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# The Panther

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## LET'S TALK ABOUT LOVE, BABY



**Special Issue**

**Pages 5-9**





# Upcoming conservative speaker draws criticism from black students

Lou Vanhecke | News Editor

Larry Elder, a prominent conservative lawyer, professor and talk show host, is set to speak at a Feb. 12 event on socialism and Donald Trump's presidency, hosted by the Chapman Republicans.

Thomas Roche, the club's president, told The Panther that Elder's presence will assist in the "conservative voice being heard" on Chapman's campus.

"Our club has a variety of brands of conservatism, but we think that Mr. Elder really conveys where we're at on the issues," Roche said.

Elder's visit has stirred controversy among some students.

Troy Allen, president of Chapman's Black Student Union, told The Panther that she finds the choice to bring Elder, who is black, to campus during Black History Month "disrespectful," adding that unlike political clubs on campus, BSU was not invited to the event, which Roche confirmed.

"I have to give credit where it's due, and I don't want to accuse Chapman Republicans of bringing him here with malcontent, but that in itself is a metaphor for a greater mentality," Allen said. "There are so few black students here at Chapman; it's hard to conceptualize what your black peers are going through if you don't ask them."

Stephen Ragsdale, the vice president of Chapman Republicans, said that although the club has invited other political groups on campus to the event, the aim of the event "isn't really to create a bridge."

"If that happens, then great," Ragsdale said. "It's more just to get

an experienced person to do a good job of articulating our values."

Roche, when asked about the timing of the event, said its scheduling during Black History Month was coincidental, but that it's a "great time" for Elder to be on campus.

"Mr. Elder is a very successful person," Roche said. "What a great time for him to come to Chapman, he should be welcomed here any day of the week, any month of the year."

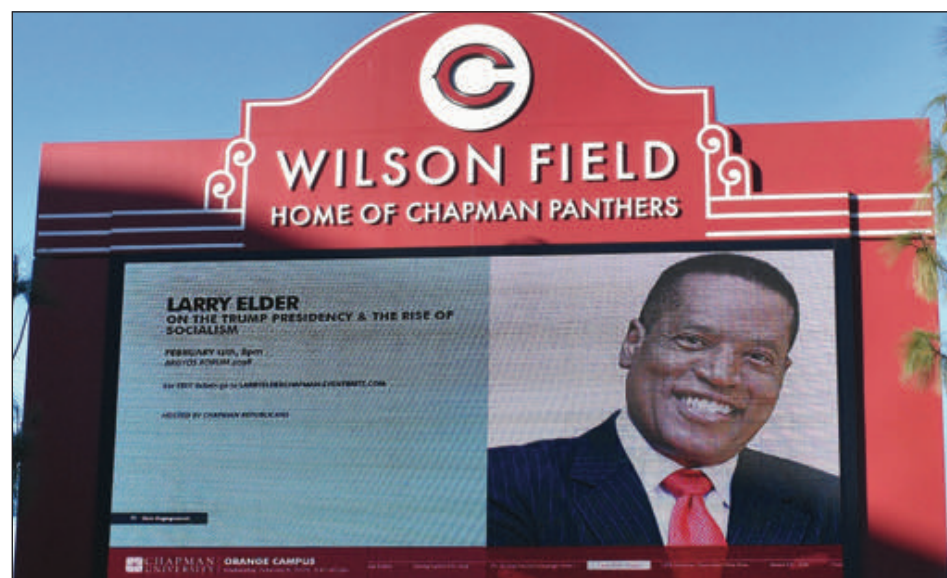
But to Allen, Elder's invitation from Chapman Republicans is "ironic."

"How can you say what's good for the black community when you're not black?" she said.

In 2001, ABC News quoted Elder, an often controversial figure, as saying that the consequences of racism should be treated as a "personal responsibility." After rejoining the radio team at KABC Orange County in 2011, Elder became known as a

“  
**How can you say  
 what's good for the  
 black community  
 when you're not  
 black?**

”  
**- Troy Allen,  
 Black Student Union  
 president**



GABRIELLA ANDERSON Staff Photographer

Larry Elder, a prominent conservative speaker, is set to visit Chapman's campus Feb. 12, a timing that some Chapman students think is "disrespectful" due to Black History Month.

commentator on both national and local politics, establishing himself as a critic of then-President Barack Obama and other prominent Democrats.

Elder was fired from KABC in 2014 for unspecified reasons and said in a 2016 interview with YouTube channel The Rubin Report that he believes people assume racism "remains a major problem in America."

Some members of other political clubs on campus are planning to attend the event, with three tickets allotted to the Chapman Democrats.

Alexis Sutterman, president of Chapman Democrats, told The Panther that she is "happy and grateful" that Elder is coming to campus, but

hopes the event will foster political discussion.

"I hope they leave a lot of time for a Q&A," Sutterman said. "It would frustrate me if it is going to be a room of conservatives. I would like it to be a forum of discussion, not an echo-chamber."

The event has sold 55 tickets online and is sold out, according to the Chapman Republicans Facebook page. Its audience will consist of GOP club members, other students and unspecified VIP guests, Roche said.

Elder will speak Argosy Forum 209B on Feb. 12 at 8 p.m. Follow The Panther as we continue to report on the event.

## In 43rd year, Black History Month marks celebration of #blackexcellence

*The term 'black excellence' has spiked in popularity on social media in recent years. Here's how it factors into Black History Month.*

Dayna Li | Staff Writer

Senior Arianna Ngnomire stood confidently on the Argosy Forum stage and with little hesitation, began reading poetry to a crowd of around 20 students Feb. 4.

"Racism is no longer colored fountains or whites only; racism is killing a black boy walking home, then collectively saying 'Oh well,'" Ngnomire, vice president of student government, read. "To be part of a species is to say my blackness is unintelligent, addicting, ratchet, pregnant, dropout, addicting, animal, lock him up, lock her up, a justified death sentence, a celebrated death sentence, a forgotten death sentence."

The event kicked off Black History Month at Chapman, which was officially recognized in the U.S. in 1976. It marks a month of acknowledgment and celebration of the black community. Established as "Negro History Week" in the 1920s, Black History Month has evolved into the recognition of "the importance of Black history in the drama of the American story," according to



Photos by CASSIDY KEOLA Photo Editor

In 2018, the term "black excellence" reached an all-time high in Google searches. For many, the term has come to be synonymous with a celebration of accomplishment and success in the black community.

the Library of Congress's website dedicated to Black History Month.

"Black History Month is the month of black excellence," Ngnomire told The Panther. "It's about what we have done historically around the world to make sure our history isn't being erased."

The event was meant to show how the students have shown their excellence during the year.

Describing black excellence as a "celebration of accomplishment," Black History Month is something Ngnomire sees as crucial, because for some time, the accomplishments of black people and communities were

not celebrated.

The hashtag #blackexcellence has been used almost 4 million times on Instagram. A video of black STEM students in Virginia rapping about their academic accomplishments went viral in 2016. The term "black excellence" reached an all-time high in Google searches in February 2018, and has come to be associated with typically young, black people, achieving recognition or success.

"Black History Month is to uplift black people in this country and make them feel heard," said Lucile Henderson, BSU's secretary. "For all of history and still today, we don't feel

like we belong."

To celebrate Black History Month, Chapman's Cross-Cultural Center will host a film screening of "13th," a documentary about the prolonged and often disproportionate impacts of the prison system on black youth. On Feb. 21, BSU will host its first talent showcase in Memorial Hall.

"All the black students are invited to showcase whatever they are good at," Henderson said. "It's really to give a platform for the black students to shine."

Chapman's "I Am Chapman" portrait gallery in the hallways of Argosy Forum, designed to give exposure to underrepresented groups on campus, has shifted its focus to black students.

When Ngnomire applied to Chapman four years ago, she remembers writing about the wall in one of her application essays. Now, she's featured.

"I was extremely excited to be showcased on the wall," she said. "I hope in the future, more black students can be showcased throughout the year, not just during Black History Month."

Jerry Price, dean of students, told The Panther that Chapman aims to affirm students' identities.

"I hope that our programs during Black History Month will help us do that," Price said. "We don't want to fall into the trap of doing things just for Black History Month and waiting until next year."



# New dorm set to open in time for fall 2019 living requirement

Carolina Valencia | Staff Writer

Chapman's Villa Park Orchard Residence Hall is set to open this summer, just in time for the first-ever sophomore class that will be required to live in on-campus housing.

In 2017, administrators announced that all underclassmen would be required to live on campus by 2019, a feat that required the construction of additional dorms. With the completion of the new residence hall, which is steps away from Chapman's Dodge College of Film and Media Arts, Chapman will house 60 percent of its students on campus, President Daniele Struppa told *The Panther* in 2017.

Despite the convenience of the new dorm, not all students are behind the idea of compulsory campus housing.

"We should have options if we want to live in a house off campus or live in apartments," said Valentine Riffel, a freshman broadcast journalism major. "It could be cheaper, but we have to live on campus and have to pay for a meal plan."

The new policy also aims to ease tensions with Orange residents.

"The city has been concerned about increasing the presence of our students in the city," Struppa said. "I think that this will allow our students to have access to incredibly high-quality facilities and at the same time, not being in the position of creating conflicts with the residents."

For those who study film and media arts, the new building could prove to be convenient.

"It will be a great option for Dodge



JACK CLENDENING Staff Photographer

The Villa Park Orchard Residence Hall, located adjacent to the Dodge College of Film and Media Arts, is set to open summer 2019 and will offer housing for approximately 400 students, helping the university enforce its mandate for all underclassmen to live in on-campus housing.

students who don't want to walk 15 minutes to and from the current dorms, especially since after our freshman year, most of our GE classes are done," said Carlee Correia, a freshmen creative producing major.

Based on Chapman's 2018-19 housing rates for its newest dorms, the convenience could have a price tag. Chapman's housing rates for this year put the nine-month price tag on a student living in a single bedroom of a Chapman Grand apartment with two residents at \$13,778.

For a student living in a single bedroom in a 4-bedroom suite in the Sandhu Residence Center, another one of the newer dorms, for the same time period the cost would be

\$18,654. That means that – for these particular residences – each student would pay anywhere from around \$1,500 to \$2,000 per month. Housing rates for the new dorm have not yet been announced.

For students who elect to live off campus, there are houses or apartments with multiple bedrooms which can be rented for a lower price point than some of Chapman's pricier housing.

As of February, the average rent in Orange for a three- or four-bedroom single-family home was around \$3,400, according to real estate website Trulia. The rent for these types of residences is often split between multiple students.

Located on the corner of Cypress Street and Palm Avenue, the Villa Park Orchard dorm will be able to house up to 400 residents. The suite-style rooms will have a kitchen and living room, with two bedrooms and two bathrooms.

Villa Park Orchard's foundation, framing and roof are complete, with construction now focused on interior and exterior finishes. Although rainy and cold weather has been a challenge for construction, plans have remained on track, Kris Olsen, the vice president of Campus Planning and Operations, wrote in an email to *The Panther*.

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# 'One Big Sex Night' aims to sexually empower students

Jade Yang | Staff Writer

On any given day, Argyros Forum is a cozy hub for Chapman students, home to Jamba Juice, study nooks and bagels – but on Wednesday Feb 6, it became home to a sex education extravaganza with hand-drawn posters of male and female erogenous zones, penis-shaped lollipops and casual conversations about bondage, dominance, sadism and masochism, also known as BDSM.

Every February, Chapman's University Program Board Club (UPB) hosts its annual "One Big Sex Night," where employees from the Pleasure Chest, an adult entertainment store in Los Angeles, California, come to teach Chapman students about everything from enhancing sexual experiences, to consent, to even spanking sticks.

"I was expecting a cappella groups to sing about sex like they did in 'Pitch Perfect,' but I actually thought the speaker was much more entertaining," said Kirstin Bastin, a freshman vocal performance major.

The evening was not quite what Bastin expected, she said, but she left with "thorough explanations" on topics that ranged from pornography to sex toys.

"I absolutely love teaching college students," Carly Weckstein, the evening's representative from the Pleasure Chest, told *The Panther*. "We imparted knowledge to empower folks to have hot consensual sex."

Armed with new sexual



GABRIELLA ANDERSON Staff Photographer

Carly Weckstein, a representative from the Pleasure Chest, a Los Angeles sex shop, spoke to at least 40 students in Argyros Forum Feb. 6 about sexual empowerment, handing out prizes like spanking sticks and lubricant.

knowledge, 40 to 50 audience members went home with handouts like phallic candy, BDSM toys, condoms and different lubricants.

Learning about sex as a college student is critical, Weckstein said, and an increase in knowledge can be "empowering." Her goal is to help students understand ways to enhance their sex lives.

Sex education in college can provide a sometimes much-needed crash course for students who may

not have learned the ins and outs of a healthy sex life in high school.

Only 24 states require sex education, according to a 2016 study released by the National Conference of State Legislation, and four of those states require parental consent.

But college sex education and open discussions about sex are on the rise – Harvard University hosts a "sex week" each year, with 2019 marking its ninth return to campus. This year, a Harvard survey found that around

half of those who responded have or believe they have a sexual fetish.

Writing on poster paper in front of her audience at Chapman, Weckstein asked the crowd to shout out sexual narratives and societal expectations, breaking down the idea that only "sexy" people deserve to have sex.

"Enhancing your sex life is through your own agency," Weckstein said, aiming to dismantle the sometimes "unrealistic messages" associated with college sex life.

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# 'Romance is dead in the dorms'

*How students navigate hooking up, love and long-distance while living in close quarters*

Maya Cowan | Staff Writer

For Haley Waldron, a freshman psychology major, coexisting with roommates is no easy task. In her roommate agreement, everyone has to ask one another for approval every time someone wants to come into their shared space, which Waldron said that doesn't happen often.

"Most of my friends will get with guys at parties and it doesn't go farther than that," Waldron said. "I'd say romance is pretty much dead in the dorms."

Keeping romance alive in dormitories can be hard, but not impossible. Lucy Ebers, a freshman psychology major shared how she began dating her long-distance boyfriend, who attends Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, two years ago, right before going to college.

The two decided to get back together during holiday break and plan to see each other the day after Valentine's Day. But until then, Ebers said they talk over the phone and FaceTime to make up for the physical distance. The two have managed to make their relationship work.

"We like to send each other paragraphs before bed, having those conversations every day is important so when he comes, it doesn't feel like we're apart," Ebers said. "He falls asleep at 3 a.m. and sends me a sweet goodnight text telling me why he appreciates me, and I wake up to it."

To Ebers, this is a crucial part of why they're still together. These morning texts are more than affirmation; they're the glue for her



Photo Illustration by MAX WIERAUCH Staff Photographer

For some students, romance and sex in the dorms are nonexistent. For others, navigating them can be uncomfortable.

long-distance relationship.

While Ebers has faith in maintaining her romance, Waldron thinks hookup culture in the dorms is practically nonexistent.

"There are no attractive guys at Chapman," she said.

Ebers feels like the dorms are not welcoming for some couples. When she tries to spend quality time with her boyfriend in the dorm lounges,

she finds others may have problems with it.

"(It's) awkward because we'll be out trying to watch a movie, and people will walk in and feel uncomfortable because we're a couple," Ebers said. "There are times where I've had to stay outside in the cold to talk with him on the phone."

For Ebers, her roommates' supportiveness of her relationship has

helped her feel more at ease with her long-distance relationship.

"If you're going through a rough time, it's not comfortable to be in your room and talk about uncomfortable topics," she said. "But luckily I was blessed with roommates who love me and him."

# 'Hallmark holiday:' Valentine's Day loses appeal for some

Maggie Wright | Staff Writer

When he found out that a poke restaurant was closed, sophomore David Howren's plans began to crumble.

It was Valentine's Day, and Howren, then a junior in high school, had planned to take his then-girlfriend to dinner and then watch the sunset in Laguna Beach, California. That didn't happen.

"The sun is setting and we don't even make it to the beach," said Howren, a business administration major. "I'm like, 'Screw this.' We went to Del Taco and I got a bunch of tacos. She was like, 'This is horrible.'"

For many like Howren, the pressure of Valentine's Day has led to a decline in the holiday's popularity in recent years. A little more than half of Americans plan to celebrate the holiday this year, a number that's down from last year's survey and has steadily decreased since 2013, according to the National Retail Federation.

Camille Toomey, an undeclared freshman, hates Valentine's Day. To her, it's become a "Hallmark holiday" and an obligation.

"It would show a lot more love if you bought a bouquet of flowers on a random day just to show that you were thinking about (your significant other), rather than on this designated day," Toomey said. "Although I'm super down for the discounted candy on Feb. 15."

There are three times a year men in a relationship have to impress their girlfriends: Christmas, her birthday, and Valentine's Day, said David Brewster, a sophomore business administration major. While Christmas and birthdays are typically marked with gifts, Valentine's Day is usually expected to be an "experience," Brewster said.

"You've got to take her out someplace nice. Buy her some candy, chocolate, something like that," Brewster said. "If you don't, then it's like, 'You don't love me.'"

Brewster is not alone in buying chocolate on Valentine's Day. The holiday's spending is projected to be around \$19.6 billion this year, and of the candy purchased, 75 percent is chocolate, according to CNN. 144 million cards exchanged, according to the same article, but not all of them may be appreciated.

Sophomore business administration major Kyle Souza remembers his first Valentine. He wrote on a piece of paper "Happy Valentine's Day" written on it and delivered to a girl who didn't want it.

"I was in sixth grade and the worst part... she didn't even want to touch it. Apparently, I had cooties or something that year, or the cheese touch," Souza said, referring to a popular scene from the "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" series. "Either way, she was not having it."

Emily Malner, a freshman creative writing major, doesn't hate Valentine's



MAX WIERAUCH Staff photographer

A little more than half of Americans plan to celebrate Valentine's Day this year, according to the National Retail Federation, a marked decrease since 2013.

Day. But she knows that couples tend to enjoy it more than single people and she thinks that's where the animosity toward the holiday comes from.

"It just gets to be a lot when

everywhere you go people are like 'Oh, Valentine's Day,' Malner said. "You have to watch other people enjoy Valentine's Day while you're not enjoying Valentine's Day."



# How far would you go for your crush?

Sierra DeWalt | Staff Writer

When freshman screenwriting major Alex King met a girl at a friend's high school graduation party, he knew he had to impress her. When he found out she was vegan, he started to think about where they could go for their first date. He decided on Frutta Bowls, a restaurant that specializes in serving bowls of fruit. But the catch: King is allergic to fruit. Still, the two went to Frutta Bowls for their date.

King asked for a chocolate bowl, which he said is the only meal at Frutta Bowls without fruit. It was out of stock so King ordered another meal – one with fruit, which triggered his allergies.

"They brought it to me and I ate it, and I didn't say anything. I suppressed an allergic reaction until I got home safely," King said. "She never texted me again."

Freshman sociology major Bentley Kandel has felt the anxiety that comes with the pressure to impress a crush. When Kandel was a junior in high school, when he was joking that she was going to quickly drive away from the house they were at. After getting into the car, she accelerated, thinking she would go forward.

"I had it in reverse, so I flew backward into his friend's car and left a huge dent in it," Kandel said.

This was not exactly the dramatic exit she had planned. However, her crush was not as horrified as she imagined.

"He was laughing, but his friend was not laughing," Kandel said. "I was trying to be funny and it went bad



Photo Illustration by CASSIDY KEOLA Photo Editor

When it comes to crushes, some are willing to go to extreme lengths, like one freshman who went to a vegan restaurant with the girl he was interested in ... even though he's allergic to fruit.

really fast."

Ayden Best, a freshman software engineering major, tried a more methodical route.

"During high school, I liked the same girl for three years. I was a huge nerd so I didn't really know how to talk to women," Best said.

Best Googled "how to impress a girl" and found a story that suggested

asking someone to borrow a pencil every day until they start liking you. He decided to put this theory to the test.

The next day in class, he worked up the courage to ask the girl he liked for a pencil.

"It worked for a little while, but after two months of asking for a pencil and not really doing anything

else, the girl got annoyed and ended up buying me one of those 24-packs of pencils and giving it to me so I didn't have to bother her anymore," Best said.

While having a crush can be fraught with emotions, Best said there is never harm "shooting your shot." His advice to those on this Valentine's Day: "Just tell her how you feel, man."

## For members of LGBTQIA+ community, public affection isn't always easy

Mitali Shukla | Staff Writer

Valentine's Day: It's a holiday filled with romantic imagery and portrayals of happy couples, often depicted as heterosexual. But for some members of the LGBTQIA+ community, love, sex and romantic holidays can be complicated.

"Every queer person has the idea that no matter how accepting the world is, there's always going to be that thought in the back of your mind: 'What if it isn't?'" said Emma Barda, a sophomore documentary film major.

The LGBTQIA+ community is commonly referred to by the first four letters, and the asexual community is considered a relatively new category in the group. Junior music education major Ian Policarpio identifies as asexual.

"I understood the (difference) between sexual attraction and romantic attraction. I had a good grasp of that before I was even dating him," said Policarpio's girlfriend, freshman piano performance major Victoria Nguyen.

Policarpio describes their relationship as hetero-romantic, which Policarpio defines as a heterosexual couple whose relationship is based on romantic attraction. When asked if sex was an important part of their relationship, Nguyen said she didn't think so.

"It's not that I think sex can't be romantic, but sex itself does not equate to romance," Nguyen said. "You can have sex with someone because you love them, but just because you have sex with someone doesn't mean you love them."

Asexuality has only recently been part of LGBTQIA+ community, and Policarpio grew up feeling like he didn't have a label to identify his sexuality.

"I went through my whole life



CASSIDY KEOLA Photo Editor

Junior music education major Ian Policarpio and Victoria Nguyen, a freshman piano performance major, define their relationship as "heteroromantic."

feeling like there was something off about me," Policarpio said. "(Identifying as asexual) gives me a lot of hope to have a word to describe how I am and to know that there are other people out there that are the same as me."

Anthony James Duff, a sophomore business administration major, believes that gay members of the LGBTQIA+ community experience uncertainty about their sexuality and how others will react to their identities.

"In Ancient Greece, (gay men were) quite celebrated; it was a normative thing, an ideal sexual relationship," said Bernard McGrane, a Chapman sociology professor.

For Duff, who identifies as gay, sex is an important part of relationships in the gay community.

"Gays don't get to experience the fun, loving (parts) of relationships,"

Duff said. "A lot of (them) don't come out until they're 18, so they don't experience a lot of that."

And, Duff said, because gay people often enter the dating pool later, there tends to be a heavier emphasis on sex due to the age demographic.

Promiscuity in the gay male community is more prevalent, McGrane said.

"(But in the) foundation of intimate relationships, we're equal," he said.

Barda said she's sometimes worried in the past about how others will perceive intimate gestures.

"Can I hold their hand? Do I feel comfortable kissing this person in public? In this neighborhood?" Barda said.

Normalizing the LGBTQIA+ community is a "work in progress," she said.

"There's no magical solution to (acceptance) other than time," Barda

said.

What the members of the community fear, Barda said, are those who might respond negatively to "coming out" announcements.

Society can sometimes react differently to those who deviate from the norm," McGrane said.

"We humans have a hard time with 'otherness,'" he said. "If it is strange, it is different, it is other. Get rid of it. It's threatening," McGrane said.

Prominent figures and celebrities aren't immune. "Empire" actor Justin Smollett was physically attacked in January by two individuals who were allegedly using homophobic and racial slurs in Chicago, Illinois, according to the Associated Press. "It goes to show that the majority (of Americans) accept (homosexuality), but there is still an imminent threat of the 'radical minority,'" Duff said.



# Gillette commercial reopens toxic masculinity conversation

Lou Vanhecke | News Editor

“He turned around to me and said, ‘You need to know that women lie.’”

That’s what Addy Beals, a senior history major, heard from a male student when she expressed her disapproval of President Donald Trump due to the sexual assault allegations against him. Beals was infuriated.

“To me, it was a prime example of toxic masculinity,” Beals said. “Toxic masculinity can produce fragile masculinity, mental isolation and can maintain rape culture. It hurts women and nonbinary people, yes. But it hurts men too.”

The term “toxic masculinity” has seen an uptick with exposure in the last year, as movements like #MeToo and media campaigns like the Gillette “We Believe: The Best Men Can Be” commercial have gained significant traction. A study released by the American Psychological Association in August reports that “males experience a greater degree of social and economic power than girls and women in a patriarchal society,” which can often result in “sexist ideologies designed to maintain male power.”

“The Gillette commercial depicted men in a ‘non-masculine’ way, and feedback to that has included people saying that the commercial made men look weak, it made men ‘look like women,’” said Elizabeth Kane, a Chapman psychology professor who teaches human sexuality.

“We have to put aside gender expectations and shift how we view the male role of a relationship – from power over it to power within it.”

In a romantic relationship, toxic masculinity can manifest itself as

emotional manipulation or even physical violence. Toxic masculinity can thrive due to exaggerated gender roles, a patriarchal viewpoint of what men are supposed to be and the unwritten rules of heteronormative relationships, Kane said.

“Toxic masculinity is a side effect of patriarchy,” Beals said. “Some men see it as a criticism of their power, strength and independence but in reality, it’s actually a critique of damaging expectations society imposes on them.”

In a study of 1,000 men between the age of 18-30, the Men’s Project found that men who conform to traditional definitions of manhood are more likely to suffer from self-harm, and do harm to others. The survey looked at men’s reactions to traditionally masculine traits like strength and avoiding housework.

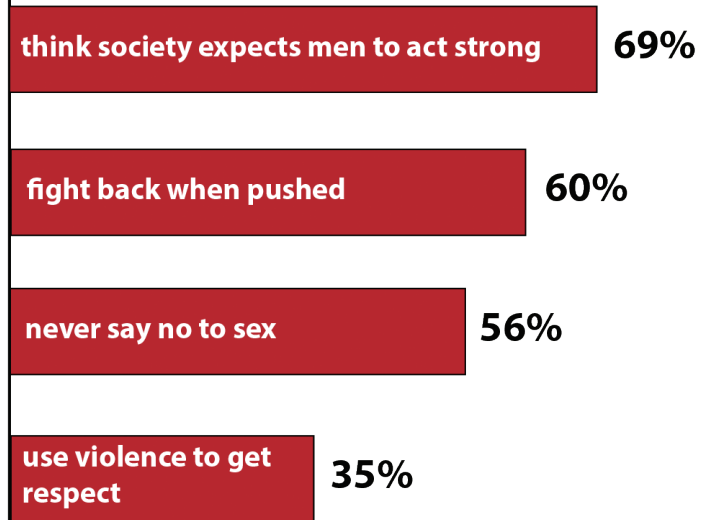
Zachary Salem-Mackall, a junior communication studies major, told The Panther that he considers toxic masculinity a “misinterpretation of the male identity” that’s rooted in a toxic culture.

“In terms of dating, it has a lot to do with not fully respecting your partner, especially in cases of using degrading language,” Salem-Mackall said. “Guys have to stop reacting so negatively when discussing toxic masculinity. We can all make a conscious effort to do better and to realize what the environment is like for women and understand that we can never fully understand their experience.”

Toxic masculinity in the dating world has led to some students feeling a “lack of self-confidence,” something that C.K. Magliola, a Chapman women’s studies professor, has seen in her own classroom.

## Perceived societal expectations of young men

Information from The Men’s Project



Graphic by EMMA REITH Art Director

Researchers from the Men’s Project surveyed 1,000 young men between the ages of 18-30 on their attitudes toward self-sufficiency, toughness, physical attractiveness, rigid gender roles, heterosexuality and homophobia, hypersexuality, and aggression and control over women.

Magliola has witnessed some students utilize assigned class readings to identify toxic masculinity in their own dating lives, she said. Sometimes, she said, the realities of people in toxic relationships can be “hijacked,” and part of a “larger patriarchal culture.”

“I’ve had students say that Women’s Studies 101 has helped them stand up for themselves and get out of a relationship,” Magliola said.

Audrey Woodsum, a senior creative writing major believes toxic masculinity on campus is “very present.”

“I’ve interacted with some men who don’t believe in the wage gap, who think women can be ‘crazy,’ who make crude comments about women’s appearances,” Woodsum said.

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## Why high school sex education is crucial



Maura Kate Mitchelson  
Opinions Editor

It was seventh grade study hall. I was sitting at a table with some of the “cool” girls. I don’t remember how the topic of sex came up, but I will never forget the conversation that followed. One of the girls said, “I remember when I used to think that sex was just kissing in a bed.” Quickly, I responded, “Psh, I remember

when I used to think that too.”

That was the day I learned that sex wasn’t kissing in a bed.

My only experiences with sex education in public school were, well, less than adequate. In fifth grade, my classmates and I went through “Growth and Development Day,” where we learned about puberty and were given deodorant. The following year, we watched the boys’ puberty video and proceeded to make wet dream jokes for the remainder of the school year.

I remember the fear and presumptive embarrassment my classmates and I felt leading up to these “growth and development” days. No one wanted to hear about the “changes and new emotions” we may be experiencing as teenagers from our elderly school nurse.

Flash forward to health class freshman year of high school. My teacher, who was ultimately fired at the end of the year, spent most of the semester showing us YouTube videos of interviews with recovering crack addicts instead of talking about sexual health.

The topic of AIDS, however, was brought up. One day, three people came in to class and gave a heartbreaking presentation about their experience with AIDS. I was ready to never even look at another person again out of fear of the disease, which can spread through sexual contact, when the presenters announced that they didn’t have AIDS and were instead actors trying to teach us a lesson. I’m not really sure what they told us about sexual health, because all I can remember is the feeling of being lied to by these struggling actors who had somehow found themselves in the basement of a Kansas high school.

Luckily for me (at least that’s how I see it now), my mom was more willing to discuss the topic with me than other parents. When I was in eighth grade, she gave me two textbook-sized informational books about sex. While I never read them, it’s absolutely the thought that counts.

My mom cared enough about my well-being to give me appropriate resources to learn about the topic and told me that she would always be there to answer any questions I had. I never really had any questions, though, and even if I did, I doubt I would’ve mentioned them out of embarrassment. Still, I knew she was there if I needed her.

Not all of my friends have the same understanding parents, and it’s clear that in my public school district, sex education was lacking. When I was in eighth grade, a local girl got pregnant. Sophomore year of high school, the same thing happened. My senior year of high school, I found myself literally explaining to a close friend how babies are made.

No one wants to teach kids about sex and kids don’t want anyone to teach them about sex. This paradoxical dynamic has continued the trend of sex being considered a taboo topic. According to Planned Parenthood, only 24 states require that sex education be taught in school, which does nothing to normalize the topic in more than half of the country.

Honestly, I’m very embarrassed to be writing this column about sex education, even though I think it’s an important topic. Sex is not an easy thing to talk about, but if young people are not taught how to have safe sex, there will be frequent uncomfortable – and potentially life-changing – conversations to follow.

## EDITORIAL



Illustrated by Gaby Fantone

## Love is not one size fits all

The Panther Editorial Board

Divorce rates are down, couples are posting their envy-inducing vacation photos, and your friend goes on three Tinder dates a week, but with Valentine’s Day just around the corner, not everyone is feeling the love. And that’s OK.

The expectations our generation has for love and relationships are set painfully high. Every relationship is expected to be an exciting adventure, and if it’s not, it’s not true love. From a young age, we’re shown dramatized relationships in Disney and Nickelodeon shows, in addition to classic romantic comedies. How are we supposed to have healthy, realistic relationship expectations when not everyone is Troy Bolton?

Even the shows we watch as adults perpetuate similar thoughts. Of course contestants on ABC’s “The Bachelor” are in “love” when they’re constantly jetting from one exotic, romantic destination to the next. But that isn’t real life. Real life isn’t always bouquets of flowers and gourmet meals. And it certainly doesn’t involve a rose ceremony at the end of the night.

Real life is a relationship between people who are juggling school, work and countless other responsibilities, all while trying to spend time together. Real life is loving and sticking by your significant other even if they don’t serenade you in the middle of a basketball game in the style of “High School Musical.”

The examples of relationships set for the LGBTQIA+ community in popular media are even more skewed. If there even is a queer character on TV, most of the time they’re included to add flair and often lack depth – see shows like “Pretty Little Liars” and “Glee” for reference. Usually, it’s the more niche or indie shows, like Netflix’s new hit “Sex Education,” that portray LGBTQIA+ characters in a relationship that isn’t just used because the producers think two girls kissing will increase ratings. And often, LGBTQIA+ characters are few and far between, with only 14 inclusive movies distributed by major studios in 2018, according to GLAAD, marking a major decrease over the organization’s six years of tracking.

We shouldn’t be basing our expectations for relationships on fictionalized or over-exaggerated media portrayals. But it’s difficult not to with the seemingly constant influence of social platforms and instantly accessible streaming content.

TV and social media often don’t show us that relationships are hard work. They take time, collaboration, and compromise. And they don’t define us. Your relationship status shouldn’t make or break your happiness.

Whether you’re having relationship problems or are single and feeling lonely this Valentine’s Day, remember that what you’re experiencing is real life, not a manufactured TV show. And often, real life is much better.

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## Is long-distance dating worth the struggle?



Lou Vanhecke, News Editor

For the first two years of college, people frequently asked me if I was dating someone. That question was typically met with a sigh, a shrug and maybe a slight eye roll. “Yes,” I would say, “but we do long-distance.”

Cue the statements of slight shock, oftentimes followed by a, “It’s great you’re trying” before an awkward, brisk

walk away. This has happened more times than I can count. After a few years of this reaction, I was more than prepared to receive a response I wasn’t going to like ... but then we broke up.

My ex-boyfriend and I split up six months ago after three years of dating. For two of those years, he was one side of the country and I was on the other.

This isn’t to say that long-distance was the only reason we broke up – there were strained familial tensions, a video game habit that he couldn’t really break and I was tired of texting him the same message over and over: “Sorry, can’t talk right

now.”

Really, I’m convinced that what killed us was Skype dates, obscenely expensive plane ticket and the undeniable fact that we were growing in different directions, at different speeds and in two completely different locations.

My story, albeit a tad depressing, is not uncommon. According to the Center for Long Distance Relationships, 14 to 15 million couples in the United States consider themselves to be in a long distance relationship, with a third of those couples being college students. According to a 2010 dissertation written by a Humboldt University student about long-distance relationships, the average duration of a long-distance relationship is just shy of three years. I’m glad to know that my relationship was, in fact, average.

I was in a long-distance relationship for two years, but it emotionally felt like 10. And if I’m being honest with myself, my relationship lost its spark about a year into the long-distance part, something I wish I had acknowledged far sooner than I did.

Many of my close college friends will attest to the fact that they have at least attempted a long-distance relationship. When asked about it, their answers are typically accompanied by either a chuckle or an “I still hate him” – both of which I can relate to.

Long-distance in college is wild. We are already juggling school, work, (maybe) going to the gym, making sure we don’t forget to eat and saying that we’re going to try to drink more water. That’s an

obscene amount of responsibility to ask of even the most organized person. To then add the pressures of a long-distance relationship mine consisting of sad Skype calls, consistent texting, and sexual frustration is truly mind blowing.

My relationship was a typical high school romance. We started dating our senior year and tried to keep the flame alive for as long as we could. But people change, and college only exacerbates people pulling apart. This is a time when we realize just how big the world is and what we can accomplish in it.

We’re smacked with the realization that the problems we had at 17 couldn’t be more different than the problems we have at 22. College brings internship opportunities, chances to learn and dozens of new people to meet. College changes us. Sometimes that changes our relationships, too, and sometimes, that’s OK.

I recently got coffee with my ex in my hometown, and he asked me what prompted me to break up with him. I didn’t have a solid answer for him.

“I wish you had cheated on me, or I had cheated on you,” I said to his extremely puzzled face. “That way, I would have a reason to be mad.” But in all honesty, I didn’t want a reason to be mad. I had just come to all these life-altering realizations that college inevitably brings. And while college is part of what contributed to by breakup, it’s also brought me amazing friends, an editorial board I love and, most importantly, the chance to download Bumble.

## How Netflix’s ‘You’ exemplifies the toxic ‘nice guy’



Sandhya Bhasker, assistant news editor

The “nice guy” is perhaps one of the most fascinating (and familiar) archetypes in modern dating. To clarify, the “nice guy” is traditionally known as a man who weaponizes “niceness” in order to manipulate his partner.

The nice guy’s niceness is almost always self-proclaimed, and their cookie-cutter

proclamations about treating women with respect lack sincerity. They contour their personality into an oftentimes misogynistic and misguided view of what they believe women want.

Nice is their thing. It’s a ticket that, with enough guilt-tripping, can be cashed in to compel women to comply with their desires. But when being nice

can no longer be used to achieve their goals or stroke their egos, they weaponize it.

It is this dangerous mixture of ill-intentioned “niceness,” entitlement, self-absorption and psychopathy that come together to create Joe, Penn Badgley’s character in Netflix’s new dramedy thriller series “You.”

The show’s storyline is told almost entirely from the perspective of Joe, the 20-something old manager of a quaint bookstore in New York City. Joe has all the trappings of a traditional lead rom-com love interest. He’s charming, well-read, and is the antithesis of Guinevere Beck’s (Joe’s girlfriend and ultimately victim) shallow, wealthy ex-boyfriend. The good-guy qualities that Joe has built his identity around fuels his perceived entitlement to women and their attention.

So when Beck, a literature graduate student and hopeful socialite, meanders into Joe’s bookstore and playfully flirts with him, his dangerous infatuation begins.

Almost immediately after their encounter at the bookstore, he begins stalking her. Relentlessly. He follows her to her home, hiding behind a lamppost while staring into her open windows. He wears a baseball cap and sunglasses while sitting at a crowded bar several feet away from Beck and her

friends as they have dinner.

Joe is the most extreme version of the “nice guy” trope. He throws Beck an extravagant surprise birthday party, plans lavish dates, and does anything he can to help her – which allows him to feel entitled to Beck’s love. He justifies his infatuation for Beck by redefining his obsession as care.

While viewers see Joe commit straight-up murder, Joe processes his actions as a loving act of valiance. He can always reframe his violence because he believes his reasoning is well-intentioned. As Beck strays from the narrow, dream girl archetype that Joe initially pegged her as, violence ensues.

What “You” illustrates so well is why the nice guy persona can’t be successful. Women seldom fit into rigid personality profiles that can be generically categorized.

While “You” uses melodrama to hyper-exaggerate the trope, the underlying message demonstrates that niceness entangled with self-interest will rarely bring men what they think the women owe them. Being “nice” cannot be used to mask all other motives, because the toxicity will eventually seep through.

## Appreciate all types of love this Valentine’s Day



Sierra DeWalt, sophomore English and screenwriting major

Singles all over the world dread Valentine’s Day. To many, the holiday seems to point out that they do not have an official significant other. But why is this considered a negative? Does our happiness depend on whether we have a romantic relationship?

Every year, I eagerly anticipate Valentine’s Day. I consider it a day full of opportunities. The holiday is

a perfect excuse to gorge on chocolate and sweets, watch as many sappy romantic comedy movies as I want and admire the onscreen couples while yelling my thoughts at the TV screen. My cat might be annoyed, but no one else can judge me – this is how I choose to spend the holiday.

Even if I hated sugar and was disgusted by romance movies, I would be excited for Valentine’s

Day. Holidays are linked to celebration and relaxation, and how could anyone pass those up?

For this reason, despite being single every year, I have always struggled to understand why people hate not being in a relationship on Valentine’s Day. Starting in 2017, the U.S. has seen record numbers adults who are single, according to the U.S. Census. So why can’t we strive to enjoy our alone time?

Valentine’s Day is an appreciation of love, and love comes in dozens of forms. You may love your pets, parents, siblings, friends, job, life or even just yourself. There’s no rule about only appreciating romantic love on Valentine’s Day.

The holiday could be so much more enjoyable if we chose to celebrate the love that is most meaningful to us. Whatever type of love brings you the most joy deserves to be acknowledged on a day meant for showing affection.

Family and friends are often who we treasure most. We learn and grow from friends and family on a regular basis, and they impact our lives in major ways.

So why don’t people usually give thanks for these kinds of love?

Well, this conundrum makes more sense when you enter a department store or a drugstore. The aisles are packed with candy, stuffed animals, cards and jewelry to give to “a special someone.” Even clothing sections are often infused with the same

spirit. All around you, Valentine’s Day seems to be about choosing just one person to love, cherish and spend your time with.

Look beyond the commercialism of the holiday. Stop staring at pictures of seemingly perfect couples online. Every relationship has problems. Every relationship has ups and downs.

Valentine’s Day gives you the chance to tell someone you love them – romantically or otherwise. Maybe you’ll brighten your mom’s day. Maybe you’ll take your sibling completely off-guard. Maybe you’ll just cuddle your pet a little tighter than usual.

Whatever the case may be, there is love in everyone’s life and this love deserves to be celebrated. If you’re not big on celebrating, simple acts of self-care or kindness towards others can still improve your day. Why not buy yourself those shoes you’ve been wanting? Why not help that stranger pick up what he or she just dropped?

Sure, Valentine’s Day is about love, but it’s also about being caring. It can be relieving and momentous to show others you care. Focusing on what you appreciate in life can make any day seem a little bit more beautiful.

And while you’re at it, why not eat some chocolate and a cookie or two?



# Men's basketball freshmen poised to be 'cornerstones' of team

Luca Evans | Staff Writer

After a Tuesday night game against the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) Beavers, freshmen Daniel Foldes and Anthony Giomi sit in In-N-Out on Chapman Avenue and reminiscing about their first season on the Chapman basketball team over double-doubles and fries.

Despite being new to the team, Giomi's played in 14 and Foldes has played in 20 of the team's 22 games this season.

Eventually, the conversation turns to the topic of their first-made college baskets, a benchmark for the two. Foldes got his during a loss to the Linfield College Wildcats.

"We were losing and (our coach) was mad ... I rebounded (the ball) and put it up," Foldes told The Panther. "After that I was like 'Damn, that's pretty cool.'"

Giomi's inaugural points came during the first game of the season Nov. 8 against the Menlo College Oaks.

"I was guarding some 7-foot dude, and the whole time I was (nervous). Then I put up a shot and it went in, and I was like, 'OK here we go,'" Giomi said. "I was hyped. He probably could've eaten me."

Giomi and Foldes are suitemates in Pralle-Sodaro Hall and are self-described best friends. Giomi, from Seattle, Washington, spent Thanksgiving at Foldes' house.

Despite their inexperience on a college team, head coach Mike Bokosky said he has high hopes for the two as future cornerstones of the

program.

"We're glad that we have both of them. (They) are really talented ... both of them are frontline players," Bokosky said.

Giomi and Foldes said they were the go-to players for their respective high schools — Giomi for West Seattle High School and Foldes for Newbury Park High School in Thousand Oaks, California. As freshmen, Giomi and Foldes had an adjustment period finding their place on a college roster — a transition Bokosky said many freshman players experience.

"They were the top dog — the best players on their high school team," Bokosky said. "They get here and they find out ... it's a bit more challenging."

Both frequently play center for the Panthers, but neither played that position in high school, Giomi said.

"It's definitely been different trying to learn ... It's been hard, trying to play as a big man in the offense," Giomi said. "But we practice every day."

Foldes, in order to grow into his role on the team, has spent time practicing with other 'biggs' like sophomore power forward Chandler White and senior center Corwin Feerick.

"The guys actually helped me out a lot with learning about Chapman," Foldes said. "It's good to have senior role models or older kids help you ... they've been through the same thing."

For Giomi, a big part of the team's strength is their love and support for



Photo courtesy of Larry Newman

Freshman Anthony Giomi shoots a free throw in Chapman's game against Claremont Mudd-Scripps Jan. 19. Chapman lost 66-57.

one another.

In fact, the team has a couple informal bonding rituals. The first comes on Mondays, when new episodes of "The Bachelor" air. Most of the team lives in a house, and that's where the live watching takes place. The second ritual, however, comes the very next day.

"We go to Taco Tuesday, every Tuesday at Taco Mesa," said Giomi.

"Taco Tuesday's big."

As Giomi and Foldes finish their first year with the team they'll become more featured players, Bokosky said. With that comes the responsibility of transitioning into their own leadership positions.

"Leading-by-example is (big, but) ... making (people) feel comfortable is really big. Especially for freshmen," Foldes said.

## Freshman competes on NBC's 'World of Dance'

Kavya Maran | Staff Writer

At four years old, freshman Camryn Mandelbaum would sit in the back of her older sister's dance classes — at Tippy Toes School of Dance in Indianapolis — and trying to copy complicated dance sequences. Inspired and wanting to follow in her sister footsteps, Mandelbaum joined the same local dance studio and started taking her first ballet classes.

She hated it at first. After multiple temper tantrums, encouragement from her parents and teachers helped Mandelbaum to find her "love for dancing."

What ensued was a lifetime of dance training and honing her craft at various studios in Indianapolis. After Tippy Toes, Mandelbaum moved on to a studio called Dance Legacy in sixth grade and ended up at Expressenz Dance Center in eighth grade.

She remained a member until she graduated from high school in 2018.

That dedication came to fruition last year, Mandelbaum said, when she appeared on season two of NBC's "World of Dance," which aired from May to September 2018. Now a dance major at Chapman, Mandelbaum said her stint on the show was "the most amazing thing" she's been a part of.

Mandelbaum and her teammates — Kendall Wright, Macie Harris, Makenna Blackledge, Macie Blackledge, Kylie Mendoza, Maya Palmer and Caroline Moeller — were dancing together at Expressenz Dance Center when a talent producer contacted their dance teacher after seeing a video on YouTube.

"They wanted us to come audition in



Photo courtesy of Camryn Mandelbaum

Freshman dance major Camryn Mandelbaum (top center) appeared on NBC's "World of Dance" in 2018. Mandelbaum was 17 years old when the show aired.

Chicago," Mandelbaum said.

At the August 2017 private audition in Chicago the team performed two pieces in front of the "World of Dance" executive producers, then had a formal casting interview with producers.

"That was our first time being interviewed, and as the oldest of the group (at 17 years old), I was labeled the spokesperson. I felt the pressure on me," Mandelbaum said.

Once Mandelbaum and her team were hired, they moved to Hollywood to start filming the show in January 2018. On the set of "World of Dance" for the first time, Mandelbaum said she found herself surrounded by the very people she used to watch on screen and admire from afar.

"We saw (contestants) Karen y Ricardo perform, and that was the moment where I was like, 'I can't believe we're actually a part of this,'"

Mandelbaum said.

On the show, Mandelbaum said she learned to start taking risks, like one of the most memorable dances for Mandelbaum: a piece about teen suicide called "Say Something."

"The story felt really close to our hearts," Mandelbaum said.

She said the team all knew someone from high school who had committed suicide.

"Watching Camryn and her group makes me want to cry," Anika Kojima, a competing dancer from season two of "World of Dance" told The Panther. "They are so elegant and make their turns look so effortless."

At Chapman, Mandelbaum has delved into different styles of dance. Julianne O'Brien, the chair of Chapman's Department of Dance, said Mandelbaum's versatility makes her a strong dancer.

"She picks up movement quickly, moves intelligently and has great technique," O'Brien said. "She has an open, enthusiastic attitude and commitment to learning."

Mandelbaum's dancing has also caught the eye of her classmates.

"(She) is one of the most fine-tuned dancers I know, and she can master any style that is thrown at her, which makes her the ideal dancer to work with," said freshman dance major Josh Escover, Mandelbaum's close friend and classmate who takes jazz, ballet and modern dance classes with her.

Despite Mandelbaum's love for dance, she plans to be a sports psychologist.

But for now Mandelbaum's goal is simple.

"I just want to dance for as long as I can," she said.



# Cancellations bring hockey season to an early end

Mimi Fhima | Sports Editor

When freshman Rachel Kang went through sorority recruitment at Chapman Jan. 24, she felt proud to represent her teammates while she shared her experiences about being on Chapman's hockey team. But, she said, many women she met were surprised to hear the university even had a team. After cancelled games and little off-season training this year, Kang said the team doesn't have much exposure.

Despite that, Kang said the team is active on the bench and full of energy. But around interterm, there weren't enough players on campus.

On Jan. 25, the team was scheduled to play California State University Northridge (CSUN) and University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) Jan. 26, but Chapman canceled both games because only nine players were present for interterm. Six players are normally on the ice at a time, so the team would have had only three substitutes.

These cancellations over interterm resulted in California State University Fullerton canceling their game against Chapman Feb. 1. The University of San Diego also canceled their Feb. 2 game, Chapman's last



Photo courtesy of Rachel Kang

The Chapman hockey team ended the season having played only nine of their scheduled 13 games. The team won no games this season, ending with a 0-9 record.

scheduled home game, but did not specify a reason. Chapman was scheduled to play 13 games this season, but only played nine.

"The team was definitely pretty frustrated, especially the seniors," Kang said. "It would've been fun to get everyone out."

Evan Sue, a senior right-wing player, said he was disappointed since he hoped to play one last game.

"It was a little frustrating for me," Sue said. "It's just something nice for our seniors."

Coach Tradon Reid said it would have been irresponsible to play the games over interterm because, with only nine players, playing would have "done more harm than good." In an

attempt to avoid conflicts like this next year, Reid said he is working on restructuring the program.

"We're going to treat it like a club sport should be treated. Not crazy where you're practicing every day, but we're getting together for dryland training, chalk talks, meetings (and) starting our recruitment efforts," Reid said.

The team usually practices weekly starting late summer, but Reid said they will start off-season practice as early as March 1 this year. With these efforts, Reid hopes more students on campus will be inclined to join.

Since the team is a club team and not associated with the NCAA, the players and coaches are the ones in

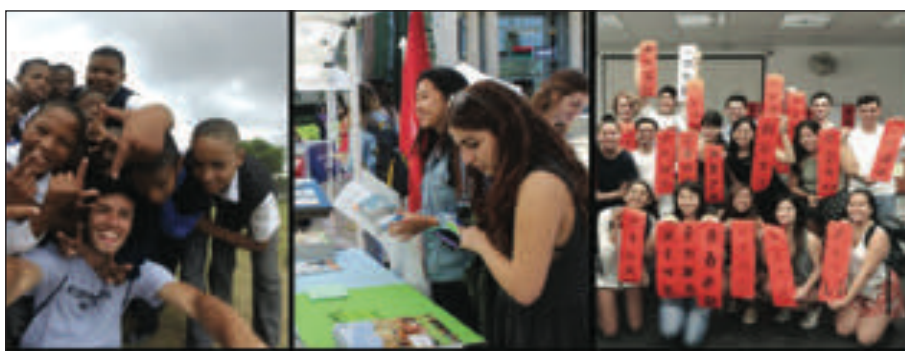
charge of fundraising and structuring the team, Reid said. At Chapman, hockey is the most expensive sport, with dues at around \$1,875 per player each season, Reid said.

Sue joined the team two years ago and has seen it grow, with the roster almost doubling this season. With graduation nearing, Sue said he's optimistic about the future of the team.

"Being in the locker room with all the guys and two girls, there was a lot more camaraderie between us compared to last season," Sue said. "Although (this season) didn't really turn out the way we wanted it to, they're definitely going to build a lot stronger of a team."

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