Spotlight on SGA

Student government President Annabell Liao faces complaints behind closed doors

News, Page 2

Student government presidential and vice presidential races uncontested

News, Page 3

Cross-Cultural Center opens with day of celebration

An interpretive dance and a ribbon-cutting ceremony kicked off the opening of the university’s Cross-Cultural Center Feb. 27. Students have been requesting a center for almost 15 years.

News, Page 4

Softball coach wins 600th game

The Panthers split a doubleheader against University of Redlands March 3. The Panthers lost the first game 8-4 and won the second game 14-6.

Sports, Page 16
Senate presents list of complaints about president

Sabrina Santoro | Assistant News Editor

The student government senate presented a list of complaints about President Annabell Liao at the March 3 meeting during a period of 20 minutes when the meeting was closed to the public, said Junior Class Senator Sarah Tabsh. Tabsh, who moved to close the meeting, did not specify what the complaints were, because she said that information discussed during a closed meeting is confidential.

"It was a document that (senators) had written," said Tabsh, who is running for next year’s vice president. "It shared with the rest of the senate outlining different things that (Liao) had violated. When she was sworn into office, she had sworn that she would fulfill different duties, so we just outlined what she had violated in a private setting."

Tabsh said that she moved to close the meeting because the senate did not want information about the document reported on in The Panther. During a closed meeting, anyone who is not in student government is required to leave the room.

Liao discussed the contents of the meeting with The Panther March 5, and by doing so, Speaker of Senate Mitchell Rosenberg said that Liao violated the student government constitution. As of March 5, Rosenberg was unsure what the protocol is for when a member of the executive council violates the constitution.

Liao told The Panther that senators were concerned that she had been reaching out to The Panther and the student body without notifying the senate beforehand. Liao said March 1 that she had a "number of issues" with the way senators passed a proposal to restructure the senate Feb. 24. The proposal went against student survey results, so Liao distributed a new survey Feb. 28 to gain student feedback.

Liao later vetoed the proposal March 3 in an email before the senate meeting.

"Normally what’s covered in a closed meeting stays confidential, so I am surprised she opted to share very sensitive internal matters in a public setting," Tabsh said.

According to the student government constitution, all senate meetings are required to be open to the community unless three-fourths of the senate votes to close it for a maximum of one hour.

During the meeting, 23 senators present, 18 senators voted to close the meeting, four senators voted against closing the meeting and one senator abstained from voting.

In the email announcing her decision to veto, which Liao provided to The Panther, Liao also wrote that senators could close meeting to the public if they wanted to discuss the veto further. However, Liao said that the proposal was not discussed during the closed portion of the meeting.

Tabsh said that she had not read Liao’s email before the senate meeting, and some senators had already planned on closing the meeting to present the list of complaints about Liao, which was drafted three days before the meeting, Tabsh said.

"No one had mentioned to me that she wanted to close the meeting … I had sent two different emails to all the senators the night before to let them know a document was being made," Tabsh said.

After the senate passed the proposal that went against student survey results, student government distributed a new survey beginning Feb. 28. According to results that Liao shared with The Panther, some students wrote comments criticizing the structure of student government or expressing confusion about how it functions. Two of the 91 respondents referred to student government as "shady."

"Listen to how we vote," wrote one respondent, a senior from the School of Communication. "We voted for you but you cannot just do whatever you want after surveying us. This survey does not include (the same) responses that the last one did and we can see that you’re swaying us into voting how you want it."

Another respondent, a sophomore from the Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, said that the number of senators who have resigned is an "internal problem."

"I don’t think that should influence (the student body’s) decision," the respondent said.

If the final proposal is passed by the student body during this month’s elections, it will reduce the total number of senators from 29 to 16. There would be one academic senator representing each school, compared to two now. Instead of class senators for each year, there would be one senator for lowerclassmen and one senator for upperclassmen. There will also be five senators for student organizations instead of three.

Tabsh’s movement to close the meeting was seconded by Freshman Class Senator Jerry Hu.

To read more about student government, turn to the editorial on page 12.

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SGA president vetoes restructure proposal

Sabrina Santoro | Assistant News Editor

Student government President Annabell Liao vetoed a restructure proposal in an email before the March 3 senate meeting.

The vetoed proposal was one that the senate passed at the Feb. 24 meeting. Instead of overriding Liao’s veto – which would have required a three-fourths senate vote – the senate decided to approve a similar restructuring proposal that would also reduce the number of senators in student government. The senators opted to approve a new proposal so they could revise parts of it.

Liao said that she is not planning to veto the new proposal, although she doesn’t agree with the way it was passed. Students will vote on the restructure proposal on the ballot for the presidential election, which will take place March 13 to 15.

"It seems like a rushed decision. I think there wasn’t enough deliberation over feedback that the students provided," Liao said. "Although I may not fully agree with the proposal, I believe that senate structure needs to change and I’m willing to put the proposal in the hands of the student body to decide whether or not this is the right one."

Argyros School of Business and Economics Senator Peter Scheinman said that if the senate were to override the veto, it would have passed the original proposal, which Scheinman said some senators didn’t want.

"The new proposal is similar to the one that the senate passed Feb. 24 – which Liao vetoed – despite receiving survey results that students mostly wanted the senate to remain the same. "We took elements of past proposals and other proposals, put together a new proposal March 3 that we felt worked best for everyone after hearing concerns and talking about the surveys, and passed a new one," said Speaker of Senate Mitchell Rosenberg.

Liao told The Panther March 1 that she had a "number of issues" with the way the senate passed the earlier proposal, including the fact that not all senators were present for the vote Feb. 24.

"This isn’t something I take lightly, as I would prefer to generally leave these decisions to the senate," Liao wrote in an email.

"However, it is still my responsibility as a separate branch to provide a check on the senate when I think their decision does not best serve the student body."

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Student government has an image of being secretive with elections. People are more likely to get behind a transparent organization. As senators, you should want to be a part of the people first, then student government second.

- Anonymous sophomore survey respondent in the College of Performing Arts

"SGA president vetoes restructure proposal"
First uncontested election in years

Rebecca Glaser | News Editor

The student government presidential and vice presidential seats are uncontested in the March 8 election, according to candidate biography information. This is the first time since 2009 that the student government presidential election has gone uncontested. The last uncontested vice presidential election was in 2013.

Mitchell Rosenberg, a sophomore television writing and production major, is the first sophomore to run for president since 2010. Sarah Tabsh, the candidate for vice president, was not aware that the student government vice presidential election was in 2013.

“I think, clearly, if that’s the case, then students don’t see student government as the changemaker it is.” Rosenberg said that, for him, an uncontested race is “not ideal.” “I think you’re easily going to look out between a few candidates which one is the most passionate, and in an uncontested election, you might see that it would take away some of that.” Rosenberg said. “I can guarantee I will campaign just as hard uncontested or contested … The fact that it’s uncontested, I’m not even going to think about it.”

While the presidential seat was uncontested at the time of filing, Tabsh, a junior health sciences major, and sophomore screen acting major Arianna Ngnomire both filed to run for vice president by the Feb. 27 deadline.

On March 1, Ngnomire, who is an acting major Arianna Ngnomire confirmed to The Panther that she was no longer running for vice president, because student government bylaws state that she cannot serve as an executive member of an organization and also be vice president. Student Government President Annabel Liao wrote in an email to The Panther that there is still time for students who are interested to file as a write-in candidate by March 8.

“It would be great if there were other students interested and available to run for the executive positions,” Liao wrote.

**Proposed changes:**

**Health, wellness and recreation:**

- Increase health center hours
- Improve Student Psychological counseling services
- Improve shuttle services
- Make declining balance usable in the Orange Plaza

**Academics:**

- Look at Freshman Foundations Course requirements to make sure that homework assignments are more equal
- Hire more tutors in the Tutoring, Learning and Testing Center

**Community relations:**

- Attend every city council meeting

**Sustainability:**

- Install LED light bulbs campus-wide
- Implement a campus-wide plastic ban
- Install clearer recycling station with pictures to help students differentiate recyclables from compost and regular trash

Sarah Tabsh | Vice presidential candidate

Why did you decide to run for vice president?

I decided to run for vice president specifically because I really like senate, and I really like internal affairs and I’m really invested in what senate is currently up to. I think that the most change.

What changes do you want to make in student government?

As vice president, I really want to hold senate accountable, let senate know what they want to do. I just think that senate wastes a lot of time trying to find something to do, and I think that senators should just have a portal of places where they put current interests that’s a little more organized. I think the reason why student government hasn’t been cranking out as many changes as well like because it takes a while for senators to settle in, understand the position, reach out to their constituents and find something they think is worth their time to change for.

**Proposed changes:**

- Hold senate more accountable
- Implement a portal of current senate projects
- Compile a list of past advocacies

Mitchell Rosenberg | Presidential candidate

Why did you decide to run for president?

This year, I’ve served as speaker of senate. I had the opportunity to lead senate, and I’m one of the point people for senators, so they come to me and I’m always happy to help. I really feel that, given my track record in the organization, given my leadership - I’m the longest-serving senator in senate currently - and given my track record, my experience, drive, even my heart and compassion for understanding what students want and feel, has set me up for this position. Being the student body president, you have to be present at a lot of things whether it’s city council meetings, which aren’t mandatory, but are important. I think I’ve proven more experience - that I can do just as much as any senior could.

What changes do you want to make to student government?

My running mate Sarah Talsh and I have narrowed our platform down to five key points: academics, sustainability, general campus improvements, health, wellness and recreation, and community relations. Starting with community relations, what I can bring is the absolute promise that I will be at every city council meeting, speaking in a positive light for students. Even if there’s no problem, we need that voice, that representation, and to show that we respect the residents of Orange and we are also residents of Orange.

From what I understood, (the role of president) has become an administrative duty. They answer emails, go to meetings, they make speeches, but that president is the figurehead and should be the head advocate. When there’s something that is a bigger scale thing … I want the president at the forefront of that change pushing, advocating. If they are the leader of the students, they have to be advocating for these changes, otherwise nothing is going to happen.

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Photos courtesy of student government

Sabrina Santoro | Assistant News Editor

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Graphics by EMMA STESSMAN | Art Director
Chapman women take the stage at poetry night

‘You want to be a voice for a voiceless? Just pass the mic.’

Kate Hoover | Staff Writer

Politics, white privilege and self-love were a few of the topics that joined together to kick off Women's History Month at an open mic night featuring female student performances of music and poetry.

Chapman Feminists hosted the event March 1 in the university's new Cross-Cultural Center. The open mic night brought about 30 people, said senior Amanda Ball, who is the president of Chapman Feminists and a program assistant at the Cross-Cultural Center.

Ball started the event with one of her own pieces of poetry, which she said is about what it's like to be black.

"Poetry, for me, has been really empowering with what it symbolizes: giving someone a voice who doesn't usually have their voice heard," Ball told The Panther. "There's a tweet going around that says, 'You want to be a voice for the voiceless? Just pass the mic.' So we're literally, physically giving someone a mic, in the space of poetry or music or whatever people choose to perform tonight, and I think that's really powerful."

Niki Black, a senior women and gender studies major, performed a song she wrote before Donald Trump became the president Nov. 8. Black told The Panther that she chose to sing her song at the open mic because of the rhetoric against women that she feels is becoming increasingly prevalent in the country.

"I was wanting a space to do a very angry feminist song," Black said. "Considering our current political climate that seems to be worsening day by day, I felt it was a therapeutic opportunity." 

Jackie Palacios, a sophomore screen acting and peace studies double major, said that she has been writing poetry for about a year and a half. Palacios performed three of her poems, which commented on white privilege and self-care.

"I performed these specific pieces because it was definitely more of a social justice theme. I think slam poetry kind of leans toward that anyway, but priority was given to women of color to perform (at the open mic night), so I figured I'm a woman of color and I'm going to share about how I'm a woman of color and how it makes me feel," Palacios said.

The open mic night also featured Aman Batra, a spoken-word poet who performed a poetry set during the final 30 minutes of the evening. Batra is a 14 English alumni of UCLA and said that she has been performing spoken-word poetry for four years.

Batra told The Panther that her love for spoken-word poetry started in college, and that she was a member of UCLA's first slam poetry team during her senior year.

"My favorite part is connecting with everybody," Batra said. "I write for my own self-healing, but there's another layer to it when you say it out loud and there's other people in the room that feel you. Being up there, saying a line, and everyone feels that and there's this contagious energy in the room. I live for that."
Students discuss stress management, mental health at self-care fair

Chris Hennigan | Staff Writer

It was bright and sunny in the Aitken Arts Plaza as the Self-Care Fair kicked off an afternoon of yoga, music and promotion of mental health awareness Feb. 28.

The event was part of the See Me CU Campaign, led by the Bateman Public Relations Team, to destigmatize mental illness on Chapman’s campus over the next two weeks.

The fair focused on the five signs of emotional suffering: personality change, agitation, withdrawal, poor self-care and hopelessness.

Allie White, a junior public relations and advertising major, is part of the Bateman PR Team and spearheaded the event. She said that she wanted to get involved because of her passion for mental health.

“My personal story stems from high school,” White said. “I used to self-harm in high school, and my best friend ran the gamut of mental disorders — eating disorders, self-harm, suicidal, it did everything. So I did (the fair) partially for me, but more for her, because she’s doing something like that on her campus in Texas.”

White emphasized that getting involved in mental health issues can come in the form of being an active advocate, or by being a good friend and letting people know they aren’t alone.

The fair featured booths at which attendees could engage in a dialogue about symptoms and take something, such as a miniature journal or a flower pot and seeds.

Ed Fox, associate director of Student Psychological Counseling Services, wrote in an email that managing stress is a key component in maintaining mental health. He wrote that events centered around bringing awareness to mental health issues almost always increase referrals to student counseling services.

“The challenge for most students is actually finding the time to follow through with getting assistance,” Fox wrote. “In my experience, many students are aware that they could use support and tools to manage their stress, but their life is so packed with things to do that self-care (counseling) gets put aside … It isn’t always about reducing the negative things in life, but rather adding positives.”

Senior Michelle Edwards, who is president of Active Minds, a student-run mental health organization, was at the event to engage students in dialogue about mental health with attendees.

“Seeing that there is a whole event about mental health is great for students to be aware of and to kind of be able to talk about it with their friends and family,” Edwards said. “The most important part of self-care is managing stress and knowing when you need to have a break. I think we get so caught up in classes and exams that we forget to have time for ourselves.”

Skye Sinyard, a sophomore public relations and advertising major, ran the “Personality Change” informational booth for Bateman.

“I know that sounds really cheesy, but it’s OK if you mess up or feel down,” Sinyard said, as she handed out affirmation stones. “There are so many people having these issues. We’ve had so many people come up to us and tell their stories and it’s really cool, because there’s not really a platform where you can talk about it.”

The event also featured anonymous messages about mental health handwritten on glass easels near the event. Some people wrote about dealing with undiagnosed mental illnesses, while others discussed overcoming mental health issues like depression and eating disorders. Many of the messages were positive, telling fair attendees that “(Recovery) can be done,” and “It gets better.”
About 20 students sat on the steps in front of the library Feb. 28, holding signs in solidarity with transgender and gender nonconforming people.

‘We’re here and we’re queer’

Students gather to support transgender, nonconforming rights

Rebecah Glaser | News Editor

About 20 people gathered on the steps of the Leatherby Libraries Feb. 28 for a rally in solidarity with transgender and gender nonconforming people.

The rally came less than a week after the U.S. Departments of Education and Justice announced plans to withdraw protections introduced under the Obama administration for transgender students, which allowed them to use bathrooms that match their gender identities. The conflict comes from an interpretation of Title IX, which bans discrimination in schools based on sex.

Leila Mamone, a senior ethics major who organized the rally, said that the event in the Atallah Piazza was organized with the LGBT Center OC and some of Mamone’s friends.

“I’d been wanting to organize something for transgender and gender nonconforming solidarity for a long time, and there’s a lot of media surrounding the recent Title IX rollbacks,” Mamone told The Panther.

“We are protected by the law, but we shouldn’t need law or awareness of the policy to be treated like people. It’s not about law and it’s not about policy necessarily. We shouldn’t need those things to have the right to exist.”

The term gender nonconforming refers to a person who has physical or behavioral characteristics that do not correspond with those usually associated with the person’s biological sex.

Students who attended the event held signs that read “Black trans lives matter,” “We’re here and we’re queer,” and “Protect indigenous trans people.”

About halfway through the rally, Mamone held a moment of silence for transgender people who have recently been killed. According to the Human Rights Campaign, 22 transgender people were shot, stabbed or otherwise violently killed in the U.S. from January to December 2016.

One of the topics discussed at the event was the Supreme Court case of Gavin Grimm, a transgender 17-year-old from Virginia whose school board was ordered to allow Grimm to use the boys’ bathroom at his school.

Dannie Cesena, a transitions services coordinator at the LGBT Center OC, spoke during the rally about the recent proposed changes to how Title IX is interpreted.

“This is not about the bathrooms, this is about us existing as human beings. By attacking our existence, they’re basically saying, ‘You cannot be true to who you are,’” Cesena said.

Gov. Jerry Brown signed a bill in September 2016 that would require, beginning March 1, all single-gender bathrooms in businesses, government agencies and public places to be identified as all-gender toilet facilities.

There are 11 restrooms on the university’s main campus and Chapman Studios West that are designated as all-gender.

“I didn’t even know that we had a gender-neutral bathroom on the first floor of the library,” said Jess Herb, a junior digital arts major who attended the rally. “Now I know, but I didn’t know that forever … People don’t even know that transgender and gender non-binary people live here.”

A study by the University of Southern California School of Law found that 0.58 percent of people living in California — roughly 218,400 people — identify as transgender, compared to 0.76 percent of people living in the U.S. between the ages of 18 and 24 are the most likely demographic in California to identify as transgender, the study found.

Herb said that rallies like this one are a small step, and that the biggest thing people can do is show their support.

“When you see something that is in any way damaging to someone’s gender identity, then tear it down, or actively talk it out,” Herb said. “Form your own identity, then tear it down, or actively talk it out, “ Herb said. “Form your own identity, then tear it down, or actively talk it out.”

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“We are protected by the law, but we shouldn’t need law or awareness of the policy to be treated like people. It’s not about law and it’s not about policy necessarily. We shouldn’t need those things to have the right to exist.”

- Leila Mamone, senior ethics major

Photos by JACKIE COHEN Features Editor

Senate updates

March 3 meeting

Appointments

Vice President Tyler Porterfield appointed three students to student government as at-large senators. Porterfield appointed sophomores Harrison Holetz, Wil Harris and Enoch Cheng. The new senators were sworn in by President Annabel Liao. The seats were added because they could not be filled in the special election.

Funding requests

Student government is funding $5,664 for the Muslim Student Association Islam Interscholastic Tournament on April 15. The Muslim Student Association originally requested $6,014 for videography, supplies and awards, including trophies, iPads, an Amazon Fire Kindle and gift cards for volunteers and organizers.

Student government senators chose not to fund the iPads, gift cards or videography.

The New York Times subscription

Junior Class Senator Sarah Tabsh presented a proposal to provide online subscriptions to The New York Times to all undergraduate students for $7,056. The senate approved the proposal.

Closed meeting

The senate voted to close its meeting to the public for 20 minutes to discuss “internal affairs.” Junior Class Senator Sarah Tabsh moved to close the meeting, which was seconded by Freshman Class Senator Jerry Hu.

To read more about the senate proposal, turn to page 2.

Compiled by Sabrina Santoro

INCIDENT LOG

Feb. 24

A student reported that his or her bicycle was stolen from near the Harris Apartments.

A student reported that his or her bicycle was stolen from main campus near the Leatherby Libraries.

March 1

Public Safety found marijuana, drug paraphernalia and alcohol drug paraphernalia and alcohol on a college campus — roughly 218,400 people — identify as transgender, compared to 0.76 percent of people living in the U.S. from

Compiled by Sabrina Santoro with incidents from the Public Safety daily crime log

Academic Senate

To read more about the senate proposal, turn to page 2.

Compiled by Sabrina Santoro with incidents from the Public Safety daily crime log
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KNOWLEDGE.
TEAMWORK.
COMPASSION.

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CHAPMAN.EDU PHARMACY
**Strike a pose, then hit the books**

*Students describe working as models and attending college in an age with social media*

Lorig Vaghseian | Assistant Features Editor

Zoe Baron, a senior English major, sat in a makeup chair in Cancun, Mexico for 10 hours while her hairstylists prepared her voluminous, zigzag hairstyle to walk down the runway for Farouk Systems, a hair product company.

Some students at Chapman, like Baron, have found their way to the runway through their social media. Although models are still scouted through auditions and applications, many modeling agencies have strayed away from this traditional approach and are using social media as a tool to find new talent, according to the Huffington Post.

"Now, with social media, it is easier to get your name around and get signed to more jobs that way," Baron said.

**Zoe Baron:** Instagram: @thezoebaron

Baron started modeling when she was 4 years old.

"Before modeling, I thought you had to do something that required an extensive education, such as being a doctor or lawyer, but none of those jobs interested me," Baron said.

"The whole time, I kept coming back to modeling because it is the only job I enjoy everything about." Up until last semester, Baron lived in Las Vegas where she had contracts with several agencies. She said it is not uncommon to have multiple agencies in Las Vegas, unlike California where it is less common to be signed with two agencies. However, she said she prefers freelancing because she does not have to be tied down to a contract and also she gets to keep all the money she earns.

Baron now uses her large Instagram following of more than 50,000 to be scouted by companies looking for freelance models. Through her Instagram, she was offered a modeling job for BoutineLA, a swimsuit company.

"Social media makes it possible to not be signed (by an agency) but still get job opportunities and all the benefits that come from not being tied to a contract," Baron said.

She said that her modeling career really took off when she did the photo shoot for BoutineLA. It also helped her realize that she wanted to do this as a career because she felt "in her element" by being surrounded by individuals who shared the same aspirations she did.

"That is when I think modeling was really my calling," Baron said.

**Bella Golden:** Instagram: @bellaagolden

Featured in Cosmopolitan Magazine’s "17 curvy models you need to follow on Instagram." Bella Golden, a sophomore creative writing major, travels between Los Angeles and New York for modeling projects and photo shoots.

Although her modeling career was not planned, she always enjoyed taking photos with her friends and posting them on Instagram and other social media sites. This is how JAG Models in New York found her.

Golden signed with JAG at the end of last fall semester and took a leave of absence from Chapman to fly to New York for photo shoots.

"It’s all a balancing act," Golden said. "You just need to know when to focus on which one." Golden, who is a size 12, said she feels comfortable at JAG because she thinks some agencies would not choose her unless she was either a traditional size 16 plus-size model or a size zero.

"(JAG) never asked me to lose or gain weight, and that is something I am very happy with," Golden said. "I am comfortable with my body and I don’t care if other peoples don’t like it.”

Through her Instagram, which has about 5,000 followers, Golden aims to promote a positive body image by showcasing her success and posting encouraging captions with her photos.

"I want my viewers to know that you can have fun and be a model at any size," Golden said.

**Nicholas Berson:** Instagram: @nicholasberson

Focusing more on school than modeling, Nicholas Berson, a senior screenwriting major, said he models on the weekends and leaves weekdays for school.

Berson began modeling in the spring of 2014. He said he is not signed to an agency and works freelance jobs. He is managed by Stephen Stone Productions, a talent management company, and has been featured on two fitness-based Instagram accounts, Male Form and Beauty, which has 72,000 followers, as well as Fashionably Male, which has 72,000. This helped him reach about 16,000 followers on Instagram.

"I started modeling because it was a way to make money on the side," Berson said.

The best part of working as a model is having the opportunity to be able to be on sets and get to work with creative and talented people, Berson said.

"Working in these conditions is something not everybody gets to do, and I feel very lucky to be able to do be on set and work," he said.

He started to gain success after he signed with his manager who began to point him in the right direction. His manager guided him to know which jobs to take and which jobs to decline, he said.

"As great as modeling is, school is more important to me. That’s why I’m paying all this money for a good education, so modeling is whenever I have free time," Berson said.
Mia Garcia woke up, unable to move. She tried to speak but was unable to call out for help. Her heart was beating rapidly and her hearing was heightened as if she was listening through headphones at full volume, she said.

Garcia, a junior health sciences major, has sleep paralysis, a disorder that can cause her mind to wake up before her body, she said, and has been dealing with the condition for eight years.

Garcia is not alone in her need to manage sleep disorders while juggling the high demands of a college education. A 2010 study in the Journal of American College Health found, through a sample of more than 1,800 university students, that 27 percent of students were at risk for one or more sleep disorders.

"Most of the time, sleep paralysis happens when you're really exhausted," Garcia said, adding that it can occur more often, up to twice a month, when she does not get enough sleep, or when she has a heavier workload.

Audrey Barthold, an undeclared sophomore, said she sometimes misses entire days of school because she has narcolepsy, which she describes as "chronic sleep deprivation," and has to take large chunks of time in her day to sleep.

The amount of sleep Barthold gets doesn't make a difference, she said, because her brain simply doesn't allow her to enter a "deep restful state." Rather than using her time between classes to study, Barthold goes home to sleep, she said, adding that one time, she drove home after her first class and fell asleep for five hours. She woke up briefly at 8 p.m. and proceeded to sleep through the entire night.

Barthold said that if she gets less than eight hours of sleep, she can be too tired to drive to class.

The combination of having trouble sleeping and dealing with stress is an endless cycle, said Sarah Levin, a senior screenwriting major who has insomnia.

Levin said that her inability to sleep stems from not being able to turn off her mind at night and spending hours thinking about the work she has to do. "You still have to do everything. There may be someone in your class who looks super chipper and gets all their work done, and they're sleeping like three hours a night," Levin said.

Stress is also a trigger for Kyle Harrington, a sophomore digital arts major who has sleep paralysis and nightmare disorder, which he said typically go hand-in-hand.

Harrington said that he often finds it difficult to wake up for morning commitments, focus in class and stay awake all day without taking a nap. Harrington goes through month-long periods, typically when he is under high stress, during which he will wake up four to five times a week with nightmares, he said. Harrington said his sleep paralysis also causes him to experience hypnagogic hallucinations, vivid dream-like hallucinations that occur as one falls asleep.

"Your brain tries to make itself feel correct by creating these hallucinations ... to make sense out of the sensory sensations," Harrington said. Harrington said that, like many mental health issues, sleep disorders are difficult for people who haven't experienced them to fully understand. "Whether it be nightmare disorder or insomnia or something like that, they legitimately have trouble sleeping and that's a hard thing for people to wrap their heads around," Harrington said. "When you can't sleep like a normal person, your brain doesn't function like a normal person."

About 27 percent of students are at risk for one or more sleep disorders, according to a Journal of American College Health study.

Harrington said that, like many mental health issues, sleep disorders are difficult for people who haven't experienced them to fully understand. "Whether it be nightmare disorder or insomnia or something like that, they legitimately have trouble sleeping and that's a hard thing for people to wrap their heads around," Harrington said. "When you can't sleep like a normal person, your brain doesn't function like a normal person."
Politics, professors and President Donald Trump

Discussing the presidency in the classroom

Gracie Fleischman | Staff Writer

In the beginning of the spring semester, English professor Lynda Hall decided to bring a red, white and blue-striped mug to class. Dubbed the “freedom of speech mug” by Hall and her students, every time someone makes a joke about President Donald Trump, they put a quarter in the jar.

In the months after the election and Trump’s inauguration, Chapman professors are implementing different ways to deal with the topic in class. Some choose to stick to course material. If Trump comes in a way that’s pertinent to the topic at hand, then you don’t have to put a quarter in,” Hall said. “That way we can weed out what’s real and what’s a joke, which I think is a serious problem in the political landscape right now.”

Hall said her literature classes often use examples from current events to help students understand diction. “How could I say that I won’t talk about politics?” Hall said. “It would be like saying I won’t talk about words. How do I teach English without words?”

Hall was teaching a senior seminar class on the night of the election and saw some of her students express concern as the results started coming in, Hall said. “This was the first time voting for a lot of them. It was a time when they were very concerned the election results would change their lives, and not for the better.”

For the class after the election, Hall decided to set aside her syllabus for the day and let students talk about the election results.

“I wanted everyone to have the opportunity to say something,” Hall said. “I don’t want anybody to be critical of each other. I want this to be a safe place.”

Hall said she and her students self-policed themselves when it comes to adding quarters to the “freedom of speech mug.” She plans to use the money to buy her students candy at the end of the semester.

Like Hall, political science professor John Compton said he integrated the election into class and used class time to look at exit polls to get a sense of why Trump won.

“People were shell-shocked regardless of their political perspective,” Compton said. “I don’t think many people thought he would win.”

Compton said his students have been very concerned, and there haven’t been many heated discussions about the new president. “I try to encourage all points of view,” he said. “When someone expresses a view on one side, I always ask if someone wants to respond (and) play devil’s advocate.”

Freshman communication studies major Avery Sjogren said she appreciates when her professors play devil’s advocate, which she said is “honestly refreshing.”

Some of her other communication studies professors try to steer conversation away from politics. “I said something not very kind about Trump once, and my professor got a terrified look in her eye,” Sjogren said. “It seemed right in a communication class. Isn’t that where you should learn how to voice arguments correctly?”

On the other hand, Nubar Hovsepian, the chair of the political science department, chooses to keep U.S. politics out of his classroom because it doesn’t relate to the classes he teaches. “I don’t know what happened to the other colleagues did. Those that teach American politics probably spent more time on the topic, after all, elections are important,” Hovsepian said.

While some professors, like Hall, chose to help their students process the election results, Hovsepian said it was his job to “hold students’ hands through the process.” “My job is not to make anything safe for anybody,” Hovsepian said. “My job is to make sure you get educated, (so) that you learn the material well, that you think out of the box.”

Chapman alumna publishes children’s travel book series

Atharshna Singarajah | Senior Writer

Michele Gottlieb said she was getting reiki, an energy healing therapy, done by a lady who called herself a psychic, when the woman told her, “You’ll find your light in the words?”

“Wherever We May Go” children’s books.

“I’ve only ever had three ‘aha’ moments in my life, and the moment that followed her words was one of them,” Gottlieb wrote in an email. “I immediately ran home after and wrote the idea out of the stories and finished the concept for the first book within a week.”

“Wherever We May Go” is a children’s travel book series Gottlieb created, which encourages children to explore and travel.

First book, “Wherever We May Go: New Orleans,” was published on Jan. 3. It was illustrated by Chapman ‘15 digital arts alumna Renee Romero.

Gottlieb said the story follows two main characters, Jennie and Michael, who are friends that like to travel together and discover new places with the help of a local friend, who changes depending on the setting of each book. The book is written in rhyme and includes family-friendly recipes from each place the characters visit.

Gottlieb said that growing up, she always gravitated toward fiction and fantasy books, anything that had a touch of magic.

“Watching the first ‘Harry Potter’ movie, I realized that there were people creating these worlds and that I wanted to be a part of it, hence my journey into film school. But I always knew on some level that I wanted to write a children’s book,” Gottlieb wrote.

As an adult, Gottlieb said she found a love for travel and realized the feeling she received when exploring new places was similar to what she felt when reading books as a child. She said that is where the idea for her book series emerged.

Gottlieb found the book’s illustrator through her connections with the university. “Chapman has always been sort of a ‘wise old grandparent’ since I graduated, popping up in unlikely ways to lend a helping hand,” Gottlieb wrote.

Gottlieb’s sister works at Chapman and suggested that Gottlieb reach out to Bill Kroyer, the director of the digital arts program, who introduced her to Romero.

“When (Gottlieb) described the book to me, ‘Wherever We May Go: New Orleans’ was published on Jan. 3. It was illustrated by Chapman ‘15 digital arts alumna Renee Romero.’”

Gottlieb said she found herself gravitating toward simple-shaped, bright-colored designs, which inspired her to create a short film that appeals to younger kids.

As an adult, Gottlieb said she found the book’s illustrations were inspired by Disney’s “The Princess and the Frog,” which was about a 7-year-old detective who helps his friend find his missing toy.

Romero said her thesis film was about a 7-year-old detective who helps his friend find his missing toy.

“The Princess and the Frog,” Gottlieb said. “It seemed right in a communication class. Isn’t that where you should learn how to voice arguments correctly?”

Romero said her thesis film was about a 7-year-old detective who helps his friend find his missing toy.

When illustrating, Romero said she and Gottlieb enjoyed incorporating different art styles, including Disney artists. Romero said she and Gottlieb enjoyed putting a lot of energy into creating characters.

Gottlieb said they discussed Jennie and Michael’s look, and once that was set, Romero began to put together mood boards that included images and ideas for New Orleans. The first book’s illustrations were inspired by Disney’s “The Princess and the Frog,” Gottlieb said.

While illustrating, Romero said she based the character Michael on her own-year-old brother and on the designs from Disney artists. Romero said she has never visited New Orleans, so she researched the city and tried to include the city’s vibrant colors in her illustrations.

The storyline was also appealing to Romero.

“I thought it was a really unique idea, because I’ve never seen a travel book for kids. Being an international student (from the Philippines), it also appeals to me, the travel idea of exploring different cultures and being able to illustrate that in a way children can enjoy it,” Romero said.

Gottlieb said she kept making books as long as there is a demand for them.

“Marketing plays a huge part of it, and just having a good product is the first step, but getting it in front of the right eyes is the biggest challenge,” Gottlieb said.

Gottlieb and Romero are working on the second book, “Wherever We May Go: Paris.” Gottlieb said the illustrations style will change to match the mood of each location.
"The Who’s Tommy" musical was performed at the Musco Center for the Arts Feb. 23 – 26. and at times, hard to follow. Despite opera had a narrative that was slow as an “epic piece of theater,” this rock stage. bright lights and projections on the "The Who’s Tommy" dazzled with Emma Reith

I mean, can there ever be too much overwhelming, but not in a bad way. 

Choosing what to try was a struggle, though. There were so many options: ice cream sandwiches, chocolates, pastries, cake pops and more. With the help of the friendly woman working there, I decided to try an ice cream sandwich, which she said is one of the bakery’s most

chocolate?

When you walk into Haute Sweets Baking Co., you are hit by a sweet chocolatey smell and the sight of endless options of desserts. For an indecisive person like me, this is a bit overwhelming, but not in a bad way. I mean, can there ever be too much chocolate?

Choosing what to try was a struggle, though. There were so many options: ice cream sandwiches, chocolates, pastries, cake pops and more. With the help of the friendly woman working there, I decided to try an ice cream sandwich, which she said is one of the bakery’s most popular products.

The ice cream sandwich had a cowgirl cookie (coconut, macadamia nuts and oats) on top, a chocolate chip cookie on the bottom and a large scoop of coffee ice cream in the middle. The cookies were the perfect mix between soft and crunchy, and the coffee ice cream balanced out the sweetness of the cookie.

My main issue with other ice cream sandwiches is that they always fall apart and are usually difficult to eat without making a mess. However, the softness of the cookie and amount of ice cream that Haute Sweets used was perfect, because it was easy to eat without making a mess. I only used one napkin and that wasn’t until the very end.

When it comes to ice cream sandwiches, temperature is also important. Other places I have tried use rock-hard ice cream and then put the entire sandwich (with the ice cream) in a waffle iron, making it melt and fall apart the moment you pick it up. Haute Sweets didn’t try to do this. Instead, the cookies were kept at room temperature and the ice cream was frozen without being a solid block. This balance of temperatures helped keep the sandwich in one piece instead of falling apart.

Besides the great flavor, the prices were very reasonable. The ice cream sandwich was $3.50.

Haute Sweets has a very comfortable and relaxing environment. I went with a couple of friends and after ordering, we sat down in the back of the shop on a comfortable couch talking, as if we were in our own living room. The calm setting with bright lights and a sweet scent of chocolate helped us relax and enjoy ourselves. The shop’s proximity to campus makes it a perfect place to walk with friends after a long day of classes and catch up.

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of the technical elements either. The title role of Tommy – a raw, beaten-down young adult – was played by freshman screen acting major Jack Levis. This was Levis’ first musical at Chapman, yet he exuded confidence and had the ability to own the stage by himself.

An outstanding element of “The Who’s Tommy” was the consistent and highly-demanding energy permeating from the members of the cast – especially from Levis, as well as theatre performance major Sarah Pierce, who powerfully and emotionally played the role of Tommy’s mother.

Since “The Who’s Tommy” is a groundbreaking, heavy and loud show, every factor required full effort. In set, costume design, direction, choreography and talent, there was consistency and power that reached the audience. Despite the complicated narrative in the first act, the second act brings each plot point to fruition. Be prepared to think, as focus is required to understand the scenes filled with pantomime and crucial plot points that are sandwiched between fast-paced lyrics.

"The Who’s Tommy" musical was performed at the Musco Center for the Arts Feb. 23 – 26.

Emma Reith | Staff Writer

“The Who’s Tommy” dazzled with bright lights and projections on the stage. Defined by director Oanh Nguyen as an “epic piece of theater,” this rock opera had a narrative that was slow and at times, hard to follow. Despite this, the performance and choice of direction was high energy and visually stimulating.

Although commonly overpowering other elements of the show, the lighting and sound design in “The Who’s Tommy” was chosen with intent to provide depth with their specifications of time and location.

The Who’s Tommy is loud, groundbreaking and raw

The cast and crew transformed the Musco Center for the Arts into both a rock concert and your childhood living room, providing gripping contrast that draws you in to the heartbreaking and complex themes of mental disconnection, abuse and war. The cast’s talent didn’t fall short of the technical elements either. The title role of Tommy – a raw, beaten-down young adult – was played by freshman screen acting major Jack Levis. This was Levis’ first musical at Chapman, yet he exuded confidence and had the ability to own the stage by himself.

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Self-care is the best care

Self-care should be a vital part of any college student’s weekly routine. Especially at this time in the semester, when the excitement has worn off, we become accustomed to our routines. It can become easy to drain as we try to balance the load of four to six classes, as well as any other extracurricular activities you have chosen to take on. Many of us are also working students and are responsible for managing our homes by cooking and cleaning and paying rent. It can be difficult to find time for ourselves or even to check in on ourselves in order to remain sane.

As someone who suffers from high-functioning anxiety, bouts of depression and post-traumatic stress disorder, it is even more important that I check in on myself and make sure that I am eating properly and getting enough sleep. Ultimately, I am satisfied with my life, but foregoing my self-care can be potentially dangerous and can aggravate the mental disorders I suffer from.

Checking in is the first step. Oftentimes, because of my wildly complicated and busy lifestyle, it is easy to not know emotionally and possibly physically where I am at. At one point last semester, I was avoiding self-care so much that my body started giving me physical signs, and a doctor had to tell me to slow down.

Being aware of your breathing, your emotional eating and sleeping patterns and even your pain levels is vital. Your body uses pain to tell you something is wrong. Too often, an ibuprofen is an easy fix. The same can be said about drinking coffee to stay awake, when in reality, what your body needs is sleep.

I wish anxiety was a more commonly accepted disorder among professors. According to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America, 41.6 percent of college students stated anxiety as their top concern in a survey conducted in 2013.

For a long time, my anxiety was undocumented and therefore not something I could bring to the university’s attention. It’s easy to send a sick note claiming a cold or the flu as an excuse to explain that I had a panic attack before class or that I am unable to get out of bed and haven’t eaten in 16 hours.

It’s increasingly difficult to explain why I haven’t been to class when I’m having traumatic flashbacks and I am fearful of leaving my apartment. We need to combat the stigma surrounding mental health because it is so often out of control.

Self-care looks different for everyone. I like sleep, long hot showers (despite California’s drought), trips to Disneyland and writing. Sometimes I don’t want to be by myself and I seek community with others.

Self-care is different for everyone. My mom loves to exercise. When she goes without it, it affects her psyche. Trying new self-care practices, whether it be deep breaths or watching “Parks and Recreation” on Netflix, is the best way to find what works for you.

Olivia Harden
Opinions Editor

Student government shouldn’t give you a headache

We have whirlwind from student government this week. How about you?

First, the idea was to gather student input on whether students wanted a number of senators to change. The 181 students who responded said that they, for the most part, wanted student government to stay the same.

But, the senate voted Feb. 24 to pass the proposal anyways. Student government President Annabhell Liao said that “they chose to disregard what students had to say in the belief that, as senators, they know what they are talking about better than students in general do.”

So on March 3, Liao vetoed the proposal.

But, the senate not only had another proposal prepared, they also presented a list of complaints against Liao.

The list of grievances went down behind closed doors when the senate voted to kick out a reporter from The Panther and other visitors for twenty minutes of their meeting March 3.

Liao, who was at the first proposal vote on Feb. 24, said that senators were incorrectly under the impression that abstentions were on the side of the majority, meaning that those votes would be an “informal yes.”

This is unacceptable. For an organization whose main role is to constantly vote on matters that directly affect the student body, why aren’t the members of student government aware of their own rules for voting and abstentions?

And when Liao came to The Panther to voice her concerns, student government chose to criticize her out of the public eye.

At a time in our nation when distrust of the government is high, it doesn’t look good to close the doors.

This is proof that many students are interested in being involved in social and political change. But when student government asks students what they want, many choose not to be involved in their affairs, leaving survey results and senate appointments unrepresentative of the entire student body.

There is still time for anyone who is interested in creating a better student government to submit their name as a write-in candidate for this election. That option will close March 8. It is the student government’s responsibility to spark interest in their organization again. This can be done by listening to student concern and being open and transparent.

Otherwise, this organization will continue on the track to be left in the dust.

The Panther Editorial Board

The Panther Newspaper

Have a question, comment or idea? Contact us at thepanthernewspaper@gmail.com.
Do black lives matter to Black Lives Matter?

Alec Harrington, sophomore political science major

To answer this question, take a step back and truly look at what is and is not being protested. The vast majority of Black Lives Matter protests happen when a black person is killed by a police officer; justified or not. If they truly did care about black lives, they would be working with police and not ignoring the real threat to black lives. The real threat to black lives is other black people. According to Richard Johnson, a criminal justice professor at the University of Toledo, the probability of being killed by a police officer is almost the same as being struck by lightning. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, black men and women make up about 13 percent of the U.S. population, but according to the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Program, they commit about 47 percent of all murders. The FBI also reports that 90 percent of black people murdered were murdered by other black people. In 2016, there were 266 black people killed by police officers, as reported by The Guardian’s database of people killed by the police in the U.S. With the help of FBI data and The Guardian’s database, it can be calculated that it would take almost 10 years for the majority of black people killed by police officers to equal the number of black people killed by other black people in one year. The Black Lives Matter movement is a call for black-on-black violence, and that many protests are sparked from officer-involved shootings, which indicates that the movement cares more about sound taunting police than black lives. If Black Lives Matter did care about black lives, they would not ignore the true threat to black lives, thus, Black Lives Matter does not care about black lives. Black Lives Matter is a movement that prides itself on provoking violence, nothing like Martin Luther King Jr.'s nonviolent civil rights movement. The previous movement was centered around nonviolence because they knew violence would not produce the desired results. The Black Lives Matter movement is a call to action that does not include calls for violence against police with chants, such as the ones used by those in New York City in 2014. “What do we want? Dead cops! When do we want it? Now!” According to Kwanme Leo Lillard, a member of the Nashville Civil Rights Veteran’s Association, the previous movement prided themselves on dressing with no shirts and bandanas over their faces. They also find it more productive to threaten the police than work with them. The civil rights movement of the 1960s was made up of men and women who had enough self-control and respect to keep a protest nonviolent. The violence that is exacerbated by the Black Lives Matter movement is not helping the black community, but instead, hurts it; again, and once again shows they do not truly care about black lives. After researching this topic, I can only conclude that Black Lives Matter does not care about black lives. With being said, “All Lives Matter” may not be an organized group or movement, but it is an important statement of unity. How can you say that black lives matter if you ignore the real threat to black lives?

Nichole Young
Sophomore undecided major

“The longest I’ve gone without sleep is two days because I got stuck on the freeway overnight from a One Direction concert in San Diego.”

Natalie Lund
Sophomore strategic and corporate communications major

“I sleep pretty regularly every night.”

Kirstin Nystic
Junior sociology major

“The longest I went without sleep was two days because I was at Coachella and we were camping.”

Check out the full Prowling Panther video on thepantheronline.com and follow us on social media at @PantherOnline.

Black lives don’t matter

Black lives don’t matter. This is being said all over, all lives do not matter. Pause. Before an<br>grill, an e- cigarette, a cell phone or burning this Panther issue, ask yourself what is the most important in American (and possibly global) society: a person's life, or money? During my earlier years of education, I was taught that slavery was an econom<br>ic venture, and not a moral issue. My idea would create divisions for 400 plus years between the oppressor and the oppressed. Most would agree that the Atlantic Slave Trade was an inhumane act against African people. Yet, we find ourselves participating in similar activities, including the prison industrial complex. America has continuously put down marginalized people for the sole purpose of making a profit off of those lives. Over and over again, we are telling people that their lives only matter to make money, whether it was during the cotton fields in the 1800s, or the prison yards now. For those stipulating that all lives matter in America, how can that be true if we are willing to pick and choose which lives matter? If you do not stand up when people of color are being tar<br>geted, shot, and killed, all lives do not matter. If you do not speak out when<br>transgender people are being denied basic human rights, all lives do not matter. If you support the tearing up of indigenous land for a profitable pipeline, all lives do not matter. If you ignore the terrorist attacks by the U.S. government in the Middle East, yet support President Donald Trump's executive order travel ban that targets Muslims, all lives do not matter. At this point you’re probably wondering, “Why do you say ‘Black Lives Mat<br>ter’, if they don’t?” I say it because it is a problematic statement, and it shouldn’t be. The controversy is specifically with the word “Black.” When “Blue Lives Matter” came to fruition after Dallas cops were killed, it was perfectly accept<br>able, and even encouraged to say. I say “Black Lives Matter” so one day I can confidently tell other people that all lives really do matter. But as of now, there are too many pieces of the pie that have been taken out. Parts make up a whole. Without the full intact circle, one cannot see, with certainty, that all lives matter. Even with systematic oppression against the fight for equality, there is still a growing nonviolent movement. I say “Black Lives Matter” at protests, marches, and during discussions because I know that to the majority of people in power, they do not, in fact, matter.

Arianna Ngnomire, sophomore screen acting major

Letter to the editor

I would like to first thank the news staff and editors of The Panther newspaper for always trying to print accurate and worthwhile stories. The Panther reporter made several complaints about me to ensure accuracy of the story. Unfortunately, semantics are sometimes critical when dealing with federal regulatory compliance. I do like to take the opportunity to offer some corrections to the story that was published Feb. 19 entitled “Public Safety plans to add separate ‘incident Log’ to Public Safety, we would update the Public Safety, we would update the log entries do not inadvertently jeopardize a suspect; to Public Safety, we would update the “the university can remove the report from the Clery Act crime log.” Howev<br>er, should a crime be unfounded by the campus community to familiarize them with the additional statistics but it will do so under a separate cover, so as not to mix things that are specifically related to the Clery Act with other disclosures we make above and beyond the requirements of the law. I would encourage all members of the Chapman community to familiarize themselves with the policies and statistics disclosed in our Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, such as vandalism, theft, or bat<br>tery. Only when these crimes are motivated, in whole or in part, by the bias of the offender, would we be required to disclose our enforcement reports in the hate crime statistics. Otherwise, there is no obligation to report them under the Clery Act. This is the area where the Public Safety will share the additional statistics but it will do so under a separate cover, so as not to mix things that are specifically related to the Clery Act with other disclosures we make above and beyond the requirements of the law. I would encourage all members of the Chapman community to familiarize themselves with the policies and statistics disclosed in our Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, which is available online. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help ensure you are promoting campus safety for yourself and others that are part of the Chapman University community.
Why doesn't America embrace women's baseball?

Doug Close

Sports Editor

It may be called "America's pastime," but baseball is one of the world's true global games. However, even as regions like Central America, South America and Asia continue to produce some of the best players in the MLB, there is one part of the population that baseball has not extended its reach very far to - women.

While baseball, hockey, soccer, tennis, golf and frankly most other sports offer opportunities for men and women across the nation to participate, baseball is not quite as accessible for women. That's putting it lightly.

Softball has become the popular baseball alternative for women, but it's a sport with different regulations and rules. For women who wish they could play baseball instead, their opportunities are seriously limited. Why does baseball have this issue when seemingly every other sport offers itself to both men and women?

Recently, there have been a few positive developments for women in baseball. In 2015, MLB.com reported that French teenager Melissa Mayeux became the first woman to be added to the MLB's international registration list, meaning Mayeux is the first known woman to be eligible to play in the modern MLB.

Mayeux represents a largely overlooked demographic of female baseball players who have had to overcome obstacles to play the sport they love. It's no secret that the MLB doesn't have the best track record with how it treats female players.

For example, in 1931, the MLB organized an exhibition game between the New York Yankees and the Chattanooga Lookouts, a minor league baseball team in Tennessee. Pitching for the Lookouts that day was a 17-year-old girl named Jackie Mitchell, and she struck out legends Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig, as recorded by the National Women's History Museum.

Then-MLB commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis voided Mitchell's contract with the Lookouts, saying that baseball was "too strenuous" for a woman to play, according to the Baseball Almanac in 2003.

Yikes.

On top of that, in 1952, the MLB formally banned women from signing contracts in the league. This ban lasted for 40 years. The U.S. actually briefly had a women's professional baseball league. When many of the MLB's best players were drafted during World War II, the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League was founded in 1943 to keep baseball going despite the war, per the league's historical website.

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There is no physical reason why women cannot play baseball. There's also very little argument to be had about women not having an interest in playing baseball. A 2009 study from the Society for American Baseball Research reported that more than 90 percent of girls at an elite international youth baseball tournament who had played both softball and baseball preferred baseball.

If anything, this study is more helpful in displaying how many women play baseball with a passion. Yet, the U.S. Women's Baseball Team gets almost no coverage whatsoever. Softball gets plenty of airtime on ESPN, so why not women's baseball?

Softball is a sport for everybody, while not at the NCAA level, plenty of men play in softball leagues across the country. If grown men have easy access to joining a softball team, then why it is so difficult for girls and women to join baseball teams and leagues?

These are questions left for baseball to answer.
The baseball team won a non-conference series against Concordia University (Wisconsin), ending the weekend in third place.

After losing to the University of Redlands in a non-conference game Feb. 28, the Panthers started the weekend with a 4-3 walk-off win March 3, followed by a 13-8 loss the next day. A 12-1 win March 5 sealed the series for Chapman.

“We shouldn’t lose any games with the guys we have,” sophomore pitcher Tyler Peck said after the Feb. 28 loss. “If we play defense and pitch (as well as we can), we should win a lot of ballgames.”

Despite their undefeated conference record, the Panthers sit in third place in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, as first-place University of La Verne (10-5, 7-2) and second-place Occidental College (9-5, 7-2) have played three more conference games than Chapman (11-4, 6-0).

In the Panthers’ midweek game against Redlands, Peck’s five scoreless innings weren’t enough for the Panthers, who struggled to create momentum on offense in the 4-2 loss. Redlands scored three runs during the fifth inning to take a 3-0 lead that the Panthers were unable to respond to on offense.

“We didn’t find the holes,” Peck said. “They got a few hits that found the hole and that was the difference in the game.”

The defeat ended Chapman’s eight-game winning streak.

The Panthers reacted to the loss positively, starting out strong in the first game on Friday with three runs in the first inning. They remained in the lead, allowing one run until a two-run ninth inning.

“We came out swinging the bats well and got three runs in the first inning, which was key to setting the tone, but the offense stalled the rest of the game,” said junior infielder Gavin Blodgett.

Concordia was able to post two runs in the ninth to tie the game 3-3, but sophomore pitcher Tyler Peck wound up for a pitch during the Panthers’ 4-2 loss against Redlands Feb. 28 at Hart Park.

Sophomore pitcher Tyler Peck winds up for a pitch during the Panthers’ 4-2 loss against Redlands Feb. 28 at Hart Park.

“ illuminated on their faces the pain of defeat.

Sophomore pitcher Anthony DeNiro awaits a pitch during the Panthers’ 4-2 loss to the University of Redlands Feb. 28 at Hart Park.

Photos courtesy of Miles Furuchi

The Panthers next face Kean University from New Jersey in a non-conference game on Tuesday, March 7 at 7 p.m.

The Panthers will then start a three-game series March 10 against eighth-place Whittier College (3-11, 1-8).

Doug Close contributed to this report.
The softball team split both of its weekend series against the University of Redlands and Occidental College to end the weekend in fourth place. After losing in extra innings against Redlands on Friday, the Panthers came back for a five-inning mercy rule win later that day, giving head coach Janet Lloyd her 600th career win, which is the most in Chapman history, according to Chapman Athletics.

In the first game of the weekend on March 3, the Panthers (7-5, 5-3) found themselves tied with the Bulldogs (3-9, 1-5) with four runs apiece after seven innings. The game went into extra innings until Redlands scored four in the top of the tenth to record an 8-4 victory.

Despite this loss, the Panthers came back in the evening game to defeat the Bulldogs 14-6.

“I think the determining factor was probably hitting, because both teams were doing well on defense,” said junior infielder Kristen Weiser. “I feel like (when we split series), it puts us at sort of a stalemate because our (winning percentage) just stays right where it is. We know we’re better than splitting every series, and we’re working hard to turn them into more sweeps.”

In three at-bats, sophomore outfielder Sydney Engelhardt recorded three runs, three hits and three runs batted in.

Following their Friday win, the Panthers came out on Saturday and took the lead against Occidental in the second inning and kept the lead until the end to win 6-3 over the Tigers (3-11, 1-5).

However, the Panthers weren’t able to pull off the doubleheader, as they lost in a close game that ended 4-3. Despite coming back from a 2-0 deficit in the fourth inning to lead 3-2, the Panthers were unable to keep the lead. The Tigers scored two in the bottom of the seventh to take the walk-off win.

“Ideally, we’d like to win every game, but it’s early in the season and we’ll see all these teams again,” Engelhardt said. “I’m confident that this will be a driving force when we face them again. Big determining factors in these games are execution and momentum.”

The Panthers travel to third-place Whittier College on March 11 to play the Poets in a pair of games at noon and 2 p.m. Chapman will then host Ohio’s Denison University for two games at noon and 2 p.m. March 12.