Female filmmakers in focus
Former and current Chapman students encourage feminism in film

Wide receiver tries to run route to the pros

Controversial charter school unanimously approved
The disability-inclusive charter school, which has drawn some criticism from community members, will be located at the site of the First Christian Church in Orange.

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Illustrated by Gaby Fantone

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DIANO PACHOTE Staff Photographer

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DIANO PACHOTE Staff Photographer

Bonnie Cash Photo Editor
Charter school approved by OC Department of Education

Jack Eckert | Staff Writer

The Orange County Department of Education unanimously approved a K-8 charter school March 14 called Tomorrow’s Leadership Collaborative, an initiative supported by Chapman’s Attallah College of Educational Studies.

The charter school will aim to educate students with and without disabilities together, instead of dividing them into separate classrooms or schools.

Previously, the Orange Unified School District (OUSD) rejected the proposal for the charter school based on issues with finances, said Don Cardinal, an Attallah College professor in the Thompson Policy Institute, which is a disability research center. The proposal was also met with criticism from members of the school board and Orange residents.

Some are worried that the charter school will remove a substantial number of students from OUSD. This will take away funding that the district currently receives for children’s attendance, said Tim Surridge, who serves on the district’s Board of Education. They ultimately fear that this may cause the district to cut art and music programs.

“The community has misconceptions where (the charter school) was a ‘Chapman school,’” Cardinal said. “In reality, Chapman was just one of many participating partners.”

The charter school will be located at 1130 E. Walnut St., where the First Christian Church of Orange is currently located.

The charter’s proposed six-member board of directors includes a Chapman professor and a California State University, Northridge professor who received her Ph.D. from Chapman, according to the charter’s petition.

Margaret Grogan, the dean of the Attallah College who wrote a supportive letter that was included in its proposal, said that she believes the charter was approved at the county level because of a difference in perspective between the Department of Education and OUSD.

“The department (members) are different people; they have a different perspective than the district,” Grogan said. “It comes down to different people giving oversight.”

Had the Department of Education not approved of the charter school’s proposal, there was no plan for a higher appeal, Cardinal said.

However, there was about a month in between pitching from OUSD to the Orange County Department of Education. Edits were made to the pitch during that time, Cardinal said.

One reason the district denied the charter school was because its budget didn’t match its proposed programs, Tim Surridge, an OUSD Board Member, told The Panther March 12.

The charter school is a project that interested the Attallah College, as the school has a focus on training its students to teach disabled students.

“Attallah College has student-teachers with focuses on inclusion, so (the charter school) will be able to help them practice their desired career path in working with disabled students,” Cardinal said.

Jessica Tunney, the executive director and founding principal of the new charter, said she is “passionate” about the school.

“I am a lifelong educator. I have worked for inclusion, for all students to learn side by side,” she said.

The charter school’s goals tie in with Attallah College’s initiative, Excellent Schools ePrize, Grogan said. ePrize aims to foster a relationship between district and charter schools in Orange County.

“We are firmly committed to the idea that both charter schools and district schools can learn from each other,” she said.

Cardinal said that his research life has been dedicated toward the inclusion of people with disabilities.

“We still have schools here in Orange County, where the whole school is just people with disabilities,” Cardinal said. “It’s just a wrong way to do it.”

The First Christian Church of Orange has been located at 1130 E. Walnut St. since 1960, marking its 58th year in 2018.
Lexi Freund | Staff Writer

Some Schmid College students are upset about the Grand Challenges Initiative (GCI), a four-semester-long requirement where students work in small teams to solve complex problems using research-based evidence. Many are opposed to the amount of time and effort put into their research compared to the credit they receive in return. During the four semesters, students must take a 3-credit first-year foundations course (FFC) and three one-credit courses.

"GCI should be dropped completely," said Robert Farmer, a freshman data analytics major. "It should not be mandatory for computer science and data analytics majors due to their lack of need to work in a lab."

The "grand challenges" are described as ambitious, creative goals that demand advances in innovation and breakthroughs in science and technology, according to the program's website.

"The intention here is for students to work on projects that they find to be interesting," said Gregory Goldsmith, the GCI program director. "Students do select the projects that they want to work on. If (students are) learning about things (they) feel a personal connection to, it's going to be a better learning outcome."

In the first semester FFC, Grand Challenges in Science and Technology, students discuss different scientific disciplines and learn how to communicate with people outside the sciences. The second, third and fourth one-credit classes focus on one specific challenge, with students using skills developed from their FFC to solve that challenge.

"The FFC class is intended to develop critical thinking and general skills that are useful for all college classes like writing term papers and public speaking," said Anne Sonnensmith, an FFC professor for GCI. "Ideally, I hope students leave with some kind of product, something that's new and meaningful."

Examples of challenges include how to prevent brain disorders, improve nutrition to combat disease and obesity and predict damage from asteroid collisions, according to the GCI website. Students learn skills in class and immediately apply them to their project, Goldsmith said.

"The scientific process is messy by nature, and in order to make progress, it requires some skills that traditional college courses do not explicitly teach," said Jose Raul Gonzalez Alonso, a GCI professor. "(In order to) help students mature as independent, creative and critical thinkers, I want to make sure that (they come up with) a prototype, preliminary data from an experiment or a thorough research proposal that can be further refined in future semesters."

Some students involved in GCI believe that while the program is beneficial to their education, its implementation is faulty.

Sahar Emtiaz, a freshman biology major, believes the original intention of GCI provides practical, real-life skills on data gathering, experiments and lab procedures — but thinks the execution of the program is flawed.

"Since this is a two-year-long requirement, technically, we aren't going to have a final product at the end of this semester," she said. "(There are professors who aren't) clear about the guidelines, but want a tangible final project."

But Goldsmith said that of roughly 200 Schmid students in the program, fewer than five have come to him with complaints, which is not enough to warrant immediate change. Still, Goldsmith and the GCI staff have made a few changes to the program after receiving student feedback during the fall semester. "A key change was having students work from day one on (their assigned) project," Goldsmith said. "(This way), students are able to learn skills and immediately apply them to their projects. We'll always evaluate and assess (our policies), and we try to be conscious of balancing the assignments over the course of the semester to make sure we are not overwhelming (the students)."

While Emtiaz holds some resistance toward parts of GCI, she believes the overall program is valuable to learning more about the real-world application of science.

"In the end, it's very beneficial for science majors, but there is still some inconsistency between professors (from one semester to the next)," Emtiaz said.
Killefer Square project nears approval

Ayla Hijazi | Staff Writer

Killefer Square, a housing project for Chapman students proposed by private developers, has integrated more measures to preserve the historic aspect of the building after a March 21 meeting with Orange's Design Review Committee.

The committee is responsible for making decisions about the key components of construction sites, like site planning and architectural information.

Marissa Mosher, the city of Orange’s historic preservation planner, said the project has not yet been fully approved because developers are still working to get approval for their development plans.

“The report states the features that will be preserved,” Mosher said. “It needs to be approved by the planning commission next, and then needs signing by city council.”

The ruling helps preserve the historic aspect of the building that the Orange Unified School District had neglected to review, according to a March 22 Facebook post by the Old Town Preservation Association, a nonprofit that protects historic buildings in Orange. The Killefer Square project was originally part of the district.

“(The Killefer Square project) is a much smaller project than originally proposed,” said the post. “A request to allow inappropriate modifications (vinyl windows, fiberglass doors, and steel garage door) by a developer to a project on South Lemon St. was unanimously denied by (the Design Review Committee).”

The Killefer Square project is expected to become a one- and two-bedroom residential building, according to the Design Review Committee’s meeting agenda. The project is designed for college students. Architect Lesson Pomory told The Panther Feb. 26, as the abandoned school building will be made into dorms. There will be six units on the historic side of the property, while an additional building on the property’s northwest side will house 18 units.

“Only one side of the property is considered historic,” Mosher said, which is why that side is limited to six units.

“The boundary next to Killefer runs down the center of the street,” she said. “The west side of Lemon Street is within the historic district, but the east side is not, so it is split.”

Mosher said that the plans will preserve exterior and interior features of the historic school, which was placed on the National Register of Historic Places three months after the buyers entered escrow.

The final stages before construction include approval from the Orange Planning Commission, five people who oversee land use decisions and policies.

“The Planning Commission ensures that these land use decisions are consistent with state law and the city’s plan. After that, the city council reviews these decisions and formally adopts them.”

Irashe Lecama, an Orange resident who lives across the street from Killefer, supports the action of transforming the abandoned school into complexes for students to live in. “It’s perfect, because I know there are students at (Orange High School) who (hang around) there and smoke,” Lecama said.

Jay Justice, another Orange resident, is indifferent toward the news because students currently live in the homes and residential halls near his home. “To him, the housing at Killefer is just another addition to the already-prevalent student population,” Justice said. Students are everywhere. “It’s (a part of) the community.”

Kali Hoffman | Features Editor

In an open forum on the Gaza crisis March 27, author Norman Finkelstein accused international human rights organizations of being reluctant to charge Israel of war crimes against Palestinian civilians.

He later defended Hamas, a Palestinian-Islamic militant group, by saying that “people living under occupation have the right to use armed force to resist that occupation.”

“These are crimes against humanity that Israel is committing,” Finkelstein added.

Finkelstein first spoke at Chapman in 2013 and students objected to his support of Hezbollah, an Islamic political party and militant group, and his remarks that late author, Holocaust survivor and Chapman presidential fellow Elie Wiesel’s writing was “good theater” that lacked content.

Finkelstein’s writings and lectures have sparked controversy at other Israeli groups on other college campuses, like at Columbia University in 2006, where he was medicated and protesters silently held signs during Finkelstein’s talk at the school.

The forum was organized by Chapman’s political science and peace studies departments and led by political science professor Ali Hoveyseian. The event coincides with the release of Finkelstein’s latest book, “Gaza: An Inquest into Its Martyrdom.”

Hoveyseian said the book, which describes Gaza’s occupation by Israel as a “man-made humanitarian crisis,” is Finkelstein’s “magnum opus,” but will “resent (the reader’s) blood in either agreement or disagreement.”

In response to Finkelstein’s visit to campus this year, Jewish student organization Hillel planned an alternative event at the same time as Finkelstein’s talk.

The counter-event was a space for students to discuss their opinions, but Hoveyseian told The Panther that he wished Hillel had brought its concerns to him instead of organizing the event, so that he could have arranged a discussion between the students and Finkelstein.

“The point is not to come and adore (guest speakers) but to engage them critically,” Hoveyseian said.

“Finkelstein doesn’t bother me,” Justice said. “Students are everywhere. It’s (a part of) the community.”

Political science professor Nubar Hovsepian, left, and Norman Finkelstein, right, discuss Finkelstein’s new book about the Gaza crisis at an open forum March 27.

Kaseff told The Panther. “I don’t know what I’m going to talk about when I sit down with a group of people who (went to this event).”

Kaseff said she was happy she attended the forum despite feeling “very uncomfortable” at some points in the discussion on the Palestinian-Israeli crisis.

“I’m happy (Chapman) isn’t like other schools that ban people,” Kaseff said. “That’s just silly. We’re an educational institution, and if someone wants to come and teach me something, then they should, whether I agree with them or not.”

Despite controversy over Finkelstein’s views, Hoveyseian defended the decision to have him speak on campus.

“Disturbing books should be listened to,” he said. “Not to be agreed with, but to dislodge you from the dogma you’re used to.”

Turn to Page 9 to read a column about Finkelstein.

Senates update

March 30 meeting

Special notes

President-elect Arianna Ngnomire attended the meeting.

University and Academic Affairs

Student government and J Street U. Conversation took place in the Attallah Piazza March 27 and 28. The event focused on four study spaces on campus for students and expanding academic resources, including virtual tutoring office hours.

Community outreach

Chapman Dog Day is scheduled for April 28.

Allocations

The Executive Council denied a request for graduation stole March 28 at Wednesday’s meeting.

Executive Council

Vice President Sarah Tahal is training Vice President-elect Ngnomire. Molly Weber, the director of public relations, is working with Director of Elections Elliot Gardner to broadcast the upcoming senate elections. Elections will take place April 16-18.

J Street U Chapman funding request

J Street U, a student organization that promotes conversation about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, did not get a representative to the meeting for a funding request of $1,347.92. J Street U wants to attend a three-day conference in Washington, D.C., and wants funding to cover 95 percent of the J Street U members planning on going. Senator Saba Amid, a member of J Street U, testified for transparency. The report is three-fourths of what remains of the student organizations fund. The request will be tabled until a tentative date is present.

Open forum

Anksel Wong, the Academic Affairs chair, wants to implement Dead Week the week before finals. Wong proposes that, during this week, students will still attend class as scheduled, but professors would not be allowed to administer tests or quizzes. The week would primarily be focused on studying during class time. Schmid College Senator Alysa Nowlen supports the idea, and Wong wants to start a petition to see if students are interested.

Announcements

The filing period for senate seats has begun. Applications for director are now live.

Compiled by Jack Eckert
Tim the Turkey hologram to perform at spring concert

**Jacob Hutchinson | Sports Editor**

After receiving student feedback and conducting an “exhaustive” search of potential performers, the University Program Board (UPB) announced April 1 that a hologram of Tim the Turkey will perform at Chapman’s spring concert.

The opener will be British pop-rock band Chumbawamba, which announced it will perform its signature song “Tubthumping” in honor of Tim’s fighting spirit and his ability to “get back up again.”

Tim’s hologram will be recreated by Digital Domain Media Group, the same company that created the 2Pac hologram for Coachella in 2012 before filing for bankruptcy months later.

“We all remember the 2Pac hologram, “ said a representative for UPB. “Honoring Tim’s legacy in the same tasteful and memorable way will be integral in the decision to feature his hologram at the concert, said a University Program Board representative.

Honoring Tim’s legacy in a tasteful and memorable way was integral in the decision to feature his hologram at the concert, said a University Program Board representative.

“Student treated for frostbite after spending 3 hours in Beckman”

“Dodgexit: Dodge College tries to gain independence from Chapman”

Read all the articles at thepantheronline.com/april-fools

Shirtless Doti convinces students to give millions to Chapman endowment

**Jacob Hutchinson | Sports Editor**

In one of its largest-ever fundraising events, “Doti the Yogi,” Chapman raised upwards of $3 million entirely from student contributions. The event featured President Emeritus Jim Doti practicing yoga on Wilson Field in front of all 6,410 Chapman undergraduates.

“I was trying to figure out if they would take Venmo,” said Chad Smith, a junior business administration major. “I’ve never seen someone so chill and with such well-aligned chakras in my life. I had to donate.”

The 71-year-old Doti, who donned a small plastic headset, Lululemon yoga pants and a shirt that read, “Ask me about my panther,” began with some basic poses like downward dog, cobra and happy goddess. About halfway through, Doti transitioned into more difficult poses like the wounded peacock and handstand scorpion.

Just before striking the formidable face pose, Doti removed his shirt, announcing, “I love higher education, how about you?” at which point, the donation bank received an “astounding surge” in donations.

“Sure, I’ll have $150,000 in student debt when I leave here,” said Lindsey Thomas, a senior philosophy major. “But when I heard Doti’s calming voice over the loudspeakers and he absolutely nailed the happy baby pose, something just came over me. I just felt like it would be wrong of me not to donate at least $200 for such a worthwhile cause.”

Charming condominium loft for sale in highly desired private 14 unit complex!

**149 N. BATAVIA #8, ORANGE, CA. 92868**

- Large one bedroom, one and one half bathroom, two story condominium for sale!
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- Approx. 927 sq.ft., wood burning fireplace, private patio, dining area, breakfast bar
- Laundry hookups in unit, TWO CAR detached garage, large upstairs bedroom with two closets and full bath. Two common walls.
- $1,500 credit for closing costs to Chapman Students, Parents or Faculty. RARELY do these units become available; Last sale was in 2015!
- OTHER AMENITIES: Private spa, koi pond outside your front door.
- Only 14 units.
- ASSOCIATION: Orange Creek HOA. $300/month dues includes common area and building exterior and roof maintenance, trash service. Owner pays water, gas and electric for unit.
- PRICE: $369,500.
- AVAILABILITY: Existing tenants will show to prequalified buyer with appointment.
- Call for details. Available to new owner in early May, 2018
- BROKER: Robert L. Zweig, MBA, bre # 004087526714-381-1031; fax: 866-567-3106
- peartrell@aol.com
Zambian-raised alumna nominated for Emmy

Yuki Klotz-Burkwell | Staff Writer

Chapman alumna Shaloma Kharkar started off her entertainment journey telling stories by the light of a bonfire when the electricity would shut off in her home in Zambia, Africa.

A few years after graduating from Chapman, she was nominated for an Emmy for a film she worked on in association with the Dodge College of Film and Media Arts.

Inspired by her love for storytelling and the experiences growing up on her family’s rose farm in Zambia, she balances her time between freelance producing, creating a virtual reality startup and entering her thesis film into festivals across the country.

Q: You were recently nominated for an Emmy. What’s the premise of your nominated film?
A: In 2016, I produced a short film in association with Dodge called “The King Monkey is in Town.” It’s a nine-minute story about this young Chinese-American boy who has to dress up for a Halloween party, and all of his friends dress up as superheroes.

He wants to be Superman, but his friends tell him he can’t because he doesn’t look the part. His mom suggests he should dress inside his culture and see what he can find, and he ends up finding the Monkey King.

It’s a story about a bully but the story is about how you have to look at what is inside you to beat a cultural bias. We used the bully as an external conflict, but inside the conflict is getting to know yourself and breaking the boundaries that one has in their subconscious mind.

Q: What was the awards process like for your film?
A: We put the film into as many festivals as we could. We got into the San Diego International Film Festival. My director said we got nominated to put our film in the College Television Awards, so we applied. We submitted it in December 2016, and in March, we found out that we got accepted. It was for best picture, but because the producer accepts the award for best picture, I was Emmy-nominated. We had the award show last May, and that was one of the most amazing opportunities I could have gotten.

Zambian-raised alumna nominated for Emmy

Q: What are your goals for the future?
A: I want to be a traveling filmmaker. I want to go back to Zambia and experience the Indian filmmaking style, because those are my roots. I want to take that same format and apply it to Africa. My goal is to travel to every single country in Africa (to encourage) filmmaking. Our world is so enveloped by technology, I want to teach the storytelling methods to come back. I grew up every evening listening to stories. We would lose electricity for a few minutes. We would go outside to our backyard, light a little bonfire and tell stories. That’s something that I know many cultures still do, but there are so many times on screen that we’re surrounded by Western culture. There are so many times that people need to hear about.

Awards ceremony focuses on female filmmakers

Yuki Klotz-Burkwell | Staff Writer

Bella Wadhiani, a junior creative production major. “I’ve been on sets at Chapman and have the awards show last May, and in March, we found out that we got accepted. It was for best picture, but because the producer accepts the award for best picture, I was Emmy-nominated. We had the award show last May, and that was one of the most amazing opportunities I could have gotten.

The conference includes a discussion and Q&A session with a panel of successful females in the film industry, a mixer event and ceremony for the award recipients.

Connie Ticho, a sophomore film production major. “I’ve been on sets at Chapman where boys will say something like, ‘Well, if that girl can do it, then you can.’ Being a woman in a male-dominated industry is tough, and we need to teach young filmmakers about feminism in film.”

For 19 years, Dodge has hosted the Women in Focus Conference and awards to promote equality in film. But this is the first conference since the #MeToo and #TimesUp movements arose in response to sexual harassment allegations against producer Harvey Weinstein, and other men in the industry.

“When Dodge College started the Women in Focus event nearly 20 years ago, the goal was to support a minority in the film industry so our students, the future generation of filmmakers, could aspire to make an impact in their careers,” said Marisa Ellena, a development coordinator for Dodge College.

The program provides students with awards for their thesis film projects. Two producing students will receive the Entertainment Partners Excellence in Producing Award, one graduate student will receive the Meredith Academic Memorial Scholarship, and up to four students will be given the Zonta Award.

There are many awards that support different initiatives, students and projects, but it is important to the organizations that support these awards that they support many female filmmakers,” Ellena said. “We, as Dodge College, want to ensure that students are given opportunities to make the film that they dream about.”

Ticho, who applied for a Women in Focus award, believes that the awards are important because the film industry should highlight women and their successes more often.

“We come to Dodge to learn and to be inspired by filmmakers, which includes women,” she said. “The film industry has been completely dominated by men. We need to empower and encourage feminism in the industry.”

Wadhiani applied for the awards because of the overall movement it supports, and to get funding for her thesis film, she said.

Wadhiani produced a short film that was recently accepted into the Cannes Film Festival in France, which will be screened in May.

“The support I’ve received for that has been overwhelming,” she said. “For a short film that was made by women, it has been incredible and that’s what Dodge offers for me.”

The Women in Focus Conference will take place April 20 in the Folino Theater at Marion Knott Studios.
ASL club brings deaf culture to campus

Hayley Nelson | Staff Writer

Giselle Nissenbaum first experienced hearing loss during a fifth grade math lesson. Once she became totally deaf, she had surgery to receive cochlear implants. Now, she relies on lip-reading, and can’t hear when she takes her implants out. Despite this, Nissenbaum struggled to identify with either the deaf or hearing communities.

“I identify as hearing and I identify as deaf,” said Nissenbaum, a freshman psychology major. “Going through my day, talking to everyone, is much different than you going through your day. Living in my world is so different from living in your world... It’s my duty to not just educate myself on American Sign Language (ASL), but deaf culture as a whole.”

ASL courses are becoming increasingly popular at colleges nationwide, according to the Chicago Tribune. Though Chapman does offer ASL classes, only three courses are available.

Julia Curry, a sophomore news and documentary major, was initially disappointed that Chapman did not have a stronger ASL program, because she was interested in adding deaf studies as a minor, but she had to take classes and participate in the ASL Club.

“I really want to meet more students who have a passion for this. It’s nice to meet some other kids who at least sort of know the language so I can communicate with them, and we can teach each other,” Curry said.

The Chapman ASL club began its first meeting of this semester March 7 by reviewing the ASL alphabet and learning how to introduce themselves. Then, members divided into two teams and played a trivia game based on facts about deaf culture. They also offer cookies shaped like letters that you could eat – after signing the letter in ASL.

Curry and Nissenbaum both first took ASL classes in high school. Though Curry took them out of necessity, she struggled with learning other foreign languages since she has always attended hearing schools, and most people who I feel like I’m not denying a part of my identity, she said. “There are no other deaf people at Chapman, which sucks. Sometimes, I lose that part of myself, but ASL club is going to be great for me because I feel like I’m not denying a part of myself all the time,” said Nissenbaum, who initially learned about the club through her friend, Shir Nakash.

Nakash, a junior communication studies major, worked together with Jazzie Newton, a junior peace studies major, to run the ASL club this semester. Though officially founded last semester, they now focus their meetings on learning ASL and deaf culture.

“With ASL, as long as you’re looking, you can catch on. You can literally learn it at any age,” Nakash said. Any student is welcome to join the club, whether they’re fluent or know nothing about sign language, Nakash said.

“There’s virtually no disadvantages (to learning ASL),” Curry said. “The advantage is that it’s super easy to learn. It allows you to have conversations from across the room, and have multiple conversations at once.”

New George Ezra album transplants listeners to a summer day

LeSlie Song | Assistant Features Editor

George Ezra is a 24-year-old singer-songwriter with a voice decades beyond his age. In his 11-track album “Staying At Tamara’s,” released March 23, his worn, rumbling resonance guided by raw talent produces a sound like no other.

The album is guaranteed to uplift the optimistically sweet – but not sickly – way that Ezra delivers the hybrid genre of folk rock.

REVIEW

George Ezra’s new album “Staying at Tamara’s” was released March 23.

Jazzie Newton, a junior peace studies major, worked together with Nakash, a junior communication studies major, to run the ASL club this semester. Though officially founded last semester, they now focus their meetings on learning ASL and deaf culture.

The advantage is that it’s super easy to learn. It allows you to have conversations from across the room, and have multiple conversations at once.”

New George Ezra album transplants listeners to a summer day

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Hands up, don’t shoot’ again

Yet another young black man was brutality murdered by police. Stephon Clark, 22, was born and raised in Sacramento and died from eight gunshot wounds on March 18, leaving behind a large family and his two young sons. His criminal background isn’t pretty. He was charged with robbery, pimping and domestic abuse over four years and when he died, he was still on probation for a 2014 robbery.

But Clark was shot because he was a black man, because of his criminal history. His past crimes have nothing to do with his death and cannot take away from the violence that occurred. The most recent autopsy, one ordered by his family, revealed that he was shot six out of the eight times in the back. The forensic pathologist who performed the independent autopsy said his findings indicate Clark was facing away from officers when he was shot.

However, police claim that Clark was not facing officers, but coming toward them with something in his hand that looked like a firearm. That firearm turned out to be a cellphone, and outrage has erupted across the country in response.

The Sacramento Police Department responded to a call around 9:15 p.m. that a man was breaking into cars and hiding in a backyard. A sheriff’s department helicopter reported seeing a man in a backyard, which ended up being Clark.

It is also important to note that the officers’ body cameras were muted minutes after the shots were fired. A sergeant arrived on the scene and was heard saying “Hey, mute,” while reaching for his body camera. The last thing heard was, “Hey, you guys good?”

It is clear that Clark was murdered because of police bias toward black people. There is no doubt that, if a 22-year-old white man was standing in his grandmother’s backyard like Clark was, holding a phone and running away from officers, he would have been apprehended in a different way.

Tackled, tased, apprehended – whatever. But definitely not shot at 20 times.


Clark’s family plans to file a federal lawsuit against the officers. It is important to add that not all black people and people of color who die at the hands of police have the visibility that Clark’s murder has.

The White House has dismissed Clark’s murder and the following protests, calling it “a local matter.” It is hardly a local issue when we see not one senseless murder at the hands of the people who are supposed to protect the citizens that pay them with their tax dollars. I would hope that the president and his White House staff would address such a significant issue that affects a large portion of the country, but I’m not surprised he is ignoring it.

I may be familiar with our lively comment section, which features people with strong opinions usually on political columns or news articles. Until recently, The Panther allowed anonymous commenters to say what they wished about any articles we publish online, as long as comments followed basic guidelines.

These guidelines state that comments including profanity, vulgarity, racial slurs or personal attacks would not be approved, and that users who harass others would be blocked from commenting.

Starting March 10, however, users must sign into their Facebook account to comment. We also added to our guidelines that we will delete comments from Facebook profiles that are clearly fake (an anonymous commenter has already made this attempt).

We made these changes for many reasons, mainly to stop fake profiles and anonymous users from commenting. If our readers want to comment, they should not hide behind fake names, especially when columnists are brave enough to attach their names to their often controversial opinions.

If you need a fake name or profile to state your opinion, it’s not that strong of an argument. If you truly believed in your argument, you would not be afraid to use your real name.

Before we made this change, we received dozens of comments that broke guidelines, including threats, racist comments and even a death threat. Many students and guest columnists complained to us about feeling harassed, citing anonymous commenters as the culprits. We also received complaints from the other side: These commenters claimed that we were censoring their opinions, although it should be noted that none of these people ever emailed our staff directly.

As strong proponents of free speech, The Panther was faced with a difficult decision when debating how to resolve this conflict. It is not our goal to censor opinions – we publish guest columns of all perspectives – but when comments are hateful, vulgar and discriminatory, it is in our right to control the content on our website, especially after receiving concerns from people who felt targeted in our comment section.

We will continue to moderate and screen comments from Facebook profiles, even if you attack your identity to your comment, it must still align with our guidelines. Our comment forum is designed for healthy and constructive dialogue and debate, according to these guidelines. When people constantly harass others using hateful language, it is neither healthy nor constructive.

The Panther’s commenting policies can be compared to publications such as The New York Times, which also approves and disapproves comments based on strict guidelines. Other student publications, like the Harvard Crimson and the Stanford Daily use Facebook as a way to register comments.

To the commenters who became infamous on our website over the last year – but have gone quiet since we changed our comments system – we challenge you to attach your name and participate in civil discussion on our articles. You don’t need to use hateful language to express your opinion.

For anyone who agrees or disagrees with our change, you are welcome to voice your opinion and submit a letter to the editor to opinions editor, Gracie Fleischman, at fleis113@mail.chapman.edu.
On Public Safety, active shooter experience and gun control

Kyler Asato, senior sociology major

On Public Safety, active shooter experience and gun control

While I was younger, I would stare at the moon, count cats (not sheep – I was too young for that) and sometimes even pace around until I was just too tired to stand up anymore. As I counted how many hours of sleep I would get that night, my mind would race and so would my heart.

As a kid, I was able to function on less sleep. The boundless energy of being a preschooler fueled me through hours of school and my after-school activity, ballet. But as soon as high school hit, I was in trouble. I never understood why my friends could complete their homework, hop into bed and be asleep by 11 p.m. or midnight. Meanwhile, I was left sitting in my room, the entire neighborhood silent and asleep, until 3 or 4 a.m., when exhaustion would finally kick in.

I've never been formally diagnosed with insomnia. I don't believe that people who struggle with sleeping habits are unusual unless I realized that I would stay awake long after my freshman year roommates had fallen asleep and I felt like I hadn't slept at all when I woke up and found myself awake at odd, early hours – all symptoms of insomnia.

I'm so reluctant to take sleeping pills because they can cause some pretty terrible side effects – including aneurysms and psychological dependence – but I've made natural remedies and lifestyle changes to curb my symptoms.

Sleepless in college: a guide to dealing with insomnia

Rebecca Glaser, managing editor

I grew up in Israel, a pro-Israel environment, learning about the country beyond the conflict. I've visited Israel six times. While I have a strong connection to Israel, I also support a potential Palestinian state that lives in peace alongside Israel. I like to engage in conversations with people who strongly criticize Israel, as I'm interested in learning more about the complex conflict.

In interviews, Finkelstein referred to the rock-ets being launched into Israel as “fireworks” – not show solidarity with Hezbollah,” which the U.S. designated as a terrorist organization in 1997.

This isn’t Chapman’s first visit to host a controversial speaker. In October 2017, Laura Kipnis, who has taken a controversial stance about Title IX and sexual assault on campuses, spoke at Chapman. Following her speech, some Chapman administrators gave the opposing view, discussing the positive effects of Title IX.

Finkelstein’s inflammatory statements go beyond analyzing all of the information and formulate their own conclusions.

This isn’t Finkelstein’s first visit to Chapman. In 2015, Finkelstein attacked late Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel while speaking on campus.

In interviews, Finkelstein referred to the rockets being launched into Israel as “fireworks” – not rockets – and in a blog post, he criticized the media for saying that the rockets were “paralyzing the country.”

While visiting Israel, I’ve seen the stacks of rockets collected at the Sderot Police Station, and they looked nothing but harmless. It is also false to say that the rockets “don’t paralyze the country.” Every time a rocket is shot into Israel, a code red siren sounds and people have 15 seconds to find a bomb shelter.

During peaceful times, the rocket launches are reported without any panic. In Operation Protective Edge in 2014, more than 4,500 projectiles were launched into Israel. How does one not panic, when you hear the warning blares and people have 15 seconds to find a bomb shelter.

Since the disengagement, rocket attacks from Gaza – with some reaching Israel’s capital, Jerusalem, and biggest city, Tel Aviv – led to three operations in the strip: Cast Lead (2008-09), Pillar of Defense (2012) and Protective Edge (2014).

Chapman needs balance when hosting controversial speakers

Jackie Cohen, web editor

I also remember the fear I felt for several days, knowing that the person hadn’t been found or identified by authorities, and not trusting that “there was no threat found.” I also remember that the description of the alleged shooter was incredibly vague and did not reveal his facial features nor any other distinguishing characteristics. It could have been any tall male with short black hair.

A year later, I heard that the administration was considering arming Public Safety. I recall asking myself if I felt during the alleged shooter fiasco and my distrust of Public Safety during that event. I also remembered the Black Student Union’s open letter that described a feeling of unsafety with this proposal. I agree wholeheartedly. Members of Public Safety, and the police are bungling capable of victim blaming and making sexist remarks. I am also aware that police across the country have been perpetrators of racism toward people of color, and that many Public Safety officers are former police officers.

I am not anti-Public Safety or anti-police, but I am anti-racism and anti-sexism, especially when perpetuated by the same people who are supposed to protect us. To my knowledge, Public Safety, as individuals, have not been too problematic in my time at Chapman. However, the restrictions of the department are concerning.

For example, when my friend and I were followed by a suspicious person, we were told that officers couldn’t do anything because we were not direct- ly on main campus – as if the space between the Dodge College of Film and Media Arts and Chap- man was a safe zone for stalkers. I am also con- cerned by the lack of blue poles on main campus.

In addition, in an attempt to ensure that officers’ ability to protect us, I also worry about implicit bi-as against people of color. Returning to the Black Student Union’s letter, I ask again how we can ensure that a partially armed Public Safety would ensure the safety of all students, including the ones that describe themselves as racialized identities – after all, they are only human.

And after the Parkland, Florida shooting, I think about gun control again. After the walkout against gun violence March 14, I think of gun control again. After the Deliberative Dialogue on that same topic a few hours later, I think of gun control again. I think about how it is unreasonable to arm teachers (without paying them). I think of the Parkland poolers who did not go inside the building. I think of the bump stock ban, I think of mandatory background checks, I think of the Dickey Amendment, and I think of the mandatory paperwork for losing firearms (or lack thereof).

To read the rest of this article, visit thepantheronline.com

Sleepless in college: a guide to dealing with insomnia

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I have always struggled with sleeping. When I was younger, I would stare at the moon, count cats (not sheep – I was too young for that) and sometimes even pace around until I was just too tired to stand up anymore. As I counted how many hours of sleep I would get that night, my mind would race and so would my heart.

As a kid, I was able to function on less sleep. The boundless energy of being a preschooler fueled me through hours of school and my after-school activity, ballet. But as soon as high school hit, I was in trouble. I never understood why my friends could complete their homework, hop into bed and be asleep by 11 p.m. or midnight. Meanwhile, I was left sitting in my room, the entire neighborhood si- lent and asleep, until 3 or 4 a.m., when exhaustion would finally kick in.

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Using essential oils

I understand the skepticism surrounding holis- tic healing because so-called “natural remedies” are often rooted in pseudoscience. But a 2013 study found that essential oils like lavender can improve sleep quality and depression symptoms in adults, according to the National Institutes of Health. Af- ter trying lavender and found that it was improving in my wrists and neck calmed me before bed. One night, I even cooked out before midnight.

I'm a pretty healthy eater, but after becoming fed up with my insomnia last summer, I wondered if the food I ate correlated with my sleep troubles. Unfortunately, what I found was disappointing: meals like coffee (an essential part of my daily life), sugar (even natural ones like honey) and processed carbs not only worsened my sleep quality, but made me feel on edge and stressed. That’s not to say all carbs are out, as a 2016 study published in the journal Preventive Medicine found that low-carb diets are associated with poor sleep patterns. But after incorporating more protein and healthy fats into my diet, I slept more deeply and increased my function on fewer hours of sleep without feeling tired.

Ditching the technology

I've been able to mitigate its effects – it’s just a mat- ter of finding your own toolset.
Division I athletes deserve to be paid

Y ou’ve heard this debate before. Wouldn’t it be fair if college athletes be paid? If so, how? Aren’t their scholarships enough? Would removing amateur status ruin the integrity of college sports?

Jacob Hutchinson | Sports Editor

No one asked these questions when 17-year-old Olympic athlete Chloe Kim won gold in the women’s snowboard halfpipe event. No one complained when she took home $37,500 and possible performance stipends, in addition to a gold medal.

But when it comes to the NCAA, the floodgates of opinionated hell open up. And when the NCAA governs college athletes, the bill would allow college athletes to be paid, self-organize and would open the door to commercial sponsorship. This type of legislation exists elsewhere.

Yes, athletic scholarships are available to Division I athletes. Some even get free пар or partial rides to schools. Many don’t, and some with scholarships still struggle financially.

But that’s beside the point. Athletes who sometimes work 40-plus hours a week deserve to be paid. In the 2015-16 season, 28 Division I schools brought in more than $100 million in revenue.

The NCAA’s top two moneymakers are Division I football and men’s basketball. For women’s sports, basketball is the top earner. Guess which are the only Division I football and men’s basketball programs to make two lists: Oregon State and Stanford, and in the U.S., there are few people more targeted than young, wealthy black athletes.

When it comes to the question of paying athletes, a common retort is, “Well, what about all those other non-superstar athletes?”

Leave that up to the universities. If a school’s athletic department can afford to offer $500,000 to a star basketball prospect, or give $10 an hour to a role player, let it.

Offer athletes contracts that depend on their grades, or graduation and working on marketing himself to the Wonderlic test, which NFL teams proach him. The team had him take an NFL pro day where NFL scouts are there, and he had maybe the top pick in the draft throwing to him. So he’s already put himself on the map. (But) if he’s Division III, he has to be the best player on the field every time he steps on the field and his tape needs to show that.

Lillibridge said Isabel should take whatever pro opportunity he gets if football is his passion in life, but he’ll need to find a team that’s interested in taking on an undersized receiver.

“I would think, no matter what, he’s probably going to get into a camp as a free agent,” Lillibridge said. “The window is open for him right now, he’s just going to continue to not drop any balls, and every time he gets an opportunity, he needs to make sure he’s taking advantage of it.”

Jacob Hutchinson | Sports Editor

The NFL season starts in 158 days, and if Chapman wide receiver Jacob Isabel wants to have a chance at making an NFL roster, he has to make each day count.

And so far, he has. At the University of Southern California (USC’s) pro day March 21, Isabel caught all seven passes – including the first and last of the day – he was thrown by USC quarterback Sam Darnold, many of which were in the pouring rain.

But Isabel, a senior, wasn’t originally scheduled to catch a single pass from Darnold, who is projected to be the first pick in the 2018 NFL draft.

It was by chance that Isabel met ex-USC wide receiver DeQuan Hampton at Athletic Republic, a sports training facility in Santa Ana, California. Hampton passed Isabel’s tape on to Darnold, who liked what he saw and set up a three-day slate of practices with Isabel before the pro day. On the third day, Isabel said, they clicked. Isabel was told catch three or four passes the next morning.

After Isabel caught the first pass of the day, Jordan Palmer, an ex-NFL quarterback and the quarterback consultant who ran the pro day for Darnold, could see Isabel was “in a zone,” and continued to call his name to run routes.

“(Palmer) had noticed the other guys were dropping balls, so I started stepping forward when he was calling out people for routes and he would point me out,” Isabel said.

“He had an NFL pro day where NFL scouts are there, and he had maybe the top pick in the draft throwing to him. So he’s already put himself on the map. (But) if he’s Division III, he has to be the best player on the field every time he steps on the field and his tape needs to show that.

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Isabel said he’ll continue to pursue coaching after struggling academically in his first few years at Chabot College and seeing potential Division I football offers evaporate due to academic ineligibility, Isabel took two years off from school and worked at a restaurant. He had to boost his GPA to be eligible to play again and found a home at Chapman.

Isabel, a 24-year-old psychology major, bears a tattoo of Chapman’s mascot, the panther, on his right calf. With its sharp black and red ink, it’s a striking piece he had done after his first season at Chapman.

Isabel said he’s always had a chip on his shoulder, whether it was from being the youngest of five boys, being undersized at 5 feet 8 inches tall, or now, from being from a Division III school.

That mentality was apparent in Isabel’s quick, physical play. He finished his Chapman career with a conference championship and single-season championship records in touchdowns, with 10, and yards, with 1,050.

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Concert Intime
April 5 — 7
Waltmar Theatre
$15 — $5

University Choir & Singers
April 7
Fish Interfaith Center
$15 — $5

Opera Chapman Presents:
Albert Herring
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Musco Center for the Arts
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(714) 997-6624
Two under par: Siblings drive each other’s golf game

Tasha Rebensdorfer | Contributing Writer

It’s not often one refers to a sibling as “coach.”

But for Emily Lewis, a junior on the women’s golf team, her brother Jeff Lewis is more than just a sibling. Growing up in Los Alamitos, California, a small suburb just south of Long Beach, Lewis idolized her brother, seven years her senior. As a child, she would tag along with him to the El Dorado and Skylinks golf courses in Long Beach, where she would watch him putt and drive with aplomb.

Throughout their childhoods, the siblings always battled against one another, competing in board games, soccer, baseball and, of course, golf.

“My biggest role model for golf is definitely my brother,” Lewis said. “He is the reason why I’m so passionate about golf and why I push myself to be better. The ultimate goal is to beat him.”

The dream is not an outlandish one. Last August, on a morning at the Old Ranch Country Club, Lewis shot below par over nine holes, shooting a 35 (-1) to her brother’s even-par 36.

“She has a golf ball signed and dated to mark the historic occasion,” Jeff Lewis said. “I was definitely proud of her, even though I was a bit bummed out myself.”

The ball from that day sits on a shelf in Emily Lewis’s room at home.

Jeff Lewis, 29, is working to qualify for the PGA Tour. But even while golfing on mini-tours, he made time to caddy for his little sister last summer.

The sibling bond and competition has improved Lewis’s game. Last year, she received All-SCIAC Second Team honors and led the Panthers in their first season of women’s golf.

The team finished in sixth place out of eight teams in the conference, but Lewis placed in the top 10 in both SCIAC No. 2 and the SCIAC Individual Championship.

After watching her brother play golf throughout their childhood, Emily Lewis decided golf would be more relaxing than soccer, setting aside other sports for golf. It wasn’t until Lewis’s junior year at Los Alamitos High School that she wanted to raise her game to another level, and asked her brother for golfing tips. Now, they get together a couple of times a month to work out the kinks in her game at the Old Ranch Country Club in Seal Beach.

Emily Lewis was a star on the Los Alamitos High School golf team, where she was honored as Most Valuable Player her senior year and made the California Interscholastic Federation Regionals. After she graduated in 2014, she enrolled at the University of California, Davis, but returned home after a year to attend Orange Coast College (OCC), where she picked her clubs back up to play.

While at OCC, she emailed Ming Lao, a junior at OCC’s men’s golf coach, and asked if Chapman might have a women’s team in 2016. When Lao said yes, she was euphoric.

“(Lao) said he would love to have me on the team,” she said. “He didn’t have very much convincing to do. I already wanted to come to Chapman.”

The Panthers’ first-year women’s golf coach, 50-year-old golfer Lao, has a unique coaching relationship with Emily Lewis. They played together at OCC for one season.

“She is laser-focused on delivering the best round of golf that she can, and is driven to be No. 1,” Minghanbani said.

Golf requires more mental exertion than physical labor, said Emily Lewis. Despite walking 18 holes and carrying a 20-pound bag on her back, she is more mentally than physically exhausted after a tournament.

In order to prepare for that mental exertion, Emily Lewis follows the same routine before each tournament. A superstitious person, she listens to “Nuvole Bianche” by Italian pianist Ludovico Einaudi before teeing off. The song also has personal sentiment. She and her brother grew up playing the piano and he would often play the song.

“That is the last song I will always listen to and I have to finish it,” she says. “I can’t stop it in the middle. It has to finish, so I have to time it perfectly before I tee off.”