Center Street sidewalk closed for science center construction

The Argyros Forum Parking Lot has been permanently closed for construction of the Center for Science and Technology. A crossing guard has been stationed at the crosswalk on Walnut Avenue and Grand Street to ensure pedestrian safety. News, Page 3.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Photos by CHLOE ARROUYE Photo Editor

NO SMOKING

Smoking is prohibited on campus as of Feb. 1.

All forms of smoking, including electronic cigarettes, vaporizers and vape pens are banned.

The policy was created because of the health risks associated with secondhand smoke.

Consequences for failing to follow the new policy have not yet been decided.

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Cory O'Connor

Students, friends and colleagues gathered Jan 16. for a memorial service for Cory O'Connor, a public relations and advertising professor who died on Dec. 28.

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Homicide case

A man has been charged in connection with the triple homicide that occurred on Oakmont Avenue last fall.

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The labyrinth

A painted canvas labyrinth was placed in the Fish Interfaith Center for three days as a meditative activity for students.

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Smoking banned from campus due to health concerns

Jackie Cohen | News Editor

All forms of smoking, including the use of vaporizers, e-cigarettes, and cigarettes, are prohibited on Chapman’s campus as of Feb. 1 because of the health risks associated with secondhand smoke. The new policy follows a trend of thousands of college campuses going smoke- and tobacco-free nationwide.

While Chapman’s Rinker Health Science Campus in Irvine has been smoke-free since it opened in 2014, the main campus in Orange had a policy that prohibited smoking in buildings and within 20 feet of building entrances, residence halls and apartment doors and windows, according to the Chapman University Student Conduct Code.

“Ultimately (the change in the conduct code) will be an on-campus culture shift,” said Student Government President Josh Nudelman. “What I’m looking for is in five years, (students) won’t even be able to remember what it was like to be able to smoke on campus.”

Jerry Price, vice chancellor for student affairs and dean of students, said that the university is using the policy to advocate a healthier lifestyle.

Becky Campos, vice president of human resources, who, along with Price, was involved in the implementation of the policy, shared a similar sentiment.

“We emphasize that we want to encourage more students to take advantage of services on campus via education, providing people with more information about that and also providing them access to areas for if they want to quit smoking,” Campos said.

Policy enforcement

The new policy’s enforcement is based mainly on peers holding one another accountable, with the policy stating that “the success of the policy depends on the thoughtfulness, civility and cooperation of all members of the campus community, including visitors.” Repetitive infractions and ongoing, unresolved issues regarding the policy will be addressed by human resources and the dean of students, according to the updated conduct code.

“I think that the policy, as written, allows to accentuate the health promotion aspect of the policy and downplays the notion of a punitive side,” Price said.

The policy has not decided what the appropriate action will be for people that fail to follow the new statewide policy.

“We didn’t want this to become a burden for either (Price’s) office or anyone up or take disciplinary actions or investigations and that sort of thing, so we just said that we want people to encourage each other to adhere to the policy,” Campos said. “But if there are some egregious infractions or some serious ongoing issues that remain unresolved, then the appropriate administrative process would handle it.”

Gaining support

Nudelman and former Dodge College of Film and Media Arts Senator Henry Callander started the smoke-free campus initiative early in the fall semester. Nudelman had first heard of the idea of having a smoke-free campus a few years ago from a former student government senator, but the idea did not get much traction at the time.

To understand if the campus community was in favor of this, the student government sent a survey to students to understand if they were in favor of a smoke-free campus. About 10 percent of the student body answered the survey with more than 75 percent responding in favor of a smoke-free campus, according to Nudelman.

After the idea was affirmed by student government, it was brought to senior staff members. The idea had not been considered until Nudelman and Callander brought it to the staff members’ attention, according to Harold Hewitt, Chapman’s executive vice president and chief operating officer.

“I wouldn’t say that for me personally it is a huge priority, but I have to say that the leadership on campus was persuaded by student leadership and the core issue is health. The research on the ill effects of smoking and secondhand smoke are so thoroughly documented,” Hewitt said. “I think everyone is sort of in favor of being considerate of others especially regarding secondhand smoke. When people don’t smoke, why should they be exposed?”

Where will the smokers go?

As the ashtray, termed, Nudelman and Callander presented to the faculty senate as well as a formal memo to student government asking them to ask questions and raise concerns.

“Toward the major concerns when creating the policy was where smokers would go if they could not smoke on campus,” Callander said.

The sidewalk surrounding campus is the property of the city of Orange, therefore students are able to smoke in those areas rather than going across the street near people’s homes, Nudelman said.

Callander also said that a Chapman professor who lives next to the smoke-free beach on Chapman’s campus, Long Beach campus told him that she has never had a problem with students smoking in her house.

“That doesn’t mean that there won’t be a problem at Chapman, but we aren’t too concerned about that,” Callander said. “We’ve talked about the possibility of moving trash cans and ashtrays closer to the sidewalks, because ashtrays are what people usually surround themselves around.

If there is an ashtray, people are just going to just smoke next to it. The ashtrays have not been moved and additional signs declaring the campus smoke-free have not yet been added. The resources and budget to do that falls under the student government, according to the Price.

To read students’ responses to the new policy, go to Page 4.

News

Students remember Cory O’Connor, advertising professor

Jackie Cohen | News Editor

Cory O’Connor was a public relations and advertising professor known for his bold decisions, like dressing up in an Easter bunny suit to promote a product, and his commitment to his students, his friends and his work at the Disney Channel.

On Dec. 28, O’Connor died after going on permanent medical leave in October. Chapman held a memorial service for O’Connor on Jan. 16, where more than 200 of his friends, colleagues and former students shared stories of how the professor made an impact on their lives.

“He also made me feel special, and I’m realizing, he made a lot of his students feel special,” said Ashley Beall, an ’07 public relations and advertising alumna. “He saw my potential and helped us see it for ourselves.”

O’Connor attended the University of Southern California where he received his undergraduate degree in American Studies and later attended Harvard University for business. Many of his classmates, including his fraternity brothers from Sigma Nu, were present at the memorial service.

In 1987, O’Connor began working for the Disney Channel and climbed the ladder to become the senior vice president of the channel’s public relations and marketing and corporate synergistic activities. O’Connor then began teaching at Chapman in 2003.

“He was a really innovative thinker, a person that, in a way, had to be talked into teaching because he was involved with other pursuits in Hollywood before that,” said Lee Gail Stearns, dean of the Wallace All Faiths Chapel. “But when he did teach, he was just engaging, and of course, entertaining.”

In 2010, O’Connor led his students to win the National Student Advertising Competition for the first time in Chapman’s history. Since then, Chapman’s team has ranked in the top five for the region multiple times and has placed third times.

Ashley Coffey, a ’12 public relations and advertising student who remember O’Connor arriving at the National Student Advertising Competition wearing a white blazer that he had tie-dyed, Coffey said that this moment really stuck with her.

“O’Connor, a ’12 public relations and advertising alumna, explained how she developed a close relationship with him.

“He really believed in me and that spoke volumes,” Ryan said. “He was always very supportive and he helped me believe in myself.”

Many of O’Connor’s former students remembered him from the hours they spent talking to him during his office hours.

Cameron Knoblock, a sophomore public relations and advertising major, said that her connection with O’Connor began on a prospective students’ day when she met him and realized that her mother had worked with him at Time Inc. and Warner Bros. With that, O’Connor proceeded to discuss the major in public relations and advertising with Knoblock.

Knoblock said she remembers attending his office hours to discuss an internship and being told that he only had 20 minutes, he had somewhere he had to be. She said that O’Connor spent an hour talking to her about her life and internships.

“He always went the extra mile,” Knoblock said.

Beall also cherished the moments she spent with O’Connor during his office hours.

“Some of my favorite times were sitting in an oversized chair across from him in his dimly lit office at Dodge College, and I have a feeling this was a favorite moment for a lot of his students,” Beall said. “We would talk about class, ad club, the National Student Advertising Competition, life, internships, and of course, future career choices. It felt like a strange mix of talking to your teacher, a father figure, and a professional, but I can still see him looking at me, somewhat seriously, over the brim of his glasses, and then throwing his head back in an unexpected bellow of laughter.”
Man arrested in connection to triple homicide

Tryphena Wardlaw | Senior Writer

A man has been charged in connection with the triple homicide involving a burning SUV on Oakmont Avenue last fall, according to a Jan. 12 press release from the Orange County District Attorney’s Office.

In November, three bodies were found stabbed, shot and burned inside an SUV on the 500 block of Oakmont Avenue, a street where several Chapman students live.

Alejandro Guerrero Ruiz, 23, was charged with four felony counts of murder with special circumstance sentencing enhancements for multiple murders and murder during the commission of a robbery, including the triple homicide on Oakmont Avenue. Ruiz told officials that he was connected with a Mexican drug cartel and that he reported to a boss named “Compadre,” according to police reports.

For the Chapman students living near the location where the burning car was found, this update has caused a mixed set of reactions.

“On one hand you have it not being something local where it’s going to have a direct connection. But on the other hand, you have the cartel getting closer to our campuses,” said Keisha Weimann, a sophomore screenwriting major who lives across the street from the crime scene. “Hopefully we just happen to be the unlucky spot and it’s not here again.”

Ruiz, who was apprehended by Border Patrol, is being detained at a federal corrections facility in El Paso, Texas and is awaiting extradition to Orange County. He did not admit involvement in the homicides, but police said he feared for his life.

“I think it doesn’t really affect Chapman so much as to they are not targeting people at Chapman. It just so happens to be near the school. They are not trying to get us,” said sophomore business major Randy Thomas.

Roxy Fryd, an Orange County District Attorney spokesperson, said that the investigation is ongoing.

“It’s all the information that we have released on this case. Nothing is really happening on it,” Fryd said. “It’s not like (Ruiz) has actually appeared and arraigned the charges.”

A booking photo of the defendant was not released with the media advisory from the Orange County District Attorney’s Office. If convicted, Ruiz faces a minimum sentence of life in state prison without the possibility of parole.

Chapman’s Chief of Public Safety Randy Burba wrote in an email that the incident is being handled exclusively by the Orange Police Department, as it had no affiliation or impact to university operations. All press releases in regard to this incident were to be handled by the district Attorney’s Office, per its request, according to Lt. Fred Lopez of the Orange Police Department.

Agryros Forum Lot closed for construction

Atharshna Singarajah | Assistant News Editor

The Agryros Forum Parking Lot was permanently closed Dec. 20 for the construction of the Center for Science and Technology, which is set to be completed by the summer of 2018.

University spokesperson Mary Platt said that the science center will be the largest facility Chapman has ever developed. Half of the center will be dedicated to natural sciences and the other half will be for technological sciences. The science center will cost a little more than $130 million to build and will have 120,000 square feet.

The closing of the parking lot has resulted in mixed reactions. Jorge Price, a challenged official for student affairs and dean of students, was pleased with the Agryros Lot closing, mainly because of student safety. Cutting through the parking lot to get to campus was a hazard, according to Price, so he hoped students will use the sidewalk instead.

“I have had concerns of cars backing out of parking spaces and hitting students. Also, about pedestrians in the parking lot creating congestion for cars entering and leaving the lot,” Price said. “I also think students overestimated how much time they saved cutting through the lot – by the time they weaved around the cars, it was probably the same as walking on the sidewalk.”

Maddy Cornelius, a junior strategic and corporate communication major, is irritated that a lot close to school is being closed down, causing students to park farther away.

“We pay tons of money to go to school here, so they should try to make our lives as easy as possible, not harder,” Cornelius said.

Parking is a concern for students and there will be parking spaces available for the spaces lost, according to Sheryl Boyd, assistant director of parking and transportation services.

“Everyone in the administration is mindful of the parking concerns of students when plans are made to balance the parking demand from our diverse populations,” Boyd said. “That is why I always stress to students to be aware of all of the locations your permit is valid in and to make use of the parking lot shuttle. The investment in this service was to create more convenience for all our parkers.”

While the Agryros Forum Lot has closed, the Cypress Lot has reopened.

The Cypress Lot is back online and will provide more parking for university constituents than was available with just the Agryros Lot,” Boyd said. “The Cypress Lot will be a mixed use lot that students will have access to during the day, whereas they did not have access to park in the Agryros Lot during the day.”

Boyd stated that the Cypress Lot should also offset any loss of spaces in the Lastinger Parking Structure. Beginning this semester, designated spaces in the Lastinger structure will be reserved for the Board of Trustees and admissions guests.

“The changes in Lastinger are being implemented at the request of senior staff to provide parking accommodations to only two specific groups of individuals in accordance with standard university protocols,” Boyd said.

There are plans to add more parking lots under the science center as well, according to Platt. She said that the east wall of the Lastinger structure will be knocked down and expanded under the science and technology center. However, it will take a couple of years before the construction of these lots is completed.

From Dec. 3 to Jan. 28

Vandalism

Graffiti was reported four times on Chapman University property.

There were three reports of damage to cars parked in various university parking lots.

The glass on a fire cabinet door was broken in the Barrera Parking Structure.

Two bicycles were stolen from various locations around campus.

A student reported his laptop was stolen from main campus.

Unknown suspect(s) entered the Musco Center for the Arts construction site and took various tools, belonging to a contract company. A report was forwarded to Orange Police.

An unknown suspect reportedly entered the locked College of Performing Arts dean’s office and stole property.

A student reported his or her property stolen while running on the stairs at the Ernie Chapman Stadium.

A student reported his or her prescription medication stolen from his or her Pralle-Sodaro Hall dorm.

Miscellaneous

An intoxicated student trespassed a private residence and was arrested.

Public Safety responded to University Drive to assist Orange Police with suspicious circumstances involving a report of a man with a weapon later identified as a programmable gun inside Demille Hall. Read the full story at thepantheronline.com.

Two unknown persons tampered with fire equipment in the Barrera Parking Structure.

Two students were in a verbal altercation creating a disturbance in the residence life area.

A student reported being harassed by a non-student from a former dating relationship. A report was forwarded to the Orange Police Department.

Several non-students were observed at Panther Village entering a room with alcohol. Public Safety officers responded.

A student was arrested in relation to marijuana sales in Henley Hall. A report was forwarded to the police.

Compiled by Atharshna Singarajah
New policy puts out smoking on campus

Rachel Gossen | Senior Writer

As the new semester begins, there are somethings students will have to leave out of their schoolbags: cigarettes, electronic cigarettes and vaporizers.

As of Feb. 1, Chapman University is a smoke- and tobacco-free campus, meaning the use of any smoking product is prohibited from being used on campus property. The new policy comes as a change to the Chapman University Student Conduct Code, which previously permitted smoking in designated areas.

"Ultimately, it’s going to be a campus culture shift," said Student Government Association (SGA) President Josh Nudelman. "Our policy is a mix of a bunch of other schools. We saw what other schools’ policies are, what was successful, what wasn’t, and we created our own off of that."

Currently, there are 1,475 smoke-free college campuses across the United States, according to Americans for Nonsmokers’ Rights.

Junior English major Emily Quinn said she likes that Chapman is changing its policy.

"I think it’s a good idea to try to promote better health," Quinn said. "It seems like a well-intentioned solution to a much bigger health issue."

This policy has been in the works since last semester, when Nudelman and former student government senator Henry Callander presented the idea to students on campus.

"We had an opinion poll for students in the dean of students email and posted on the SGA social media pages," Nudelman said. "We presented the idea to senior staff, advocated for it and they made the decision for the change."

The poll Nudelman referenced was a survey of about 10 percent of the student body.

Senior psychology major Jillian Strong supports the policy, but isn’t sure if there will actually be a change among students.

"I am not a smoker and I understand why individuals who smoke are upset, but I personally feel people with health-related issues in regards to asthma and other breathing difficulties deserve priority," Strong said. "I think it will definitely reduce the amount of smoking on campus, but not eliminate it completely."

Junior digital arts major Mike Stimpson agrees with Strong but doesn’t think the university will be able to keep track of campus smokers.

"I don’t think anything will truly change," Stimpson said. "I’ll be too hard to enforce and people will continue to smoke on campus. The efforts of enforcing this cost more than it’s worth."

Stimpson also said he feels it’s unfair to ban vaporizers and e-cigarettes as they are seen as a better alternative to cigarettes and don’t smell as much.

However, Nudelman is already thinking about issues of enforcement a concern he has heard from many students.

"The perimeter of campus is public property, and we’re currently in talks to move all the ashtrays on campus to the perimeter," Nudelman said. "We’re also working with the idea of creating a submission section where you can report to Public Safety a specific area (of campus) where you see this policy not being enforced.

Students who are found to be smoking on campus will be referred to the dean of students while faculty will be referred to Human Resources.

Read more on Page 2.
The Plaza in review: 2015 Old Towne Orange

Tryphena Wardlaw | Senior Writer

Driving through Old Towne Orange looking for some food, Kevin Kole’s eye catches the perfect restaurant. Pure joy. At least that’s how Kole describes his experience in the Orange Plaza. “I usually just drive up there and eat what just sounds good at the time,” said Kole, a psychology major. "Half the time I will just cruise up and kind of pick something.”

In 2015, Old Towne Orange saw the closures of the Old Towne Grinder & Ice Cream Parlor, Pasta Connection, 149 Sports Grill and more but 11 new businesses have opened in their place including SunSpark Yoga, Blaze Pizza and Candies Apples & Sweets. The City of Orange Public Affairs and Information Manager Paul Sitko thinks that the new businesses fill a niche, not just for the students but for the town as well.

“In a good mix of different types of food, different price points, is healthy for any commercial area, not just for an area that serves the student population,” Sitko said.

"We have been here a long time and have seen all kinds of change, so we just have to go along with it and adapt." - Patricia Hahn

“We are again pleased that businesses want to come to Orange and do business in our old town district.”

In her 44 years of owning Muff’s Hardware, Patricia Hahn said she has seen a lot of change.

“The people have changed drastically,” Hahn said. “We have been here a long time and have seen all kinds of change, so we just have to go along with it and adapt.”

In March 2015, the news-themed Pizza Press opened its doors and a couple months later, Blaze upped the pizza competition when it opened in July.

“I’m a Blaze person ... it’s the crust, as weird as that sounds,” said freshman psychology major Daryn Link.

“Also it’s cheaper. Blaze’s owner is an Orange native and understands that students make up a large percentage of the company’s business, according to General Manager Linda Arango.

“A lot of people came this way (to Blaze) when Watson’s closed, I know a lot of people are really excited for it,” Arango said.

Each building in Old Towne Orange is privately owned, making the individual owners the ones responsible for the price of rent and whom they choose to rent the space to.

Orange residents and Chapman have a long and ongoing relationship, but Sitko feels that it all comes down to who was here first.

“While Orange is a city with a university in it, it is not a university town. It’s really important to look at it through that lens because that is the way I believe you will find most residents do think of the relationship between Chapman and Orange,” Sitko said.

“Chapman is a long-term guest, but the city was established and was an ongoing concern before Chapman came in the 1960s,” Kole thinks that the Plaza has improved a lot since his freshman year and is really excited for the Burger Parlor that is coming to the Plaza this year.

“Oh I’d definitely go there (to the Plaza) over the food on campus. I also live right over there so there are so many options to eat everyday.”

Kole said.

For information about new businesses coming to the Orange Plaza in 2016 read next week’s issue.

Labyrinth sets new path at Interfaith Center

Rachel Gossen | Senior Writer

Life is often hectic and stressful for college students, but the staff of the Fish Interfaith Center is hoping that the new addition to the center can help students and faculty clear their minds.

The Chapman Labyrinth, a 36-foot wide hand-painted canvas, arrived over interterm and was placed in the Fish Interfaith Center for three days. A labyrinth is a large continuous path used for meditative purposes, either for individuals or for a group. This particular labyrinth is 11 circuits, meaning there are 11 rows to walk through before reaching the center. Labyrinths originate from 12th century French churches, but do not require any religious aspect to use them, said Rev. Nancy Brink, director of church relations.

Brink is a trained facilitator in leading people through labyrinths and played a big role in bringing this one to Chapman.

“One of the reasons I particularly wanted to get it on a college campus is because college affects the head,” Brink said. “This (labyrinth) moves you to a different side of your mind, and I think we’re so much a part of an ADHD culture that having somewhere to physically move while reflecting helps us get to that quiet meditative state.”

Once the semester begins, Brink said she and her staff will begin planning monthly campus-wide group walks, where anyone who wishes to join can learn about the labyrinth and walk through it.

Rev. Gail Stearns, dean of the Wallace All Faiths Chapel, is happy to finally have a labyrinth at Chapman. It’s a great stress reliever,” Stearns said. “If you have an hour or a half hour, you just go walk it and feel refreshed. It’s good for students, faculty and staff to just go to anytime they want.”

The $4000 labyrinth, which was created uniquely for Chapman by a company in Indianapolis, was paid for by donations to the Office of Church Relations, Brink said. Senior film production major Brandon Karsh is intrigued by the labyrinth.

“To be honest, I don’t know much about it, but I think it’s a great idea,” Karsh said. “It sounds like a great way to meditate and clear your mind as it involved walking in a peaceful space, but I’m assuming it’s more active than just strolling in a park.”

Since the Fish Interfaith Center is used for other groups and purposes, the labyrinth will not stay on the ground all the time, but will be brought out when requested or for special events, according to Stearns.

“It permanently belongs to Chapman. If different organizations, or groups, or classes are interested in it, we can certainly schedule it and put it up,” Stearns said.

Stearns and Brink would both like to see a permanent labyrinth made out of stone be installed on campus.

“My hope is that we develop a labyrinth that will be available to the public, students, faculty and staff 24 hours a day,” Brink said.
Orange has its issues, too

Let me start by saying this – I think Orange is a swell place. It's a solid area to go to school in, it's super pretty in certain areas and it has a refreshing amount of character compared to the suburban monotony of other central Orange County towns.

But, Orange is not perfect. Like any place, Orange is not immune to issues that infect cities throughout the nation.

We at Chapman were reminded of this in November, when a burning SUV containing the shot and stabbed victims of a gang-related triple homicide turned the region's attention to Oakmont Avenue, a mere couple of blocks from campus and the homes of students living off-campus.

And even though it happened in our neighboring city of Santa Ana, three violent inmates escaped from the Central Men’s Jail last week. This incident remains a top story on almost every major news media website.

While these two specific cases are far from common occurrences, they can serve as a reminder that the edges of our “Chapman bubble” are entirely in our heads. While attending a gorgeous university that stands ordinarily close to the “Happiest Place on Earth,” it’s regretfully easy to forget about the real issues that plague the community around us. You don’t need to go to all the way to Los Angeles to find the broken and suffering – you can simply walk down to Hart Park off of Glassell Street and see for yourself the countless homeless people shivering next to their backpacks. Dzens of Chapman students can tell you about their traumatic experiences of being the victims of break-ins during last year’s off-campus theft epidemic. Any Orange Police Department officer will tell you without a moment’s hesitation that there is a violent “gang war” constantly being waged on the west side of Glassell Street. Glancing through the OC Register’s crime log will reveal a regular list of stabbings, robberies and other crimes of all kinds taking place on a weekly basis in Orange and its neighboring cities.

By all means, we’re extremely lucky and privileged to be able to go to school where we do. I’m not suggesting that Orange is a rough town as a whole. But it’s also not the flawless suburban utopia that certain handouts might make you think it is. It has real problems that affect people who need real help. It isn’t immune to crime or violence – no place is.

It’s just a case where ignorance is not bliss. Like The Panther has said in the past, Chapman can help by informing students during orientation week about which areas see what kinds of issues. As fresh residents of Orange, it’s also our responsibility as students to stay informed about what kinds of things are happening in the Orange community and maybe even going the extra mile to find ways to be part of the solution.

Construction is front and Center

The Panther Editorial Board

It’s the (temporary) end of an era. The Center Street sidewalk will be closed while Chapman continues its construction on its new science building, posing a few potential issues for the university and its students over the coming years.

With new buildings popping up on a seemingly regular basis, it has become commonplace for parts of Chapman’s campus to be closed off for construction during the school year. But the construction on Center Street, due to its close proximity to the dorms, poses a bigger nuisance for on-campus students.

Inevitable noise from construction will affect students living in the dorms, as well as nearby residents.

But perhaps more notably, with the campus side of Center Street fenced off, the days of taking the most direct route to campus from the dorms are no more, at least for the foreseeable future.

Due to this, students living in the dorms will have to find alternate routes to class, such as the campus entrance near Wilson Field or cutting through the underground parking structure.

While the Wilson Field option is a fairly smooth alternative, the influx of students trotting through the Lastinger parking structure is eventually going to cause some issues.

Commuting students in a rush to get to class are not going to suddenly be expecting pedestrians to pop out after going through the lot entrance.

To avoid a dangerous pedestrian scenario from happening, it may be worth it for the school to paint some crosswalk lines in the actual parking structure once more and more students inevitably begin cutting through Lastinger as an alternate route to quickly get to campus.

Another potential issue with the Center Street sidewalk closing is that, if students do still choose to use Center Street as a way to get to campus, they will have to walk on the residents’ side of the street. Increased student foot traffic brings with it the possibility of causing tension with residents due to a few factors, including noise, potential litter and students blocking driveways.

In short, it’s entirely possible that some residents just won’t be excited about the idea of more college students walking in front of their houses at all hours of the day. Essentially, Chapman should add signs reminding pedestrians to be courteous when walking in parking structures and near neighboring houses.

All this being said, the best solution to dealing with the sidewalk closure is likely just to leave an extra few minutes

The Panther Newspaper
Chapman spring sports preview

Jacob Hutchinson | Sports Editor

The end of interterm means that the start of spring sports at Chapman is just around the corner. With practices ramping up in preparation for the new season, each team will hope that its hard work yields worthy results. Chapman’s teams will look to improve on their results from last season and take advantage of the preseason optimism that comes with the blank slate of a 0-0 record. With that in mind, let’s take a look at some of the performances of Chapman’s teams from last season, and what to expect going in.

Baseball

Chapman’s baseball team will open its season unofficially on Jan. 30 with an alumni game before taking on East Texas Baptist University in a three-game series starting on Feb. 5. Despite a winning record both overall and in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference last season (23-16, 16-12), the Panthers will hope to improve on their sixth-place finish.

Chapman will look to capitalize off of its familiar roster, with the team losing only three seniors to graduation after last season. Barring injuries and a huge overhaul of the roster, the Panthers will be able to keep their core group of players together.

Chapman had a collective .302 batting average last year and drove in more than 6.5 runs per game. With some defensive improvement and a similar offensive performance, Chapman can hope to improve its record with its already strong core group of players.

Softball

Chapman’s softball team will open its season on Feb. 12 against Claremont-Mudd-Scripps. The Panthers (15-19, 12-16) finished sixth in the conference last season.

The Panthers lost five seniors to graduation after last season, when the team had a collective .292 batting average and drove in 4 runs per game. However, opposing teams batted .297 overall, but .311 in conference against Chapman last season. The Panthers’ earned run average also rose from 4.18 overall to 4.51 against conference opponents.

In order to have more success than last season, Chapman must be able to be more effective in limiting the offensive prowess of its opposition, especially in conference.

Golf

Chapman’s golf team will kick off its spring season Feb. 5 at the Morongo Golf Club at Tukwet Canyon. The Panthers had some mixed results in the fall, losing against Occidental 2-3, but defeating Pomona-Pitzer 3-2 at the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Match Play Invitational in September.

Chapman finished sixth out of eight places in a three-day tournament at Diamond Valley Golf Club on Sep. 22, but closed out the fall with a 291-304 win over Hope International University on Oct. 7.

The young group of golfers features only three upperclassmen on the 11-man roster. Chapman will hope that this youth and possible inexperience manifests itself positively, and sets the Panthers up for both a positive fall season and seasons to come.

Tennis

The Chapman men’s and women’s tennis teams will be forced to accept a change of scenery this spring due to the construction of the new Center for Science and Technology. They will stake their temporary home at the Anaheim Hills Racquet Club, roughly nine miles from campus.

The men’s team will open its spring season against Linfield College on Feb. 5 as it looks to improve on last year’s fourth-place finish in the conference. The Panthers (11-9, 5-5) will hope to turn in some more cohesive performances in order to reach their full potential.

The women’s team had a similar season, finishing fifth in conference. The Panthers (10-11, 6-5) will have to try to compensate for some loss of experience, with three seniors graduating last year. The women will also open their season against Linfield on Feb. 6.

Track and Field

Chapman’s track and field teams will open their seasons on Feb. 20. The men’s team will only have room for improvement, after finishing last in conference last year, and failing to pick up any dual meet points or conference championships.

The women’s team performed slightly better than the men’s team, picking up one point from dual meets, and three conference championships. With the clean slate of a new season, both teams will look to improve in any areas they can.

To read about men and women’s basketball, along with swimming and diving, turn to Page 8.
Basketball, swim and dive wrap up half of season

Daniel Starkand | Senior Writer

Interterm has come and gone at Chapman and the Panthers have enjoyed a nice month athletically both on the court and in the water. Chapman's basketball and swimming and diving teams will close out their seasons over the next month, after having mixed levels of success during the month of January.

**Basketball**

The men's basketball team began conference play in the month of January and went 7-2 to put them atop the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference standings. Chapman's overall record sits at 13-4 as they have won 10 of their last 12 games overall. Freshman guard Cam Haslam has led the way for the men's team.

Haslam has scored in double figures in all but three games this season and has scored as many as 40 points in a game against BYU-Hawaii on Nov. 28. Before a 62-61 win over Redlands on Wednesday night when Haslam only scored nine points, he had scored 37, 30 and 24 points in his previous three games, giving him an average of 30.3 points in that time span.

The men's team has also received strong play from sophomore forward James Taylor. He ranks second on the team averaging 13.1 points per game and leads the team averaging 6.2 rebounds a night. Taylor also leads the conference in field goal percentage, shooting an efficient 60.5 percent.

The women's basketball team has matched the success of the men, competing in eight conference games in the month of January, going 8-1, putting its conference record at 8-2. Chapman ranks second in conference behind Claremont-Mudd-Scripps (10-0). Overall, Chapman has won 11 of its last 12 games to put its record at 13-6.

The women's team has spread the wealth a bit more than the men, as the team has four players averaging double figures in points, led by junior guard Megan Charles who averages 14.1 points per game, which ranks her third in conference. Effort is largely spearheaded by freshman guard Katelyn Serizawa who leads the league in assists at 4.6 per game.

Both teams play the University of La Verne at home this upcoming week, with the men's game Feb. 1 at 7:30 p.m. and the women's Feb. 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hutton Sports Center.

**Swimming and Diving**

The Chapman men and women's swimming and diving teams are also in the middle of their seasons. Freshman Connor Broughton has been a bright spot for the men's team as he has broken the school record in the 400 IM with a time of 4:15.94. In their most recent meet, the women defeated the California Institute of Technology 161-43, but fell to La Verne 125-105. Broughton was the star for the men's team on Saturday, with the Panthers falling to La Verne 251-184 and Caltech 135-86.

Broughton placed first in both the 400 IM with his record-breaking time and the 1650 freestyle where he blew the competition out of the water finishing with a time of 16:44.30. Chapman's next meet will be at the University of Redlands on Feb. 6 in a double dual meet with Redlands and Occidental College at 11 a.m.