A new period at Chapman

The university will offer free menstrual products

News, Page 2

Rushing to recruitment

During the second year of spring recruitment, more than 700 women participated, and 180 women either didn’t get a bid or didn’t accept one.

News, Page 3

The women’s basketball team won its 12th straight game Feb. 3, with a 65-61 win over California Lutheran University. Go to thepantheronline.com to see more pictures of the game.
Free menstrual products to be provided in restrooms

Chapman will offer free menstrual products in bathrooms across campus beginning later this month, after the Advisory Group on the Status of Women passed an initiative to replace paid dispensers with stations that stock them for free, Alisa Driscoll, one of the group’s co-chairs, wrote in an email to The Panther.

Sophomore Shelby Seth has found it nearly impossible to locate a pad in those emergency situations when you desperately need one. “This needs to happen,” said Seth, a political science communication major. “There have been so many times where I’ve been in the bathroom and had to makeshift one with toilet paper.”

Chapman will also offer these products in gender-neutral and single-stall restrooms on campus, Driscoll said, based on looking at similar programs at other universities like the UCLA, Columbia University, Brown University and Boston University. “We hope to be able to provide products to trans individuals in a way in which they won’t have to potentially out themselves in order to secure these important items,” Driscoll said. “Our group plans to meet with Rick (Turner) again later this year to discuss the possibility of adding menstrual products in men’s restrooms as well.”

Erin Pullin, director of diversity and inclusion, said that Rick Turner, the associate vice president of Facilities Management, manages the operations of the facilities department and is partially responsible for ensuring that the new menstrual products are available throughout campus. Turner could not be reached at the time of publication.

“Some individuals may even put their health in danger by extending their use of product beyond recommended durations, increasing the risk of toxic shock syndrome, a serious, a potentially deadly bacterial infection,” Driscoll wrote.

Junior English major Maria Harfouche is in favor of free pads and tampons in the bathrooms, but is concerned people will abuse the free service. “I don’t want someone to take away resources from people who can’t afford it,” Harfouche said. “(Being without a tampon) really puts a damper on your day, because you feel embarrassed.”

Driscoll said that there can be significant consequences that result from affordable menstrual products not being readily available. “Some individuals may even put their health in danger by extending their use of product beyond recommended durations, increasing the risk of toxic shock syndrome, a serious, a potentially deadly bacterial infection,” Driscoll wrote.

“Putting a pad or a tampon in the emergency situations when there’s something wrong,” Tabsh said. “If not, then not a free service.

“Starting in the fall of 2018, students will be met with a new organization that has greater resources, stronger community outreach, and additional staff who will be there to help students navigate how to get back on track,” Rosenberg said. Former Senator Ian Policarpio said that Rosenberg’s administration has improved the handling of student complaints.

“Problems with a common trend are presented to senators to be immediately addressed as best they can,” Policarpio said.

SGA president declines to comment on re-election plans

Jack Eckert | Staff Writer

Nearly a year after 73 percent of voting students elected former Speaker of Senate Mitchell Rosenberg as student government president, Rosenberg has declined to comment on whether he will run for re-election this spring. He also declined to comment on when he would announce his decision to run.

Rosenberg, now a junior, was the first sophomore to run for student government since 2010. Rosenberg’s vice president, Sarah Tabsh, is a senior and will not be running for re-election.

Rosenberg’s campaign promises included attending every Orange City Council meeting and increasing sustainability on campus.

“I have attended every city council meeting, but the ones that for whatever reason I could not attend, we made sure someone from SGA was there,” Rosenberg said. “This was done in cooperation with SGA’s community outreach chair, Lisa Kang.”

Kang wrote in an email to The Panther that Rosenberg plans to establish a student-neighbor relations committee in the spring.

“I want to push to speak more than when there’s something wrong,” Rosenberg told The Panther in September. “Let’s update the city. Let’s update the community members on what Chapman’s doing.”

Student government saw 14 resignations during the 2016-2017 school year, but Rosenberg said that there have been zero resignations so far this year.

Another of Rosenberg’s goals was to increase student voter turnout. Chapman’s most recent presidential election saw a decrease from 2016-2017, with voter turnout dropping from 22 percent to 15 percent. When asked about voter turnout during the most recent student government presidential election, Rosenberg said that low voter turnout in colleges is “common.”

Tabsh also touched on the importance of improving the low voter turnout.

“It is our responsibility to remain active and in check, ensuring that we are properly representing our students,” Tabsh said. “If not, then not only are we abusing the role we were elected into, but we are failing our fellow Chapman students, and stripping them of the opportunity to further advance this institution the way they see fit.”

Student government was also involved in the restructuring of Student Psychological Services, after an influx of students seeking mental health services caused a 90-student waitlist in October.

The changes include hiring a case manager and implementing an emergency hotline.

“Starting in the fall of 2018, students will be met with a new organization that has greater resources, stronger community outreach, and additional staff who will be there to help students navigate how to get back on track,” Rosenberg said. Former Senator Ian Policarpio said that Rosenberg’s administration has improved the handling of student complaints.

“Problems with a common trend are presented to senators to be immediately addressed as best they can,” Policarpio said.
This year’s recruitment sees 11 percent increase

Alya Hijazi | Staff Writer
Janice Yim | Staff Writer

This January, more than 700 women went through recruitment this year, marking an 11 percent increase in comparison to about 630 who registered last year, which was the first year of spring sorority recruitment.

Dean of Students Jerry Price told The Panther in 2015 that spring recruitment was introduced to help moderate the growth of sororities and encourage freshmen to get involved in other campus activities before rushing.

“I always felt that deferred recruitment was better than early fall (because students were better) acclimated to the campus,” Price told The Panther in a Feb. 2 interview.

The number of new members could have been a result of the large number of students in this year’s freshman class, he said.

This year, Chapman’s freshman class size increased by about 11 percent after the university exceeded its enrollment goal. About 1,700 students enrolled this year, compared to about 1,500 in 2016.

Price said that administrators hoped moving recruitment to spring would help students find friends through other activities – like clubs and classes – before joining a sorority.

“The administrators thought that moving to spring would help women find some other way of engagement on campus and might help keep the numbers down,” he said. “(The administrators) thought that moving to spring would help women find some other way of engagement on campus and might help keep the numbers down.”

Business administration major Haley Knapp, also a freshman, said that the large number of girls made recruitment “exciting” – although it complicated some aspects of the process.

“It did become difficult when you only had a short amount of time to get to your next house and you have to plow your way through a huge congregation of girls,” she said.

As the number of girls in recruitment reached record heights, more Rho Gamma groups had to be added to accommodate them all. Rho Gamma leaders are sorority members who cannot reveal their sorority affiliations as they lead groups of girls through the recruitment process.

Senior strategic and corporate communication major Lauren McClendon, a Rho Gamma from Alpha Phi, said that a few potential new members (PNMs) asked her about the large number of women going through recruitment. About 520 women accepted bids this year, meaning that about 180 either didn’t receive bids or didn’t accept the bids they received.

“I would reassure them that it was not a competition among PNsMs and that there was room for everyone who was rushing,” McClendon said.
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Language requirement defers some seniors from graduating

Olivea Harden | Assistant News Editor

Niki Black “walked short,” at spring 2017 graduation. Because she didn’t complete her language requirement before graduating, she had to fulfill the credit-based accomplishment: “(The) 101 and 102 classes were fine, but when I got to the 200 level, it just became too much for me,” said Black, a 17 women and gender studies alumna.

Black chose to work with the disability department and have the course replaced with an integrated educational studies course because of her Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, she said.

“Care of the body explained that a common reason some students do not graduate is the school’s language requirement. The language study portion of Chapman’s general education program requires that students complete the study of a language at the 200 level.

Students can take a language placement test in Spanish, French, German, Italian or Latin that puts them in the appropriate course – 101, 102 or 201, according to the Chapman website.

“A lot of times, students come in already with credit from high school, and then they get to their last semester and they forget they have to take that 201,” Pfeiffer said. “So it can be difficult for some students.”

But the university is in the process of applying to a selective housing society Phi Beta Kappa, whose members include schools like Harvard University and Yale University. World Languages and Culture department chair John Boitano wrote an email to The Panther that Chapman wouldn’t have “any change of success” in its application without its 201-level language requirement.

“The visiting Phi Beta Kappa team with whom (Spanish professor) Polly Hodge and I met made this very clear,” Boitano wrote. “Phi Beta Kappa only exists at the top 10 percent of liberal arts and sciences universities in the U.S.”

In order to be eligible for Phi Beta Kappa membership, a student must complete no less than an “intermediate college level” in a second language, according to the Phi Beta Kappa website.

Black thinks that all students should have the option to take a culture-based class to fulfill that requirement, or that the university dissolve the requirement altogether. “I think up to 102 is fair, but 201 is too much,” Black said.

“I When the general education curriculum was created in 2007, the language department agreed that a 201 class is the level of language proficiency that Chapman graduates need,” Pfeiffer said.

Nina LeNoir, the vice provost for undergraduate education, began a general review of the general education program with English professor Morgan Read-Davidson in spring 2016. The review found that 77 percent of Chapman students have taken language courses elsewhere.

LeNoir said Chapman’s program offers courses in American Sign Language, Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Ancient Greek, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Portuguese and Spanish. The world language department encourages students who enjoy the language program to pick up a language as a second major or minor.

“This is the case for senior French and history major Paige Dudley, who also has a minor in Italian. Dudley said that she has always picked up languages easily, but can understand why some students don’t finish the requirement.

“The way they teach language (at Chapman) is different from the way they teach it at my high school,” Dudley said. “It took some getting used to.”

Dudley said that, in her experience, classes at Chapman are more focused on speaking in the language than reading or writing them. She has had good experiences with the language department, she said, including joining the Italian club.

Black, however, argues that the language department’s methodology wasn’t effective. Formerly a music major, she said it was difficult to focus on those classes when her schedule was already so rigorous.

People cheat through tests and homework just to get through it,” Black said. “People really just want to focus on their majors.

However, LeNoir thinks that part of being a Chapman student is to meet a certain standard. “Being at Chapman means to require a certain (amount) of rigor, (otherwise) what makes it better than any other school?,” she said.

Renovations may impact class scheduling

Smith Hall is expected to undergo its first renovation since its opening in 1913, causing some classes to potentially be rescheduled or relocated.

Lexi Freund | Senior Writer

Some classes in Smith Hall may be rescheduled or relocated as it will be undergoing a historic $9 million renovation beginning this summer, said Provost Glenn Pfeiffer.

“Introducing 7 a.m. classes is my last resort,” Pfeiffer said. “Most likely, we will see more evening classes. The hardship this creates is that it conflicts with athletics and Greek life, and I want to make sure people are aware of this before they register for classes.”

The construction will bring the building up to fire and seismic codes and make it more accessible for people with disabilities, Krist Olsen, the vice president of campus planning and operations, wrote in an email to The Panther.

“We want to make sure we address that issue by adding elevators and making sure the doorways and hallways are all the right width to accommodate for wheelchairs,” Pfeiffer said.

Olsen also said there were numerous complaints from students about the building’s “antiquated” design.

“The physical building is not as strong or solid as it could be,” said freshman education major Alexis Ribakoff. “Every time my teacher walks down the center of the room, the floor shakes.”

Smith Hall, which is home to the psychology department, has not been renovated since its completion in 1913, Olsen said.

Smith Hall is the third of Chapman’s four historic buildings to undergo renovation. This reconstruction follows that of Roosevelt Hall in 2016 and Reeves Hall in 2017.

Smith Hall’s renovation is expected to mirror that of Reeves Hall, complete with new projectors for presentation, glass windows, updated air conditioning units for cooler classrooms, improved WiFi and exposed brick walls maintained from the original, historic foundation.

Voting will continue at the office of the City Clerk.

Compiled by Olivia Harden from the Public Safety daily crime log

Senates updates Feb. 2 meeting

Amendment to Allocations Committee operating document

Student Organization Senator Wil Harris, the allocations chair, advertised an amendment to the Allocations Committee operating document, saying that it would make clear that the amendment would not fund organizations in order to pay their dues. The amendment passed.

Delta Tau Delta funding request

The Delta Tau Delta fraternity sent a representative to the senate meeting to request funding to send 11 of its members to division conferences in Boise, Idaho. The total cost was $6,683, more than $3,000 of which was paid for by the fraternity. The fraternity wanted student government to cover transportation and lodging costs. Student Organization Senator Tyler Brooks was hesitant to fund these costs for non-executive members, since in the past, student government has only approved funding for executive members to go on these trips. The motion to fund in full was passed.

Chapman on Broadway funding request

President Mitchell Rosenberg explained that he was “unimpressed” by a funding request letter for “Hairs of the Musical,” saying that it only had four sentences that were littered with typos.

Harris added that he was never contacted by the organization directly to discuss funding. The senate voted that the request be tabled until a representative from the organization met with student government in person.

Election Committee appointment

Emma Reith was appointed to the Elections Committee, which is led by Elliot Gardner.

Announcements

The Safe Walk initiative — similar to Safe Ride — will now be supported and escorted on foot by other students — it is now available Monday through Thursday.

Read the full senate updates at thepantheronline.com.

Compiled by Jack Eckert

INCIDENT LOG

Jan. 29 – A subject reported a second battery incident in an ongoing investigation.

Jan. 29 – A fire was occurring.

Jan. 32 – A subject was seen trespassing in a parking lot. Public Safety contacted the subject as he or she was leaving.

Compiled by Olivia Harden from the Public Safety daily crime log
Queercapella: a queers-only a cappella

Sophomore Sierra Segal has been performing as a singer for years, but now, her sights are set on something bigger than just entertainment. Queercapella, a new identity-centric a cappella group, is making its debut at Chapman this month at the A Cappella concert Feb. 22.

Formed by Segal, who is a cappella group Simply Vocalé's music director, and the Chap'tones' music director and senior composition major, Avery Roberts, the group unites six queer singers who are each involved in another a cappella group on campus.

“I wanted to form this group because I want to combine two things that are really important in my life, which is the way I identify and music,” Segal said.

Vocalists in Queercapella sing songs written or performed by people from the LGBTQIA+ community. Members hope to keep people who identify as queer in the public eye, in order to highlight issues, such as hate crimes, healthcare and marginalized equality, that remain for queer people around the world.

Segal explained that just because everyone’s not everyone, and some members of Chapman’s other a cappella groups are confused by Queercapella's exclusive nature.

“I imagine someone who is not a gendered person, you cannot join,” Segal said. “We really want to understand why people would find backlash against that. We love everyone and want everyone to be able to enjoy our group, but this is for us. We find support in each other.”

Soundcheck member Aliie Watson said that the Chapman A cappella scene is already inclusive and supportive, and she wonders if members felt the need to create an exclusive group.

“If the LGBTQIA+ musicians on campus want to exclude themselves and have a united group, more power to them, but they should just know that they are more than welcome to audition and make music with us,” Watson said.

Queercapella founders Avery Roberts, left, and Sierra Segal, right. PHOTO COURTESY OF SIERRA SEGAL

Student challenges beauty norms on campus

Yuki Klotz-Burwell | Staff Writer

During Sravya Cherukuri’s first few months at Chapman, she noticed that trying to live up to American beauty standards damaged her self-esteem on a daily basis.

“I realized this a couple months ago, when I was looking in the mirror and thought, ‘Wow, I ridicule myself a lot,’” said Cherukuri, an undeclared freshman.

“There has never been a day when I can look at myself and say, ‘I’m beautiful! with confidence.’

There is a substantial amount of pressure on Chapman students to dress up and fit in with ideal beauty norms, Cherukuri said. After writing about her paper about the effects of body perceptions, Cherukuri decided to take action. She’s now working on a video that will highlight five women’s lives on campus and how beauty standards have impacted them. She wants to make others realize that it is necessary to practice self-confidence.

“My goal is the project is to tell people to be happy with how they are right now. Don’t try to change yourself to impress others,” she said. “Everyone has the potential to do something greater and not have their appearance be the sole image of their lives.”

In the U.S., girls are starting to worry about their body image at increasingly younger ages. Some teenagers aged 13-17 first started feeling self-conscious and shameful about their bodies as young as 9 or 10 years old, according to a 2016 Yahoo Health study.

“This is international,” said Micol Hebron, a professor in Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences. “People believe that aesthetic trends and being cool and looking like everyone else is going to give them cultural agency. In fact, it creates divisiveness and insecurity, and it disempowers women, ultimately.”

Cherukuri was ranked as No. 1 for the “hottest” girls two years in a row, according to Niche.com, a college ranking and review site. These rankings and the high number of attractive students can lead to feelings of inadequacy and self-doubt, said junior business administration major Maria Donoso.

“I wish there was more diversity at Chapman just so people could see the beauty of all different shapes, sizes and colors,” Donoso said. “I know so many girls who are constantly under pressure to be thinner and prettier because they compare themselves to other girls at our school.”

Cherukuri’s inspiration for the video project also sprouted from her feelings of not fitting in with a variety of standards.

“As an Indian-American girl, I have struggled a lot with the battle between Indian and American beauty norms,” she said. “I’ve gotten so frustrated with it, and I realized that I just need to be happy with how I am right now.”

The disparity between standards for women and men contributes to a society that imposes oppressive attitudes and ideas about how those who have “louder” voices in society think other people should look and act, Hebron said.

“It costs more to be and look ‘female’ in this society,” she said. “It’s compounded because we make less and pay more. It also costs more in time. You have to ask why people are willing to spend time and money to perform a stereotype that oppresses them.”

Empowering women is a valuable start to tackling the fundamental issue of beauty norms, Hebron said.

“The most radical thing to do is encourage women to not only support each other, but also to refuse to perpetuate the idea that looking any certain way is better than course, we are here to have fun, but the nature of our group is making a statement,” said Segal.

The statement is a reminder that there are still barriers to overcome for the community. As a vocal performance major and queer studies minor, the group's purpose of keeping queer issues in the spotlight is a priority for Segal.

“It’s a lot of people who have experienced oppression and all of the consequences and hardships of being a queer coming together, and we hope that everyone loves it as much as we do,” Segal said.

This semester, Queercapella will be capping membership at six members to maintain a Pentatonix style of “one voice to a part.” Therefore, future positions will not be available until auditions next year.
Two weeks into her freshman year, Arianna Ngnomire didn’t think she would ever fit into Chapman. After getting involved with Black Student Union, she was eventually able to connect with other students who shared her experiences.

“I feel comfortable having a voice on this campus, having it heard, and listening to other voices as well,” said Ngnomire, a junior screen acting major.

Chapman University has always had a majority white student population. In fall 2017, black students made up two percent of the undergraduate student body at Chapman, according to CollegeData. This year, the Black Student Union and the Cross-Cultural Center are working to bring Black History Month celebrations to campus.

Ngnomire remembers there being about 12 students in Black Student Union her freshman year, but now, there are around 25, she said. As BSU president and lead program assistant for the Cross-Cultural Center, Ngnomire was involved with planning Black History Month events for both.

The Cross-Cultural Center set up a table in Argyros Forum Feb. 1, with a poster for students to write their own black history facts. Some students came prepared with facts, like that the inventor who improved the traffic signal was a black man named Garrett Morgan.

“It’s a great way to give basic facts and it’s great for people to become a bit more educated and supportive and involved down the line,” said Bobby Cary, a junior digital arts major who added his own fact to the poster.

Ngnomire said the Black Student Union already does enough talking about black history. Instead, she wants to use this month to make history within BSU. The Black Student Union has organized many bonding events for the month of February, like beach trips, brunches and watching “Black Panther” in theaters. Every member feels like family, but the club is not just for black students at Chapman, Ngnomire said.

“I never used to celebrate (Black History Month) growing up because I came from a place that was predominantly black, but it became important to me in college ... to show my campus my culture,” said Shania Verse, sophomore political science major.

Verse looked at the poster that will be displayed in the Cross-Cultural Center starting Feb. 5, and she said that her experience has shown that everyone at Chapman is open to experiencing new cultures.

Last February, controversy broke when then-sophomore political science major Alec Harrington hung an “All Lives Matter” sign that partially covered a Pan-African flag that had been posted outside the Leatherby Libraries for Black History Month. Although Facilities Management removed the sign immediately, Ngnomire sat in front of the library later that day with her own sign that read, “But will you say it to my face?”

Harrington responded, and he and Ngnomire debated in front of the library as a crowd of 50 gathered.

“I felt like I was a part of a community,” Ngnomire told The Panther last February, “because I was really only talking to him one-on-one for a few minutes and then other people came in and supported not only myself, but also the Black Lives Matter movement, and it wasn’t only black people here either. Everyone really did come out as a community to support my community.”

BSU aims to create history, not just talk about it

Hayley Nelson | Staff Writer

Black students comprise only 2 percent of Chapman’s undergraduate population, but the Black Student Union believes that celebrating Black History Month helps strengthen the community bonds between all students.

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Don’t touch their hair

Once again, Kim Kardashian is in the headlines being accused of cultural appropriation. The reality star debuted her new cornrowed hairstyle, which she dubbed “Bo Derek braids,” on her Snapchat Jan. 29.

Bo Derek is a white actress who wore cornrows in the 1979 film, “10,” but she most certainly did not create the hairstyle, which is actually called “Fulani braids,” after the Fulani tribe in the Sahel Region and West Africa. Kardashian and her sisters have a history of appropriating traditionally black hairstyles and profiting off them. Last June, Kardashian was accused of darkening her skin tone to be a “blackface” to sell her newest beauty venture, which, incidentally, had only three skin tone options.

In the meantime, she and her sisters have worn cornrows and made “boxer braids” popular in the white community, despite the hairstyle existing long before the family wore them.

I see people on campus wearing “boxer braids” and little cornrows in their blond hair, probably thinking to themselves, “If I saw it on Instagram, I can wear it.” Here lies the problem with white celebrities who use their platform to steal from other cultures.

When the Kardashians show off their bronzed, darkened skin and cornrowed hair on their infamous show on E!, they are not unapologetic but more and more attractive to take what is not theirs, all the while raking in millions.

Whether it’s dreamcatchers, geisha Halloween costumes or Coachella “bindis,” white people have a long history of appropriating minority cultures. No, it is not borrowing, and no, it doesn’t mean you are embracing a different culture. You are stealing what is not yours from a group of people who were mocked for those same styles and fashions until a white celebrity made it cool.

The Fulani braids Kardashian wore last week are steeped in African culture that dates back centuries, usually adorned with cowrie shells, beads and even silver coins. In ancient Africa, hairstyles could differentiate a group of people from one another and could even signal one’s rank. People of nobility would often wear intricate braids and coiffed updos, while people in mourning would neglect their hair as a symbol of grief, according to Africa.com. Just because you saw it on a white celebrity doesn’t mean it’s OK. We must start holding those people accountable for their actions.

Next time you see a cute braided hairstyle on Pinterest, ask yourself: Does this hairstyle steal from another culture? Next time you are about to buy makeup and notice only your shade is offered, ask yourself: Am I supporting a discriminatory company?

To my fellow white brothers and sisters, please let us stop. We have enough hairstyles, makeup and fashion styles that are appropriate to rock without stealing from the people our ancestors enslaved and oppressed.

If you menstruate, you’ve been there: Your period is supposed to come tomorrow but it arrives a day early and you’re woefully unprepared. You ask around, mumbling to your friends, “Anyone have a tampon or a pad?” but they shake their heads with pity in their eyes. You rush to the bathroom and stick a wad of toilet paper in your pants. It’ll make do, but you know you’ll be uncomfortable all day.

Hopefully, this scenario won’t have to happen anymore at Chapman, now that the university is adding free menstrual products to women’s and all-gender bathrooms on campus.

Thanks to the Chapman Diversity Project’s Advisory Group on the Status of Women, affordability and accessibility won’t stand in the way of basic healthcare. Unlike Maryland, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Illinois, California still applies a luxury tax to menstrual products. Now, that won’t matter to Chapman students and faculty.

On average, women in California spend about $7 a month on menstrual products, according to Time. Along with the cost of tuition, rent, food and a social life, saving $84 a year would be helpful for much of the Chapman community.

American’s female population spends more than $2 billion per year on feminine hygiene products, and the average woman will use more than 16,800 tampons and pads in her lifetime, according to Rewire, a reproductive and sexual health website.

Although we don’t yet know the quality of the products that will be stocked, even cardboard applicator tampons are better than none at all, and pads are always helpful in an emergency situation. Having both options available is great for all types of people, no matter their personal preference or comfort level.

“This needs to happen,” sophomore political science and strategic and corporate communication major Shelly Seth told The Panther. “There have been so many times where I’ve been in the bathroom, and had to makeshift it one with toilet paper.”

It is also admirable that the university is stocking both women’s and all-gender restrooms. This allows for people who may not identify as women, but who still experience menstruation, to have access to the products they need.

“We hope to be able to provide products to trans individuals in a way in which they won’t have to potentially oust themselves in order to secure these important items,” said Alisa Driscoll, a co-chair of the Advisory Group on the Status of Women, which helped advocate to offer free menstrual products at Chapman.

By making menstrual products free, Chapman joins several other colleges – such as UCLA, Columbia University, Brown University and Boston University – in taking a productive step forward. Adding these free products will hopefully lead the way for other progressive changes at our school. Now, the access to basic products for a naturally bodily function that so many people experience is free. Women should not have to pay for something that they can’t control.
Aziz Ansari, sexual assault, feminism and self-reflection

In the wake of the #MeToo movement, actor Aziz Ansari was accused of ignoring “Grace” (a pseudonym) and her nonverbal expressions of non-consent. That is not OK, and neither is the backlash against her.

As a school that mandates Healthy Plymouth, we have information about consent and sexual assault. Run safe for students, as Chapman students, we should do better to internalize these conversations on consent because despite these positive efforts we still operate within the global patterns of sexual assault.

Feminism is a difficult subject because it is so much more than just having “equal rights.”

In every high school, whenever someone asks me what I wanted to be when I grew up, I always answered, “I want to become a radio personality on a morning talk radio show.”

Last semester, I interned at the Children’s Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) in its Child Life Department with Seacrest Studios, which is a broadcast center within the hospital that has a full radio station and production studio that is run entirely by interns. All shows are broadcast into hospital rooms straight from the studio, and every hospital room has a television.

Each intern gets the opportunity to help host the daily Bingo game, create a personalized morning radio show and produce a 30 minute television show. The children can interact from their hospital rooms by calling in, and some even come down to the studio to help us with our daily broadcasts.

Kids will often wander into the studio and not know what they want to do. When this happens, we would put the green screen down and ask them about their favorite movie or television show, and put them in their favorite show.

On my first day in the studio, I met a little girl who was very shy and would only talk to us through her mom. Her mom asked me to stop singing her favorite song. I learned right away how meaningful my internship was. I realized that the studio was a place for the children of CHOC to open up, and it was a place for them to live out their dreams. I found parallel in this because that’s one of the reasons that drew me into the studio.

My goal going into this internship was to make every kid I interacted with, smile which proved to be easier than I had anticipated. Their excitement, joy and curiosity about the world around me, how important my job was. The children wanted to be there just as much as I did.

Feminism is a difficult subject because it is so much more than just having “equal rights” and a lot of the thoughts we have that resemblance toxic masculinity can cost lives, but in the case of Extortion 17, tragedy can sometimes be caused by something more than bad luck.

It is sickening that, in order to score political points, people who have never seen anything close to combat are so eager to assign blame to anyone who appears remotely “responsible.” There are legitimate questions, but they are to be answered by formal investigation, conducted by trained and experienced operators, not pundits or unknowledgeable civilians.

The Department of Defense was expected to release the results of its investigation of the ambush by the end of January, so we should see it any day now. When I first learned about this attack back in October, I felt hatred for the cowards who executed it and sorrow for the families of the men who died serving their country. But my call was pretty accurate, and I got a response, that I was also angry and looking for someone to blame.

What we cannot do is ask stupid questions like, “Why are American soldiers even in Africa? Isn’t that imperialist?” A cornerstone of American military power is that we are responsible for getting our soldiers needlessly killed. But jumping on a ‘blame game bandwagon’ is when it is clear that no one has all the facts is both immorally offensive to those who perished. In light of attacks like this, it is important to honor the brave American service members for their sacrifice and think about the price their families have paid. The U.S. should dedicate its intelligence communities and military muscle to avenging their sacrifice and morally offensive to those who perished.

As Niger investigation closes, respect is needed, not finger pointing
Club sports should be encouraged

Maggie Mayer
Contributing Writer

After a two-year battle to make men’s club soccer a part of Chapman’s campus, senior public relations and advertising major Tyler Newman said he’s given up.

Despite student efforts to form university-recognized club sports, administrators hold that there isn’t enough demand to allow club and varsity teams of the same sports.

“At this point, it’s easier to do our own thing,” Newman said. “I just want to give students the chance to play soccer.”

Unlike some universities similar to Chapman, like Redlands University and Loyola Marymount University, Chapman has a rule against overlapping club and varsity sports, meaning a club sport can’t exist if Chapman already offers the same sport at a varsity level, according to Senior Women’s Administrator Mary Cahill.

Club sports at Chapman, if connected to their favorite high school sports, said sophomore health sciences major Lindsay Zumwalt, who is trying to create a women’s club volleyball team alongside Dean of Students Jerry Price.

“They approved our club team to be an official club, within regulations at Chapman – not athletics, but recreation,” Newman said. “All we had to do was write our constitution.”

The Student Conduct Code outlines policies related to unrecognized groups, which we referenced, but I don’t discuss sanctions like suspension outside of a formal conduct process,” Zumwalt said in an email to The Panther.

Now, two years after being found, the OC Football Club is a college-level soccer team, according to its website.

The captain of OC Football Club’s women’s team declined multiple requests for comments.

“There is the issue of facility space. With no athletic scholarships, we also feel the opportunity is there to pursue playing a sport,” Olveda wrote.

For club sports teams to form at Chapman, a recreational club has to exist for one year so the athletic department can confirm there is real student interest, Cahill said.

Zumwalt and sophomore public relations and advertising major Shuna Sabet wanted to start an indoor volleyball team last year, but were told they couldn’t due to the varsity sport overlap rule. Instead, they formed a recreational beach volleyball club.

“The athletic department is very favorable to (varsity) athletes, and if you’re not an athlete, they don’t care,” Zumwalt said.

This summer, Newman offered to pay the university to use the Chapman Field but was never able to book it, he said.

Men’s and women’s club soccer teams rent a field at Orange County Great Park in Irvine to practice once a week.

Starting in early August, Newman exchanged more than a dozen emails with a university event scheduling coordinator to try to rent the field, and was eventually told that the university does not rent the field to students during the academic year, according to email records provided by Newman.

Newman went as far as to suggest dates in summer of 2018, but was told that the university does not schedule that far in advance.

During the fall semester, Wilson Field had 14 to 18 week open recreation hours.

Zumwalt also asked the athletic department about hosting indoor volleyball open gyms last year, and said her requests were denied.

As a senior, Newman said he and Atchison are not actively lobbying for club sports because it hasn’t produced results over the past two years, and it is easier to be independent from the university despite it being more expensive for the players.

See the full version at thepantheronline.com.

Correction: An earlier version of this story incorrectly said that unfililated soccer teams are not allowed to participate in the university’s open recreation hours. This information has been removed.
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Two years apart, Illinois natives bond with water polo

Rikki Saydman | Staff Writer

It’s a small world, after all for senior goalkeeper Kerry Goodspeed and sophomore defender Argelia Diaz. With more than 5,300 colleges and universities in the U.S., these two water polo players from neighboring towns in Illinois ended up at the same small university on the other side of the country.

Goodspeed is from Northbrook, Illinois, a town in the suburbs of Chicago. She grew up around water polo, and it was seemingly inevitable for her to play the sport, no matter how hard she fought against it, she said. Her father was a coach and her brother, aunt and uncle all played.

“I was not going to do it, I (said I) won’t play,” Goodspeed said. “Then I tried track and I hated it. I realized I hate running, so here I am on the water polo team.”

A friend of Goodspeed’s who played on her club water polo team in Chicago told her about Chapman, she said. Goodspeed decided that Chapman was the school for her – she joined Chapman’s water polo team as a freshman and is majoring in integrated educational studies.

“(We are) excited that we get to represent Illinois people playing water polo in college in California,” said Goodspeed. “Most of our team is from California. A lot of them don’t think that there is water polo in other places in the country.”

Diaz, a health sciences major, is from Wheeling, Illinois, which is also a suburb of Chicago. Her guidance counselor told her about Chapman.

“I didn’t even know water polo existed until I joined freshman year (in high school) swim team,” Diaz said. “I always played basketball when I was younger and then my knees went out and I really missed the team aspect, so going back into (a team sport) was really fun.”

Although they played a few games against each other in Chicago, Goodspeed and Diaz did not know each other until they both independently came to Chapman. Both were looking for a small school, and they found that at Chapman.

“An added bonus of both being from Chicago is that we’re also roommates,” said Goodspeed. “We live down the street from two of our teammates and two of our former teammates. We’re really friends outside of the pool. This team is like my family.”

Since Goodspeed is a goalkeeper and Diaz is a defender, they work together and communicate constantly in the water, Goodspeed said.

“(Diaz) is a great defender,” Goodspeed said. “I really like having her in front of me, helping me out. There is a lot of teamwork there.”

Head coach Eric Ploessel only had praise for both players.

“(Goodspeed) and (Diaz) are great examples of what we want here,” Ploessel said. “They’re great students, (Diaz) is even graduating early, which is unfortunate, because I really want her to stick around. The most important thing to me is that they represent us in the right way.”

Because of Goodspeed’s family history with water polo, Ploessel believes that she could make a good coach in the future.

Although Goodspeed is not sure what the future holds for her, she would like to continue playing the sport for now. Diaz would like to eventually attend medical school to become an anesthesiologist.

“California is kind of in its own little bubble, so it was really cool for us to come here and get to enter the California water polo bubble and play polo here,” Goodspeed said.