Others used the game to find positive takeaways.

"I think we're gonna be great this year," junior guard Kaylee Shimoda said. "Right now we're on a low, but we're going to pick it up for Monday's game and the rest of the games during conference."

The Leopards faced Mary-Hardin Baylor at home Monday, losing, 78-65.

The Leopards are currently 1-3 overall. They will play Nelson at 2 p.m. Saturday at Frantz Athletic Court.

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La Verne advances in NCAA Regionals

Rubbie Chavez
Staff Writer

The women's volleyball team opened the NCAA Regionals with a dominant 3-1 win over Penn State-Behrend in the first round Thursday in Baltimore.

The Leopards' postseason trek began in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament, where they swept Redlands in their first match, 3-0, after an intense match Nov. 13 at Frantz Athletic Court.

They lost Saturday's tournament final, 3-2, to Claremont-Mudd-Scipps, who also got a bid to the NCAA Regionals.

Assistant coach Randi Taylor-Toomay was excited about the Redlands win and was proud of the way the Leopards played against the team that handed them their only regular season loss this year.

"Our girls came in really focused and ready to outwork them, and they did that tonight," Taylor-Toomay said.

"They learned their lesson from versing them a few weeks ago and really came out hungry tonight to win."

The first set of the game started off strong for the Leopards. They kept a high consistent pace with constant kills against the Bulldogs.

The Leopards set the stage for this set making sure the Bulldogs weren't getting the ball to the other side of the court.

Offense also capitalized on the defensive momentum with long rally wins against the Bulldogs.

The Leopards won the first set, 25-11.

"This was a revenge game for us," Alanna Jones, junior opposite, said. "We did amazing sticking to our game plan and being strong and attacking hard."

Jones had six kills against the Bulldogs.

The second set of the game was a head-to-head match.

The Leopards tried to keep a gap against the Bulldogs but weren't able to.

The Bulldogs capitalized on winning long rallies against the Leopards but fell short toward the end.

La Verne won the set, 25-23.

"It was definitely a good comeback from last game," sophomore right side hitter Isabella Emanuele said. "It was so exciting to watch everyone have so much fun and win."

The third set had long rallies between the two teams but the Leopards proved successful against Redlands.

"I feel really excited and just determined to keep going and not letting nobody stop us," senior outside hitter Mya Ray said. "I feel like we've built so much chemistry and bond, so I'm ready to just keep going."

Ray led the game in kills for both sides, totaling 16 against the Bulldogs.

Set three was closer to ending as the score was 24-17.

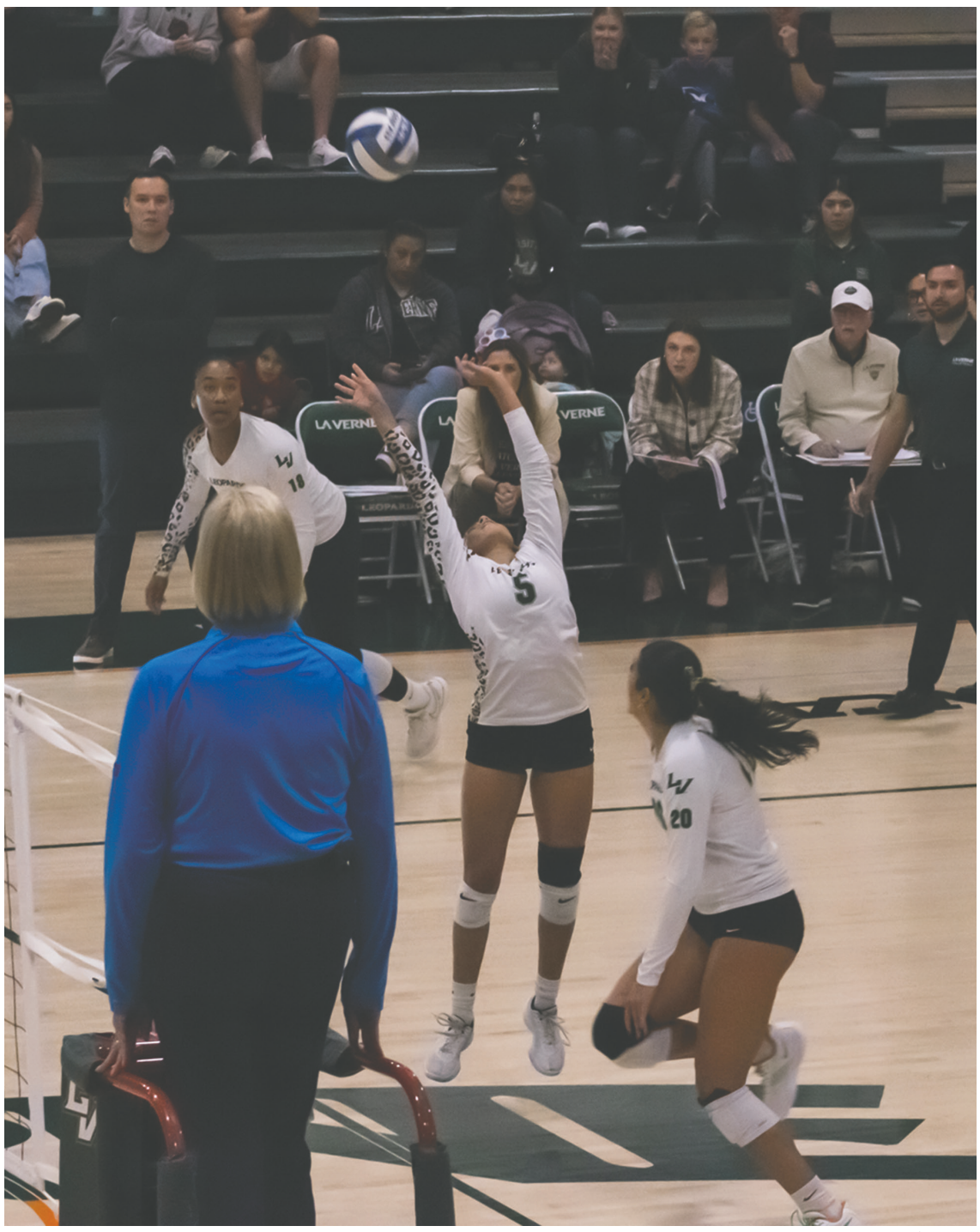
The last rally was long with the Bulldogs determined to catch up and not let the Leopards win.

Their comeback fell short when junior Abigail Montana got the ball over the net to give the Leopards the victory, 25-17.

"I thought it was a great game for us and we played really well tonight," head coach Jeff Hendershot said. "We had a lot of crazy rallies that we hung in there with, which was really exciting and fun."

In their opening match at Regionals, the Leopards faced a 22-7 Penn State-Behrend team.

The Lions took a tight back-and-forth battle in the first set, 25-22.



Joseph Nocero

Vanessa Marquez, senior setter, sets the ball for her teammates Abigail Montana, junior opposite, and Mariah Ray, sophomore middle blocker, against the Redlands Bulldogs on Nov. 13 at Frantz Athletic Court. Marquez led the Leopards with 18 assists.

But the Leopards came roaring back to sweep the next three sets, all by margins of at least 20 points.

"We'll show up, we're ready to go, and we're going to worry about our side of the net and make sure we play good, clean volleyball," Hendershot said.

Next up for La Verne will be at St. John Fisher at 1:30 p.m. Friday. The game can be streamed at leopardathletics.com.

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Leopards remain scoreless in final game, 5-0

Karina Rodriguez
Sports Editor

The La Verne Leopards lost to the Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Stags, 5-0, in the pouring rain Saturday on Zinda Field at the Claremont Colleges.

Despite a flash flood warning, the game continued on, but this resulted in a muddy playing field as Zinda Field is a grass field, not turf.

Head coach Richard Sanchez had mixed feelings on the game.

"I'm proud of our guys and their efforts but effort without success is still failure," he said.

Sanchez said that while La Verne only had one conference victory against Pomona-Pitzer, he believes the team has changed in comparison to previous years.

"This is a different team even though results didn't show that, but they will in the future," Sanchez said.

"Our culture has changed and the tide is a little bit closer in terms of toughness, intelligence, discipline and effort."

During the first quarter, senior linebacker Jonathan Scott successfully blocked junior running back Cooper Nixon and sophomore running back Jake Son of CMS to prevent the Stags from advancing.

"I filled the gaps, ran to the ball, found the ball and did my job," Scott said "I gave it my all, 110%."

In La Verne's first possession of the second quarter, at first and 10, junior running back Tyler McCown rushed for three yards. McCown then rushed once again but gained zero yards to eventually lose a yard in the following play.

After several similar series on both sides, the first half ended scoreless.

Junior wide receiver Jimmy Rumsey caught the third quarter kickoff from CMS sophomore kicker Dylan Sherman and returned the ball 12 yards.

"I secured the ball whenever I had the ball and I wasn't letting them taking it out," Rumsey said.

With 5:31 on the clock, Claremont-Mudd-Scripps senior kicker Samuel Brewer hit a field goal for the first score of the game, putting the Stags up, 3-0.

With the third quarter wrapping up, La Verne junior defensive back Jomar Brown recovered a fumbled ball from CMS to return it 32 yards.

"I just saw the ball on the ground and I picked it up and I just saw green grass," Brown said.

The fourth quarter remained scoreless until the last minutes. With 1:57 to go in the game, CMS scored a safety to bring the final score to 5-0.

"It's a little sad, playing with some of my senior friends and the outcome wasn't what we wanted," Rumsey said.

The Leopards ended their season with a record of 1-8 overall and 1-7 in the Southern California Intercollegiate Conference.

Their only win came against Pomona-Pitzer, 26-8, on Oct. 25.

Brown said he now will shift his focus on becoming better in the offseason.

"I just want to continue to elevate myself, God willing," Brown said.

"It starts in the weight room and work even harder for the upcoming fall."

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> 'I'm proud of our guys and their efforts but effort without success is still failure.'
> *—Richard Sanchez, head coach*