MIDYEAR RECESSION PREDICTED AT CHAPMAN’S 45TH ECONOMIC FORECAST

For the 45th year, Chapman University President Emeritus Jim Doti forecasted the future of the economy, mixing data with insights from colleagues and humorous takes on his half-marathon runs and appearance on "The Bold and the Beautiful."

The major takeaways of the forecast were a projected recession by mid-2023 and a drop in Orange County’s median home price. Doti and projected recession by mid-2023 and a drop in home prices will drop to $933,000 by the middle of next year, Doti said.

Additionally, Orange County median home prices will drop to $933,000 by the middle of next year, Doti said.

Doti called 2021 and 2022’s consumption, real GDP and unemployment rates the “calm before the storm,” drawing a comparison to the 1974–75 recession. And residential investment – now as it did 50 years ago – is dropping and will drag down consumer spending, which is the “big gorilla” of the GDP, he said.

He projected a -6% drop in real GDP in mid-2023 – “not as deep” as the mid-’70s recession.

“The cat’s out of the bag – we are forecasting a recession for next year,” he said.

Since what started as Doti’s Orange County economic forecast in 1977, Chapman’s annual forecast has become a nationally respected indicator known for its accuracy. Doti reiterated Chapman’s pinpoint 2021 forecast for 5.7% growth in real GDP, which ranked the university No. 4 for accuracy out of 25 Blue Chip forecasts and helped Chapman stay in the top position for real GDP forecasting between 2004 and 2021. In his state forecast, Doti noted that Orange County home prices have been decreasing since their $1 million-plus peak in April. A more important economic factor is new-home construction, which Doti said will be revealed through a 40% decrease in residential permits in 2023.

A newly acquired apartment building in Anaheim’s Platinum Triangle will make apartments available to more students and will provide a significant increase to the number of students who can reside in campus housing.

The new residence hall, which will be named Chapman Court when it officially opens, is located at 2045 S. State College Boulevard, just two blocks away from Chapman Grand. The building will offer individual unit amenities, including washers and dryers in every apartment, a full kitchen with high-end finishes and appliances, and a large on-site fitness center. The Chapman Shuttle service will provide transportation to and from campus, removing the need for students to drive personal vehicles to campus.

“The campus residential experience is an important part of what makes the Chapman student community so meaningful,” says Harold Hewitt, executive vice president and chief operating officer. “These apartment-style residences give students a chance to live independently without cutting them off from the campus community.”

“With hundreds of millions invested in student housing over the past several years, the university’s commitment to house 50 percent of our undergraduate students on campus remains strong. This building also has the additional benefit of being self-parked and accessible by our shuttles, which will reduce traffic and parking issues,” said Hewitt.

Increasing student housing is a continuing goal for the university, and the new building will raise the university’s capacity to almost 55 percent of the undergraduate population.

At Chapman, first and second-year students are required to live in campus housing, but in recent years the university has seen a dramatic increase (175% between 2017-2019) in juniors and seniors requesting campus housing due to the appeal of apartment-style housing options.

“I am extremely excited to be adding an additional residence hall of the caliber of Chapman Grand to our student housing options,” said Chapman University President Daniele Struppa. “We have seen remarkable success with the Grand, and I look forward to creating a similar experience with the new Chapman Court.”

The date of student occupancy is yet to be determined.
YOU’RE INVITED!

Join us for these engaging events at Chapman.

Chapman students on the university’s men’s water polo team participated in a cleanup of Hart Park last semester.

“We want the Orange community to have a positive perception of not only the men’s water polo team at Chapman but our entire student body,” said team captain Jake Bullock.

“We want the community to know that we take great pride in keeping our local parks clean, especially since we have the privilege of getting to use them for our own sporting events. This is just our way of giving back to the community that gives us so much,” said Bullock.

In total, the team filled up eight bags of trash from throughout Hart Park.

Rosanne Cash Duo
Thursday, Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m.
Musco Center for the Arts
Rosanne Cash has made a name for herself as one of America’s preeminent singer-songwriters. Through 15 albums that have earned four Grammys, she has defied classification as merely a country artist or the eldest daughter of Johnny Cash through her deft exploration of folk, pop, rock, blues and Americana. Tickets start at $40.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time
February 16–25, 7:30 p.m.
Moulton Hall – Waltmar Theatre
15-year-old Christopher is exceptional at mathematics but ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. Determined to solve the mystery of who murdered the neighbor’s dog, he carefully records each fact of the crime. But his detective work, forbidden by his father, takes him on a thrilling journey that upturns his world. Based on the novel by Mark Haddon, adapted by Simon Stephens. General public: $20.

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