College admission shouldn’t have a price tag

In March, dozens of people, including the parent of a Chapman student, were charged in a massive, nationwide college admissions scandal that involved parents buying their children’s acceptance to some of the most prestigious universities in the country. This is a slap in the face to families who work hard to provide their children with an education, The Panther Editorial Board writes.

At least 50 students attended a campus vigil for the victims of the New Zealand massacre that claimed the lives of dozens March 15. One student’s family member was shot multiple times in the attack.

Members of the women’s track and field team have broken multiple records this season – and the team’s underdog mentality motivates its members, runners say.
The Mueller investigation is finished. But do students care?

Dayna Li | Staff Writer

"The Mueller report has captured Democrats and Republicans alike for 22 months, and according to an NPR poll, 76 percent of adults in the United States want to see the 300 page report made public, but some college-aged students are not as concerned. "I'm just busy, so I haven't had time to wrap my head around the Mueller case," said Rotem Azariya, a senior business administration major. "I have not researched enough to know my opinion."

The investigation has been somewhat of a cloud over President Donald Trump's administration for 22 months and has been the subject of varying media coverage and political debate between political parties. After the conclusions from special counsel Robert Mueller's findings were summarized in a March 24 four-page letter by attorney general William Barr, Trump took to Twitter to claim "total" exoneration. The special counsel did not find that the Trump campaign 'conspired or coordinated with the Russian government,' according to Barr's summary of the report, but also said Trump has not been "exonerated" in regards to obstruction of justice concerns.

In the wake of the report's delivery to Barr and the letter's contested release to the public, cable outlets and news sources alike covered the news intensely. But do voters feel the same concerns.

In the wake of the report's delivery to Barr and the letter's contested release to the public, cable outlets and news sources alike covered the news intensely. But do voters feel the same

"In the wake of the report's delivery to Barr and the letter's contested release to the public, cable outlets and news sources alike covered the news intensely. But do voters feel the same "

Previous

Compton, a political science professor at Chapman who teaches courses in constitutional law, Triton Spangler-Dunning, a sophomore history major, told The Panther he followed updates on the case. "When the results came out, I was surprised," he said. "It's important for students to follow that type of information, because when someone's being investigated, it's something for People think ignorance is bliss, but you miss a lot of important details about who to vote for next." Compton said. "If the president is accused of doing something bad, it's hard to investigate those crimes because the president is in charge of the apparatus.

At least 50 attend Chapman vigil for victims of New Zealand shootings

Carolina Valencia | Staff Writer

Freshman Farhan Khan came home around 4 a.m. after a night out and checked his Twitter. A live video of the March 15 Christchurch shootings in New Zealand that left almost 50 dead popped up on his screen. He didn't know that a family member would be one of the 50 people left wounded. "My mom's cousin was in the attack and he was shot three times. He is in critical condition still, and he has three young children," said Khan, a business administration major who is part of Chapman's Muslim Student Association (MSA). "A lot of people have sympathy for it, but I have a personal connection."
Chapman raising $225,000 to purchase St. John’s Bible copy

Jade Yang | Staff Writer

Most Bibles don’t have a gold-outlined depiction of the Twin Towers or a microscopic image of the AIDS virus. But the St. John’s Bible, handwritten by a group of scribes and painstakingly illustrated in a project that cost $8 million, is a new take on the Christian text.

Chapman’s Office of Church Relations is raising $225,000 in hopes of acquiring a copy of the St. John’s Bible. The Bible’s construction began in 1998, and it was built to last for 1,000 years, said Nancy Brink, director of church relations.

Chapman has development plans to build and open a new residence hall on the adjacent side of Palm Avenue “five or six years ago,” according to Sundby. The site was deemed unfit for housing construction when toxic soil was found. The site was later used to build the Lastinger Tennis Center, which opened Oct. 2017.

“Chapman’s Office of Church Relations aims to raise $225,000 in order to acquire a permanent copy of the unique Bible.”

Jack Cledening | Staff Photographer

Chapman raising $10 million donation to rename residence hall won’t affect construction plans

Lou Vanhecke | News Editor

An anonymous $10 million donation made to Chapman’s new residence hall, The K, originally called the Villa Park Orchards Residential Village—will not go toward building or construction plans, said Dave Sundby, director of Residence Life and First Year Experience, but will help the school’s “financial health” after its investment in the housing project.

“What the donation is going to look like for building operations, building features... will, the building is mostly built,” Sundby said. “It’s not going to transform what the final project is going to look like.”

Sundby was made aware of the anonymous donation about two weeks before it was published by President Daniele Struppa at Chapman’s annual State of the University speech, which took place Feb. 22 this year. Struppa said that he had met the anonymous donor four years ago and kept up communication with her.

“We asked, from her perspective, what was Chapman doing well and what Chapman wasn’t doing well,” Struppa told The Panther. “She found that we shouldn’t be building more and better residence halls, which is something that we already wanted to do.”

Chapman has development plans to build and open a new residence hall on the adjacent side of Palm Avenue “five or six years ago,” according to Sundby. The site was deemed unfit for housing construction when toxic soil was found. The site was later used to build the Lastinger Tennis Center, which opened Oct. 2017.

“Chapman is raising $225,000 to purchase St. John’s Bible copy.”
Popular local ice cream shop A La Minute closes

Sandhya Bhaskar | Assistant News Editor

Los Angeles chain Afters Ice Cream is set to take the place of A La Minute, located in the historic Old Towne Orange Plaza, recently closed.

Situated among the area’s antique shops and retail stores, the ice cream shop was known for unconventional flavors like beet, avocado and vanilla with olive oil. A La Minute closed March 22, had a 4.5 star rating on Yelp and was a go-to for some Chapman students.

One of the shop’s draws was its unique use of liquid nitrogen, which was poured over the ice cream mixture to eliminate ice crystals, making it creamier. Established in 2012, the ice cream shop used organic milk and locally sourced ingredients.

Minna Thrall, former shift lead at A La Minute and junior history major at Chapman, told The Panther that the shop’s closing was due to increased rent and slow business. “(Employees) were all expecting that we were going to be closing at some point because business is slow, but we were thinking it was going to be more toward summer, because that’s when we get a lot of business,” she said.

Employees were told by the shop’s owners at a March 8 meeting that Afters Ice Cream had bought the location, with the transition expected to happen in April.

Afters Ice Cream, which has 24 locations across California, offers flavors of ice cream like cookie monster, which is a blue-colored vanilla ice cream with cookie bits, and milk and cereal, along with the store’s popular ice cream sandwich, the Milky Bun, a sliced glazed donut with ice cream in between the halves.

“All of our customers (have come) in asking if this is permanent and are very upset. People really love this ice cream, so it’s really hard to see it go,” said Thrall, who has been working at A La Minute for a year and a half.

Elly Aronson, a junior news and documentary major, said she was surprised to hear about the shop’s closing. “One of the first times I visited Chapman, my mom and I went to A La Minute,” she said. “It was so good, and one of the first memories I have in the Circle. It will definitely be missed.”

The remaining A La Minute shops are located in Redlands, Temecula and Claremont, with the Redlands location about 30 minutes away from campus. “We (had) a lot of regulars who come in and we all know them by name … we are grateful for this community we have had around us,” Thrall said.
HILBERT MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA ART
at Chapman University

NEW EXHIBITIONS
NOW THROUGH OCTOBER 19

Sincerely,
Norman Rockwell
Celebrating a New Acquisition

The Magic and Flair of
Mary Blair

FREE admission and parking | Tuesday–Saturday, 11am–5pm | 714-516-5880
167 N. Atchison St., Orange, CA 92866 | HILBERTMUSEUM.org | @ HilbertMuseum

Hilbert Museum is located on the west campus of Chapman University, next to Partridge Dance Center and DMAC, and across from Ruby’s Diner and the train station. Just a short walk from the main campus—or the free Chapman “Parking Lots” shuttle bus drops off and picks up right across the street!

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

Bay Area Scene Painting
THROUGH APRIL 27
Meditating in class? Some professors say it helps students focus

Sierra DeWalt | Staff Writer

When Chapman sociology professor Bernard McGrane went through both familial and romantic relationship struggles over thirty years ago, he discovered the Karnei Choling meditation center in Vermont and started practicing meditation. After reading The Heart Sutra, a classic text of Buddhism, McGrane went through a profound internal experience.

"Something very, very deep in me (clacked) and I started shedding tears left and right," McGrane said.

Now, he incorporates meditation at Chapman. He starts each class off with three to five minutes of sitting meditation and guides his students to think about relaxing each part of their body. He ends the session by instructing students to follow a sound of a small gold, bowl-shaped gong. "It somehow, psychologically, is very nourishing for us," McGrane said.

Gail Stearns, dean of the Wallace All-Faiths Chapel, said meditation can help students manage anxiety and identify stress inducers.

"It is important that mindfulness is introduced on our campus by people who practice it regularly and understand its benefits and limitations," Stearns said.

Meghan O'Connell, a junior sociology major, is one of McGrane's students who feels inspired when meditating.

"When I enter a classroom, I'm already thinking about all the things that need to be done or that need to be turned in," O'Connell said. "When I enter Professor McGrane's class, those thoughts still come, but then I get that minute of mindfulness and then I'm able to reflect and say, 'OK, I can get this done.'"

Like McGrane, communication studies professor Sophie Janicke-Bowles also incorporates mindfulness and yoga into her classes. When her students seem hyperactive and energetic, she guides them through meditation. When the students are feeling lethargic, she takes them through a few yoga exercises like the tree pose.

"We know from research that when people are hyper-stimulated, these are states where we cannot learn well," Janicke-Bowles said.

Professor Bernard McGrane leads students through a five-minute meditation exercise before each class to increase focus.

Some super bloom visitors endanger flowers, officials say

Mitali Shukla | Staff Writer
Satvi Sunkara | Staff Writer

How far are you willing to drive to get the perfect Instagram picture? Well, if you're a California resident, you don't have to go too far. California's 2019 super bloom brought a noteworthy display of hundreds of flower species growing along the west coast, causing thousands of flowers to bloom and even visible from space. This year's bloom has attracted many to visit the fields — and take Instagram photos.

But, the crowds the super bloom attracts may have a detrimental effect on the fields. Some visitors have walked over and stepped on the field's greenery, including California's state flower, the golden poppy.

"People were obviously there to take pictures, just like my friends and I," said Ashley Birdsell, a freshman integrated educational studies major who went to see the super bloom at Walker Canyon in Lake Elsinore, California. "There were clear paths where we could walk without stepping on the flowers!"

But despite these existing paths, many visitors have been going off trail to pick flowers or lay down in fields to get a photo for their social media posts. According to The Washington Post, a helicopter illegally landed in a field of poppies in Lancaster, about 70 miles north of Los Angeles, and its passengers began a hike.

Instances like this, along with traffic congestion issues, temporarily shut down public access to Walker Canyon on March 18. Since then, the park officials have required visitors to take $10 shuttles on weekends to see the flowers.

"By attracting the general public to see this natural beauty, hopefully people will walk away with a greater appreciation of open spaces, as opposed to more housing tracks and strip malls," said Chapman biological sciences professor Jennifer Funk.

In what might be considered the biggest bloom in the past two decades, the California Travel and Tourism Commission reported that the seven inches of rain since July 2018 is to thank for the weather conditions that caused the bloom.

"When the rain comes just right, we start getting these soaking rains from fall through winter," said Betsy Knaak, the executive director for the Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association. "The water is just the right amount to germinate these native annual seeds that are stored in the ground here."

California's wet winter ended a drought that had lasted almost 10 years, causing this year's rare super bloom. But some visitors are causing damage to the flower fields.

After eight years of drought in southern California, the rainfall accumulated throughout the past year help seeds have time to spread and germinate.

"We experienced between nine to 19 years of drought," Knaak said. "When you have a year with more traditionally average rainfall, you get the seeds responding."
Coachella outfits are expensive. But a Chapman designer has a solution

Satti Sunkara | Staff Writer

Passes to the Coachella Valley Music and Art Festival start at $429. The festival is 100 miles away from Chapman, but can be further and more expensive if a flight is necessary to get there. And outfits for the festival, which takes place in April, can range from $40 to $500. But self-taught stylist, fashion entrepreneur and Chapman junior Sally Park might have a solution, if only for the expensive outfits.

“I am really excited to offer festival clothing for the first time,” said Park, a business administration major who founded clothing company Oh She’s That Bored. “What I make is affordable, can’t be easily duplicated and is a tailored process with the customer.”

The high price tags associated with the cost of attending Coachella and finding clothing to wear to the music festival is something that some students don’t want to spend.

“It’s a huge appeal to anyone to have something be one-of-a-kind. I wanted a few statement pieces and it was so much more appealing to go to Sally than some store,” said Rebekah Halvorsen, a senior peace studies major who wanted customized festival outfits for Coachella and the Ultra Music Festival. “Other companies charged upwards of $500 to $700 for a custom jacket.”

Park, who is working on a festival collection, intends to offer a more high-end collection and offers payment plans for her clothes. Her high-end collection and offers delivery dates.

“Creating a festival line isn’t what Park is used to — as she describes her fashion as an intersection between overused vintage and street-style clothing. Within the past month of her business being open for custom orders, Park has received and delivered various orders that include tops, custom sorority letters and soon, trendy festival outfits.

“The variations I can throw into it is why it’s so fun to make my own clothing in that style,” she said. And with small, individualized businesses like Park’s, customers are able to closely work out the design to get what they paid for.

“I loved that I knew where my clothing was coming from and that it was handmade,” said Mira Thekdi, a sophomore graphic design major who received a personalized sorority letter jacket. “Sally made it easy to get good quality, personalized clothing.”

Park started the business in February after not being able to buy a top that was sold out from brand AllSaints, realizing she could make it herself. Customers place orders for existing pieces or customized outfits through Park’s Instagram page and meet with her to discuss ideas and delivery dates.

Despite having no experience in fashion design, Park taught herself how to make custom outfits during the school year. While her work is inspired by the women in her life, it’s a one-person business.

“I got my first sewing machine, made friends with all the workers at Jo-Ann Fabrics, watched more YouTube tutorials than you will ever know and re-worked those traditional techniques into my own,” she said.

With the much anticipated Coachella and Stagecoach festivals, Park hopes to keep busy. More than 127,000 people attended the Coachella festival last year, according to USA Today.

“I am keeping most details of the festival collection hidden as a surprise, but expect a lot of sparkle and a lot of confusing hardware,” Park said.

REVIEW

Jordan Peele’s ‘Us’ is unique, but mostly confusing

Olivia Harden | Features Editor

“Us” is a horror movie directed by Jordan Peele, who also worked on the movie “Get Out,” another horror film which is centered around racial issues. I’m more scared of racism than ghosts, trust me. And “Us” blew my mind.

Peele’s work has an impact on Hollywood by changing the face of horror in the movie industry. The strides made in diversifying Hollywood in the last couple of years are possible because of directors like Peele, and recognizing that 10 years ago, a story would not have been told is important.

While “Us” focuses on a black family, the movie is not centered on race. It plays with the powerful thread of self-identity in a very visible way. I found the film confusing, but maybe that was the point.

For one, I was so confused about the concept of the “tethered selves.” From what I understood, each character had a clone. The evil clones came up from the sewers, where they had been living, to murder their doppelganger with a pair of golden scissors. The tethered clones wear red jumpsuits, reminiscent of blood, and have gold scissors, which I think represent cutting ties.

How were they created? What is their purpose for revealing themselves? Why were they underground? Why do they want to kill their other halves? Lupita Nyong’o’s character Adelaide Wilson carried the whole movie. Her alter ego tells us that the clones have lived in darkness for too long. It was clear that the alter ego living underground in isolation was intentional.

I’m not sure another actor could have played the mother’s role other than Lupita Nyong’o. The brave faces she puts on when she’s about to give a character a beating in order to protect her family give you a sense of fearlessness as she quickly becomes the heroine you root for — which is why it’s shocking to see her alter ego be so different.

If you’re looking for a film that works to expand your consciousness, has a diverse cast, a great lead and combines comedy with horror and thriller genres, I would suggest seeing “Us.” Maybe you’ll find more clues than I did about how all the pieces fit together.
Will work for experience

Two of my friends have summer internships in San Francisco. One will be working in New York City. One will be in Austin. Two more were hired in Denver. Me? I’m still waiting to hear back from most places I applied and the companies who did respond didn’t hire me.

During a family brunch over spring break this year, my grandma asked what my plans for the summer were. I got a little sweaty and told nearly my entire family that I didn’t have any yet. When my cousin was asked the same question, she said she had an internship, which my her father went on to describe as (maybe not in these exact words) a fantastic stepping stone on the way to a profitable career and fulfilling life. I got more sweaty.

It seems like everyone around me will be spending their summers gaining valuable work experience to prepare them for their future careers, while I’m thinking about working retail. I’m not opposed to the potential discounts on cute clothes I might receive, but I wish I could be spending that time building my resume instead.

I know that any experience is good experience to have under your belt, but I was really hoping to be in an office building instead of behind a check-out counter this summer. Honestly, I don’t know what I want to do after college, but the pressure to become a more desirable future employee, no matter the career, is getting to me.

Initially, I naively only applied to one summer internship. I had toured the company in spring 2018 and became totally fixated on it. The people were welcoming, the office was beautiful and the company atmosphere seemed like a good fit for me. I was set on working there. I had even already decided on my first-day-of-work outfit.

From the interviewer’s tone of voice and the fact that she said things like “How are you today?” and “It was so nice to talk to you, Maura Kate,” I definitely assumed I’d be hired, but unfortunately I wasn’t. Evidently, she was just being polite and I just have no clue how interviews work.

After sadly stalking the company’s LinkedIn, I discovered that the interns they’d selected are graduating college this year or will be going into their senior year. While that made me feel a little better about not getting the internship, it also made me worried about the possibility of me being hired elsewhere.

Some of my older friends have reassured me by saying that the summer going into junior year is a difficult time to find an internship and that they also struggled when they were in my position. But at the same time, some of the friends who are my age who are being hired at amazing companies – and I’m not. I’m happy for them, but it’s hard not to compare myself.

Now, I’m scrambling to apply to any and all internships I think might be a good fit, beefing up my LinkedIn and waiting for the summer store clerk applications at Urban Outfitters to open up.

Maybe this just isn’t my year to be the bright-eyed, bushy-tailed intern and eventually, I’ll accept that. Right now, the wound is a little fresh, but with time, it’ll heal. And that clothing discount sounds better and better the more I think about it.

Admission shouldn’t have a price tag

Rejection is never fun, but neither is the possibility of your parents going to federal prison so you can tagline on Saturdays.

A college education is something that’s seen as an indicator of academic success, and degrees from certain private universities and Ivy Leagues are weighed more highly than others. This obsession with the “pedigree” that diplomas from certain colleges give their graduates has created an epidemic of lying, cheating and underhanded deals.

On March 12, The Panther broke the news that Chapman was one of several colleges named in a sweeping indictment accuses the parents of many students at universities across the nation of doing just that. David Sisido, the parent of a Chapman student who transferred out in 2014, is accused of paying someone $100,000 to take the SAT in his son’s place.

The indictment, which also involves parents allegedly bribing athletic administrators and coaches to give slots reserved for athletes to their children, many of whom didn’t play the sport they were admitted for, has served as somewhat of a reckoning for college admissions programs. But another issue it brings up, especially at costly private universities like Chapman, is how privilege plays into college acceptance.

While the college admissions scheme, which involved funneling bribe money through a purported charity, has been described as a “side door” into colleges, there’s always been a back door.

Rapper Dr. Dre, who bragged that his daughter got into the University of Southern California (USC), one of the universities involved in the scandal, “all on her own” donated $70 million to the university with fellow musician Jimmy Iovine. It’s hard to fathom that the university would have denied Dre’s daughter admission with that hefty advance.

Meanwhile, students from underprivileged Los Angeles neighborhoods often take part in outreachs like USC’s Neighborhood Academic Initiative, a seven-year program that involves students regularly attending Saturday classes and requires that their parents take part in biweekly sessions to foster a “healthy home environment.” Even with all requirements met, the program still doesn’t guarantee admission. In 2011, an Ohio mother was convicted of falsifying residency records and sent to jail. Why? She lied about her address so her children could register in a better school district.

When wealthy parents pay to give their children a leg up above hardworking, qualified and diligent students, it’s a slap in the face to families who are willing to go to extreme lengths to provide their children with an education. And it speaks to another issue: Why do we care so much about the school name on our diplomas?

In October 2017, about 67 percent of high school graduates were enrolled in college, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. That leaves around 33 percent who weren’t. Instead of putting time, millions of dollars and potential criminal charges on the line, parents should support their children no matter where they decide to attend – and potential students shouldn’t place so much weight on the prestige of their university.

Getting into college anywhere is an accomplish- ment, an honor and privilege – not a right. No matter where you are, study hard and take advan- tage of the opportunities in front of you. And a reminder, most employers (based on a 2017 survey of 50,000) don’t really care about where you went to college. What they do care about is what you did while you were there.

Illustrated by Gaby Fantone
I am a go-getter. It's in my blood to succeed, to win, to get whatever I want and to be whoever I want. I went to a high school where the motto was literally “Quest for Excellence, How fitting. In high school, I was the senior class president, a varsity athlete and maintained a 4.0 GPA to impress the colleges I was determined to get into. Eventually, I was accepted into my first choice: Chapman. Throughout my life, I’ve felt like the world was at my fingertips no matter what was ahead, I had the personality type and the willpower to succeed. I didn’t realize how much that would change.

I realized in that moment that I have never been part of a system here in the United States that didn’t acknowledge the strong likelihood of a mass shooting. According to a 2015 study by The New York Times, there was more than one mass shooting a day in the United States. Just two years old when the infamous 1999 Columbine High School shooting, at the time the deadliest school shooting in American history, took place in Littleton, CO, taking the lives of 12 students and one teacher.

I remember watching the White House press conference after the 2012 Sandy Hook elementary school shooting in American history, took place two years old when the infamous 1999 Columbine High School shooting, at the time the deadliest school shooting in American history, took place in Littleton, CO, taking the lives of 12 students and one teacher. I watched in horror as President Obama delivered his emotional speech and the families of those who died expressed their pain.

I was walking on campus a few years ago, listening to “Jolene” by Dolly Parton and realized I was on my own business, when I was struck by a very scary thought: What would I do if I couldn’t come up with a good idea? I realized in that moment that I have never been part of a system here in the United States that didn’t acknowledge the strong likelihood of a mass shooting. According to a 2015 study by The New York Times, there was more than one mass shooting a day in the United States. Just two years old when the infamous 1999 Columbine High School shooting, at the time the deadliest school shooting in American history, took place in Littleton, CO, taking the lives of 12 students and one teacher.

I remember watching the White House press conference after the 2012 Sandy Hook elementary school shooting in American history, took place two years old when the infamous 1999 Columbine High School shooting, at the time the deadliest school shooting in American history, took place in Littleton, CO, taking the lives of 12 students and one teacher. I watched in horror as President Obama delivered his emotional speech and the families of those who died expressed their pain.

Facebook has been a platform, it has slowly removed hate speech and white supremacy from its platform, but banning a specific group of people is a much clearer statement, and I am loving putting it out there.

I'm not applauding Facebook for banning Nazis

Olivia Harden, features editor

Facebook should be proud of the work they’ve freed us from the Nazis a long time ago. Sometimes, we’re not to get any applause from me for making a basic move that should’ve been seen as... common sense. The website’s policies already prohibited white nationalists and separatists, but left a loophole allowing for condoning white nationalism and separatism.

On March 27, 2018, social media giant Facebook announced it had banned both. Man, what took you so long? In the 15 years that Facebook has been a platform, it has slowly removed hate speech and white supremacy from its platform, but banning a specific group of people is a much clearer statement, and I am loving putting it out there.

While it may seem easy to say hate speech is bad and move on, the issue at hand is more complex. You probably think, “But wait! What about free speech?” So for all my right-leaning fans out there, this one’s for you. Yes, the U.S. Constitution grants free speech to all of its citizens. This means that in the United States you are allowed to say whatever you want, including hate speech, but finding the line between affinity speech and speech that incites violence is more difficult than you may think, even at the federal level. As a result, Facebook, as a private company, has every right to remove hateful rhetoric from its platform.

A few days ago, a news feed of mine featured news stories about white nationalism and separatism. Facebook had removed comments that were offensive or harmful.

I'm not applauding Facebook for banning Nazis

Facebook should be proud of the work they’ve freed us from the Nazis a long time ago. Sometimes, we’re not to get any applause from me for making a basic move that should’ve been seen as... common sense. The website’s policies already prohibited white nationalists and separatists, but left a loophole allowing for condoning white nationalism and separatism.

On March 27, 2018, social media giant Facebook announced it had banned both. Man, what took you so long? In the 15 years that Facebook has been a platform, it has slowly removed hate speech and white supremacy from its platform, but banning a specific group of people is a much clearer statement, and I am loving putting it out there.

While it may seem easy to say hate speech is bad and move on, the issue at hand is more complex. You probably think, “But wait! What about free speech?” So for all my right-leaning fans out there, this one’s for you. Yes, the U.S. Constitution grants free speech to all of its citizens.

This means that in the United States you are allowed to say whatever you want, including hate speech, but finding the line between affinity speech and speech that incites violence is more difficult than you may think, even at the federal level. As a result, Facebook, as a private company, has every right to remove hateful rhetoric from its platform.

A few days ago, a news feed of mine featured news stories about white nationalism and separatism. Facebook had removed comments that were offensive or harmful.
**SPORTS**

Luca Evans | Staff Writer

Despite the signing of superstar LeBron James prior to the start of the 2018-19 NBA regular season, the Los Angeles Lakers have struggled to find themselves progressing, through the team’s sixth straight season with more losses than wins. As part of a swirl of rumors around the team’s future, an off-season plan, a headline emerged asserting the Lakers were in pursuit of the Los Angeles Clippers head coach Doc Rivers to replace their own Luke Walton, explained Lakers owner Jeanie Buss, Aguilarsaid.

“She spent much of her life and sharing insight into today’s media relevance and they were always in the conversation, and I felt like the team had lost that importance.”

However, the Lakers still remain one of the most profitable teams in the league, ranked No. 2 overall on Forbes’ team valuation list, with a value of $1.87 million. One student asked what Buss’ vision for the team was beyond winning championships.

“We want a team the community can be proud of, and we bring in players that can fit part of something bigger than their individual selves,” Buss said.

“(I want to) build something special that, just as my dad said so many years ago, that the community can be proud of.”

Working to formulate that team over time has led to its share of sports journalism criticism. Unlike others, Buss said she doesn’t pretend like it doesn’t affect her. Buss said to Pearlman that words, in fact, do hurt.

“It does bother me,” Buss said. “Your weaknesses will be revealed … people will attack you at every level.”

Buss said dealing with reports like the Rivers controversy can be extremely difficult.

“If you respond to (a rumor) officially, you’re giving credibility to non-credible sources,” Buss said. “Yet, by not responding to it, then it has a life and it gets into the psyche of fans.”

From being named the general manager of the now-defunct Los Angeles Strings at 19 to studying business at University of Southern California to becoming a sports executive in a male-dominated industry, she learned a lesson — everybody’s out to beat you, she said.

Now, with 20 years of experience working for the Lakers under her belt, she summed up her ability to tune out the white noise with a simple statement and a smile.

“I can take it, at my age,” Buss said. “Buss’ vision for the team involves the intersection of team success and community, because “everybody can be under the flag” of the team’s classic purple-and-gold. The Lakers are a brand, Buss said, and she doesn’t plan to take her foot off the gas until she delivers a team the community is happy with.

“We won’t stop until we’re proud.”

CASSIDY KEOLA Photo Editor

**Men’s lacrosse hopes to take second national championship**

Nathanyal Leyba | Staff Writer

For the men’s lacrosse team at Chapman, being up for a championship isn’t new. In 2018, the team secured its first national championship against the California Polytechnic State University Mustangs in a 9-5 home win at Wilson Stadium. Fans rushed towards the black steel fences while players threw their gear in the air in celebration. Fans cheered and clapped ecstatically as the team went to the 50-yard line and gathered on the Men’s Collegiate Lacrosse Association (MCLA) stage.

Over the next two years, the team would return to the national championships twice, finishing both times as runner-ups, to Grand Canyon University in 2017 and Michigan State University in 2018. This season, the team carries a record of 7-2. Senior goalie and strategic and corporate communication major Daniel Aguilar is confident in the team’s future as the month of March comes to a close.

“Everyone is starting to find our identity and have been stacking great ranked road wins against Cal Poly and Colorado University. Boulder,” Aguilar said.

Although Chapman is a Division III university, the men’s lacrosse team plays on the Division I level in the Southwestern Lacrosse Conference (SLC). But, as a club team, they still differ from NCAA teams like Duke University or Cornell University, who are not in the MCLA.

When the team first joined MCLA, they were considered a Division II team. AJ Rafter, Chapman 2014 alumnus and former player for the men’s team from 2011-2014, said the team’s move to Division I at least 10 years ago was needed.

“We essentially compete better with the Division I. The competition is better and it’s more friendly for our traveling,” Rafter said.

A lot of the better Division II schools are out east and in the Midwest.”

According to the MCLA website, Chapman has been a part of the conference since 2009, when it was established. The conference consists of 11 teams, a majority of which are from California.

Chapman has averaged 13.36 goals per game this season, while the opponents have scored an average of 9.54 goals against them. Despite the two losses, Jack Phillips, a midfielder and junior strategic and corporate communication major, said one of the things that makes the team successful is unity.

“We started off rough. It’s tough with a light roster,” Phillips said.

“But it’s fun to battle through everything. What makes us so good is the brotherhood we have, no matter how cliché it sounds.”

When the team secured the national championship title in 2016, they sported a 39-person roster. The team had 34 players in 2017 and 32 in 2018. During Rafter’s senior year in 2014, the team had 34 players on its roster. This year, it has 28. Dallas Hartley, head coach for the Panthers, said this year is an odd one in regards to the incoming freshmen and the senior class. There is no exact reason for the decreasing roster length, other than the two classes being smaller when compared to previous years, Hartley said.

“We usually try to recruit 15 freshmen and our senior class is usually 10. But we only have five seniors this year, along with seven freshmen,” Hartley said.

Aguilar, who has seen the program develop over the past four years, said Hartley drives the team’s passion.

“Since I was recruited, you guys have been great to me. I’ve built a love for this game, Aguilar said.

“I started nine years ago and it’s the culture he has established. The fine line he rides as an authority figure but also hanging out with the guys is what sets a good base for the program that allows us to have a great culture,” Aguilar said.

With four games left in the regular season, players like Phillips, hope a national championship is in the works.

“It’s definitely in the headlines … We have to start working on our systems more and start trusting each other more on slide packages,” Phillips said. “But I definitely believe we will make it back to the championship.”

JACK CLENDENING Staff Photographer

The Chapman lacrosse team has four games left in its regular season, with their next game away against San Diego State University April 6.
Freshman-heavy women’s track and field team breaks multiple records

Luca Evans | Staff Writer

Head coach DeAndré Woods has instilled a nine-word motto into the Chapman women’s track and field team: Believe in, be all in, buy in, locked in.

“It reminds us every week what we’re doing this for,” said sophomore psychology major and team member Gabi Siguenza. “It’s not just to score points, and it’s not just to be on the team — it’s that you’re contributing something bigger.”

This season, Siguenza said the team’s achievements are built around the energy of the younger runners. Siguenza and Woods commended the team’s focus and readiness to accept failure as part of the sport.

Siguenza broke a former nine-year-old record March 9 in the 400-meter hurdle record at the Ben Brown Invitational. Since March 9, the Panthers have lost 10 games and won four.

“We all know that our team can hit well,” Claudy said. “It’s just the matter of having the same confidence in every situation, no matter how much pressure is put on you.”

Ballard said the team has learned to accept failure as part of the sport.

“If anything, it’s a good point focusing on ‘that one loss’ or ‘that one bad pitch,’ Hartmann said. “A few losses is not going to stop us and we’re not going to let it take our momentum away.”

Sophomore psychology major Gabi Siguenza, a utility player, said what defines an athlete is not a loss, but “how you come back from that loss.”

Invitational, then broke that same record by a second and a half just a week later at the Irwin Collegiate Scoring Meet March 16.

“I’ve had to reassure myself a lot this year that I can do these things, because I know that I’m capable of them,” Siguenza said. “This year, I’ve been taking a lot more time to work through anything that might be holding me back.”

She remembers a particularly grueling practice earlier this season she said was rewarding to the team’s chemistry. The workout consisted of six cycles of running “broken 400s,” a drill in which the runners sprint 300 meters over hurdles, take a 30-second break and sprint another 100 meters.

“(That) was really awful physically, but when we finished we were just hugging it out,” Siguenza said. “It’s moments like that where you’re continuing to support each other through the worst of it.”

Despite the female Panthers’ hard work, their success sometimes goes unnoticed due to the small size of their program, Woods said. Reece said that an “underdog” mentality serves to motivate the team and surprise people who “aren’t looking for an outstanding effort.”

“I keep reminding our student-athletes that it’s OK to not have people recognize who we are,” Woods said. “If anything, it’s a good thing because the pressure isn’t on us.”

Siguenza believes as the season continues, the team will gain more attention on campus and across Division III.

“Coach Woods likes is that we’re not noticed right now,” Siguenza said. “But I think pretty soon, people are going to start noticing.”
As business administration major Adrien Rooney faced off against the second best Division III tennis team in the nation, he came into the singles match against Bowdoin college thinking he was going to lose by a large margin because of the athletic ability gap between him and his opponent. But, Rooney put up a fight and lost 6-7 and 4-6 in the first two sets.

“We all just have to stay focused,” said Rooney.

As a freshman, Rooney said there are few expectations of him when compared to the sophomores, juniors and seniors on the team. He said his freshman season gave him an opportunity to improve and build on his weaknesses.

“If I win, I help the team. If I lose, I move on and learn from it,” Rooney said. “I have four years here so I can make my mark.”

Rooney’s doubles partner, freshman strategic and corporate communication major Luke Bennett, believes that the team needs better discipline during its practices.

“At the beginning of the season, we weren’t doing much in terms of overall discipline and bonding as a team,” Bennett said. “One thing that has really helped us get focused ... That has really put us in the zone and gotten us closer.”

Although Bennett said he and Rooney have different personalities, he said they complement one another as teammates.

“In terms of Adrien, he’s always there, always pumping me up and getting me stoked to play,” Bennett said. “I’m more of a laid-back person so for him to have that kind of energy – it really translates on the court and hopefully it will lead to some wins this season.”

Although the two have very different personalities, Rooney said Bennett is the perfect doubles partner for him. While Bennett describes himself as more laid-back, he said Rooney never fails to fire him up before matches.

“My relationship with Luke ... he’s my best friend. I couldn’t ask for a better partner,” Rooney said. “He plays well and we get hyped before matches together. I’m looking forward to winning a lot of matches with him this season.”

After losing their doubles match against Bowdoin College, freshmen Adrien Rooney and Luke Bennett lost their next doubles match against Haverford College 8-5.