‘It is hate speech’

The 1915 film “The Birth of a Nation” is widely credited with inspiring the resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan in the early 20th century. On March 29, first-year film production graduate student Arri Caviness tweeted at Chapman’s Dodge College of Film and Media Arts, calling for a poster for the film to be removed from Marion Knott Studios. It took the school’s Twitter five days to respond, and there are no immediate plans to take the poster down.

MIA FORTUNATO Staff Photographer

A University of South Carolina student was allegedly murdered by a man she thought was her Uber driver. For some Chapman students, feeling uneasy in a rideshare is nothing new.

Features, Page 6

Chapman’s men’s lacrosse team has beaten Concordia University Irvine and the University of California, Los Angeles in the past week. The team aims for the national championship.

Sports, Page 10
Students advocate to remove of controversial film poster from Dodge

“It’s easy to spot the collection of film posters and artwork hanging on the walls of Chapman’s Dodge College of Film and Media Arts. The artwork, donated by renowned filmmaker Cecil B. DeMille’s estate, includes the original posters promoting D.W. Griffith’s 1915 silent epic drama, ‘The Birth of a Nation,’ a controversial film that many believe inspired the Ku Klux Klan revival in Stone Mountain, Georgia.

Arri Caviness, a first-year film production graduate student, decided to draw attention to the poster. On March 29, Caviness tweeted a photo of herself and five others next to the poster with the caption “Why does Dodge College, @THR’s (The Hollywood Reporter) 6th best US film school, still condone the celebration of white supremacy?”

It took the school five days to respond on Twitter.

“The Birth of a Nation” is a racist film, it is a racist poster, it is hate speech. There is absolutely no way around it,” said Arri Caviness, a first-year graduate student, who posted a photo of her and other students by the poster on Twitter, asking that the poster be taken down. Dodge College tweeted back, but some students believe that the controversial poster is not being taken seriously.

“The Birth of a Nation” is a racist film, it is a racist poster, it is hate speech. There is absolutely no way around it,” said Arri Caviness, a first-year graduate student, who posted a photo of her and other students by the poster on Twitter, asking that the poster be taken down. Dodge College tweeted back, but some students believe that the controversial poster is not being taken seriously.

“It would seem strange that as a university, we would obfuscate that,” Struppa said, adding that he believes censorship in any form is bad, even when done with the best intentions.

“‘The Birth of a Nation’ is ‘The Birth of a Nation’ and ‘BlacKkKlansman’ is ‘BlacKkKlansman.’” Wachtel and his “BlacKkKlansman” cowriter, David Rabinowitz, attended a screening of the film at Dodge College on March 7. “I’ll admit it was a little uncomfortable seeing this poster on campus the same day we did a Q&A for blackkklansman (sic),” Wachtel wrote in his retweet.

In the Q&A that followed the screening, Caviness asked what the writers thought about “The Birth of a Nation” and how universities should address the legacy of the film. Rabinowitz responded that he thinks “it’s a pretty good thing” if “BlackKKlansman” helps remove similar films from a pedestal.

“‘The Birth of a Nation’ is ‘The Birth of a Nation’ and ‘BlacKkKlansman’ is ‘BlacKkKlansman.’” Wachtel and his “BlacKkKlansman” cowriter, David Rabinowitz, attended a screening of the film at Dodge College on March 7. “I’ll admit it was a little uncomfortable seeing this poster on campus the same day we did a Q&A for blackkklansman (sic),” Wachtel wrote in his retweet.

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There are a lot of well-edited films that aren’t ‘The Birth of a Nation,’” Rabinowitz said.

Richard Brody, a film writer for The New Yorker, wrote that the worst thing about “The Birth of a Nation” is “how good it is,” though its pro-Confederacy sentiments are “grossly apparent.”

“I understand that they have it up because of its significance in film history, but it’s put up without context to how ridiculous and racist it is,” Gibson said. “It would make more sense in a museum or in a textbook, or at the very least, with a disclaimer about it.”

Caviness and Gibson are part of a group of students who have been coordinating efforts to have the poster removed. They have had discussions with Dodge faculty members and are drafting an open letter to Bassett.

“Our goal isn’t to erase the film from history, but the film should be acknowledged for what it is because of how blatantly awful it is toward people of color,” Gibson said.

The burden to advocate for the poster’s removal should not fall on black students alone, Gibson said.

“To ignore its blatant hatred is to condone the idea of white supremacy in media. I believe Dodge is better than that, and hopefully we can prove that to me,” she said.
In an act of solidarity for survivors of sexual assault and interpersonal violence, about 150 students and faculty walked from the Fish Interfaith Center around Chapman’s campus April 2, candles in hand. The walk was the culmination of the annual “Take Back The Night,” hosted by Chapman’s Creating A Rape-Free Environment for Students (C.A.R.E.S.) organization.

“Interpersonal violence affects all of us: it changes people forever,” said Dani Smith, Chapman’s rape crisis counselor and coordinator for C.A.R.E.S. during the event. “It is a crime that few people talk about.” Smith has participated every “Take Back The Night” since it first took place on Chapman’s campus in 1998, she said. She has had an integral role in Chapman’s approach toward campus sexual assault, writing the university’s first-ever sexual misconduct policy in 1997.

Smith wrote and compiled the program for the event, sharing a testimony from a Chapman student and survivor of sexual assault. “One Chapman student put it like this,” she said. “I share my experience to let you know that it is not your fault. Your experience must have been overwhelming, but you have nothing to be ashamed of.”

The event’s attendees included students, faculty, survivors and allies. Chris Costa, a senior psychology major and once-president of Phi Kappa Tau, told The Panther that he has attended “Take Back The Night” all four years of his college career. “My mom is a survivor, so is my best friend,” Costa said. “Unfortunately, this happens often. Men need to show up to events like these and listen.”

About 12 members of Phi Kappa Tau attended the event during Costa’s freshman year, he said. This year, about 30 were in attendance. “Sexual assault is something we talk about outside of the mandatory times. When I was president of Phi Kappa Tau, it was one thing that I really cared about,” he said. “Dani (Smith) is incredible – for her, the school and for the speakers, we make a point of coming every year.”

The evening was comprised of the retelling of students’ experiences with sexual violence and performances were made by student vocalist Cassandra Thibeault and student a cappella group Simply Vocale. Simply Vocale sang “Kinder,” originally performed by female vocal group Copper Wimmin. Simply Vocale president Erica Marfo told The Panther that performing at the event two years in a row is an “honor.” “Each year, we find new meaning,” she said. “(Kinder) talks about deciding to let go of demons, of all the pain and deciding to be happy, which we thought fit the purpose of the evening.”

A short video made by Jenna Perry, a sophomore broadcast journalism and political science double major, was played for the audience, showing interviews with several Chapman students about interpersonal violence and assault on college campuses. Perry made an “intentional” choice to play “‘Til It Happens To You,” a song by Lady Gaga written for the documentary “The Hunting Ground,” over the footage. The “power” of the song made it an appropriate choice, she said.

At one point during the program, audience members were told to close their eyes. “Think of four women you know,” said Connor Kennedy, a junior C.A.R.E.S. member, at the event. “Statistically, one of them will be a victim of sexual assault in their lifetime. If you think of five college women you know, one of them has been sexually assaulted already, or will be before they leave Chapman.”

Audience members opened their eyes. Sabrina Dworkin, a junior public relations and advertising major and C.A.R.E.S. member, took the podium. “These aren’t statistics, these are people,” she said. “How can we remain silent?”
Black Student Union to remain active despite low attendance

Lou Vanhecke | News Editor

Despite low meeting attendance and student movement this semester, Chapman’s Black Student Union (BSU) will likely remain active for the next academic year.

“There are problems within the foundation of the school from an administrative perspective,” said Naidine Conde, president of BSU. “It is not our job as students to pinpoint the problems of diversity on campus; it all starts with the school.”

Although spring semester can ebb and flows greatly, more ebbing than flowing. I’m unaware that they’re registering with Chapman anymore,” Price said. “At the same time, it offers us in administration a chance to think about if there are other things we can be doing to support black students in their transition through Chapman.”

Price acknowledged that Chapman’s lack of black faculty is an “obvious setback.”

“We do have experience of working with black students that is applicable, even if we can’t identify in the same way,” she said. “I would like to talk with BSU. I don’t want them to think that everything related to supporting or orienting black students into Chapman falls on BSU.”

Conde told The Panther that the numbers have to be considered, as there are about 100 black students at Chapman.

“We don’t have a lot of numbers to start with, but the numbers will not get better without a club like this,” Conde said.

Some members of BSU did not comment after the meeting.

One student wrote, “(Expletive) guns,” another wrote, “Gun control is somewhat necessary.” Another wrote, “Guns give us the ability to protect our rights.”

Wyatt Logan, a Turning Point USA field representative who is helping establish the club on Chapman’s campus, told The Panther that the club’s goal is to foster conversation. Logan is not a Chapman student or graduate.

“It’s not about guns; it’s about people and morality,” he said.

Price told The Panther that he believes the club’s leaders are freshmen, and although he supports the involvement of a national organization, he hopes that the club will be fully student-run.

“We have a lot of groups that are affiliated with national organizations, but we don’t represent the national organizations, we represent and support the students,” Price said. “We don’t want the national groups coming in and representing our students. The whole point of student orgs is to develop leadership.”

Shaalan Kelly, an undeclared freshman who tabled for Turning Point USA April 2 and 3, declined questions, referring media inquiries to Logan.

When asked whether he was concerned about some students finding the poster of guns on campus jarring, Logan said that unless the poster was calling for “violent action,” himself and the organization could say “whatever (they) wanted.”

“If (a student) is not willing to approach the table, that’s their own fault,” Logan said, adding that it is on campuses, there is a need to learn about topics like the Second Amendment and free speech.

Price said Chapman’s administration works to encourage students to value free speech, but to focus on “the speech that is being said,” rather than whether students have the right to say it.

“Unless a speech is a threat, or pervasive and harassing an individual, or is preventing someone from exercising their right to speak, then we’re going to permit it,” Price said.

Black undergraduate students make up less than 2 percent of the student body at Chapman, while Loyola Marymount University, a private school similar in size to Chapman, has a black undergraduate population of 6.3 percent.

The closed meeting had more undergraduates present than upperclassmen, Conde said, a ratio that she believes is promising.

“There are freshmen stepping up, there are sophomores and juniors who are getting more involved,” she said. “People are rallying for personal reasons, but also so that BSU continues to be here for other students.”
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After woman allegedly murdered by fake Uber, students are cautious

Twins and siblings talk campus life and being together at Chapman

Sierra DeVault | Staff Writer

Hannah and Kaitlyn Schmidt banter about who does more cleaning, like typical roommates. But Hannah and Kaitlyn are more than just roommates; they live together. As twins, they’ve done it their entire lives.

“We’ve gone to college with each other for the last four years, so we don’t know any different,” Hannah Schmidt said. Despite being around one another almost every day, the twins said that going to college together hasn’t worn on their relationship.

“It has made (college) easier for us,” Hannah Schmidt said. “Leaving for college was very scary, but we were very lucky in the sense that both of us would be there together.”

While having each other as a support system works for the Schmidts, not all twins share this sentiment. Alex Faber, a freshman art history major, chose to attend a different university than her twin sister, Krista, who studies biomedical engineering at Chapman. While junior Franchesca Fangary and Isabella Fangary, find Chapman to be a good fit despite having different majors. While junior Franchesca Fangary has been on Chapman’s campus for two years longer than her younger sister, Isabella Fangary, a freshman business administration major, came to Chapman because it was one of the only schools where she could pursue both business and film.

“Sometimes people don’t even care to take the time to get to know us or figure out the difference,” Kaitlyn Schmidt said. After we’ve known you for some time, it does get annoying if you don’t take the time to really find out the difference.”

“We asked her how her night was going and she told us that the last passenger she drove had assaulted her, and kept touching her disproportionately the entire ride,” Gaitley said. “She said she called her parents and boyfriend right after, and that we were her last ride of the night because she needed to go home after that. I felt so bad. It’s just not passengers who have negative Uber experiences. Gaitley described an Uber incident she once encountered where her female driver had just been sexually assaulted by a previous passenger.

“Because we are twins, we have done everything together,” Alex Faber said. “Seeing up for college gives us the opportunity to have new experiences and have different friends.

Branching out and going to different colleges was the right decision, Alex Faber said, because they want to be involved in different career fields.

“Chapman wouldn’t be a good fit because of her major: engineering,” Alex Faber said. “Although Chapman has many resources that she would love to take advantage of, a school that offers a better program for engineering...”

Jade Yang | Staff Writer

A student from the University of South Carolina got into a car she believed to be hers after spending a night out with friends March 29. Her body was discovered the next day by turkey hunters 65 miles away from her pickup point.

Last year, a Chapman student who was returning in a Lyft back to the residence halls, allegedly woke up at 3 a.m. and found herself being touched by a male passenger.

“There were two separate incidents that occurred where our female driver...thought was her Uber, the experiences Chapman students have had add to public concern.

“We’ve gone to college with each other for the last four years, so we don’t know any different,” Hannah Schmidt said. Despite being around one another almost every day, the twins said that going to college together hasn’t worn on their relationship.

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Eilish brings new meaning to mainstream music

Billie Eilish is known for being eccentric. Her style seems to appeal to a “sad girl” stereotype. With melodramatic songs like “when the party’s over” and “idontwannabeyouanymore” – which I listen to almost on a daily basis – she seems to have given off the idea that she and her older brother, and cowriter, Finneas O’Connell can only write tunes that make you want to hide under your covers and have a good cry.

Listening to Eilish’s new album “WHEN WE ALL FALL ASLEEP, WHERE DO WE GO,” it’s so easy for me to say that I was taken aback when I first heard the 14-track masterpiece – which was released on March 29. From the heavenly layered vocals in “goodbye,” the hilarious sound bites Eilish pulled from “The Office” in “my strange addiction” and the perfectly placed bass drops and bridge transitions in “xanny” and “bad guy,” this album has great vocals, quality beats and a sprinkle of comedic references.

And if you think the allusion to “The Office” isn’t enough, just listen to her opening track “!!!!!!” and reminisce in the short 13-second tale that jokes about the inconveniences those with Invisalign, including me, have.

With that track alone, it’s easy to see that Eilish doesn’t care about what people think of her. She might appear to others as a flashy, trendy teen with oversized, neon-colored pullovers and a pair of patterned pants to match, but in reality, she’s not trying to be relevant or follow mainstream pop culture. Just name another artist willing to put a tarantula in his or her mouth as more crawl over that person’s body just to add shock factor to a music video (It’s called “you should see me in a crown,” if you’re curious).

I don’t believe Eilish tries to be an edgy attention-seeker. She’s genuinely passionate about her music and has a compelling, thought-provoking visual presentation to match. She sticks to her roots and follows the haunting, somber themes she established in her first 2016 single, “Six Feet Under.”

Eilish continues to surprise me with songs like “listen before i go” and “i love you,” not because they are sad and depressing, but because they are relatable and authentic. The melancholy is hard to listen to; it draws you to the lyrics that reflect and mimic feelings of hopelessness and raw emotion. But they are real, and they are honest.

Give her entire album a listen before saying things like, “She’s so overrated,” “Where’s the talent in talking to a mic?” or my personal favorite, “She has to cut herself before she can even write a decent song.”

Everyone has an extreme, polarized opinion on Eilish; you either love or hate her. There’s no in-between. And I totally get that.

And please, ignore social media users who obviously have too much time on their hands and post 14 times an hour with their caps-lock button seemingly broken. Do yourself a favor and listen to her new album with no distractions. Then we can talk.
The one downside to springtime

Maura Kate Mitchelson
Opinion Editor

Ah, springtime. The days are longer, the sun is (usually) shining, the flowers are blooming and... no one has any motivation left.

Students and professors alike walk around campus with their heads down and a dazed look in their eyes. It seems like everyone I know has been having an “off” week for the past few weeks. I’ve seen Snapchat stories of people just shaking their heads and finsta posts describing procrastination habits and breakdowns.

Now that the tans are fading and the tease known as spring break is behind us, reality has started to set in. Final projects with due dates that once seemed to be far away are coming up much too quickly.

It took me well over an hour to build up the motivation to write this column, and column-writing is something actually I enjoy. I showered, perused through some clothing websites and started a load of laundry, all in the name of being productive – while still managing to avoid what I actually have to get done.

I’ve already opened Instagram four times and I don’t even have 200 words written, so you can only imagine how difficult it is for me to get myself motivated to do something I don’t normally enjoy – like homework or cleaning.

During the rest of the school year, I pride myself on being on top of my assignments and obligations, but as summer inches closer and my lack of sleep begins to catch up with me, I find myself spending most of my time procrastinating. I’ve even caught myself, on a few occasions, procrastinating by looking up ways to avoid procrastination (like by setting a deadline and getting rid of distractions) and reasons why people procrastinate (like a lack of structure).

I’m sure I’m not wrong in assuming that many college students can relate when I say that I continue to act this way because deep down, I know that panic will set in and eventually, I’ll get it together and finish the task on time. I have to be ready to leave and go somewhere in an hour? All right, I’ll lie in my bed doing nothing for 40 minutes and then rush through my routine in 20. In the moment, it can be stressful, but the end result is the same. I see it as a different take on time management.

Trust me, I know that this is certainly not the most effective way to go about a task, but it’s just where I am right now. By the time I’m working this summer and then when school starts back up in the fall, I’ll be back to my old ways of handling things in a timely manner. But with the prospect of a break from my hectic schedule and the idea of warm weather on my mind, I’m a bit distracted.

I understand that it’s much easier to just do nothing, but we all have something we need to do. From what I can see, it seems pretty normal to go through a rough patch this time of year. I have faith that the “off week” phase will pass soon enough and life will return to normal for everyone.

But for now, I’ve gotten on Instagram so many times while trying to write this that my phone is dying – I need to take a minute or two so I can gather up the strength to walk over to my charger and plug it in.

History doesn’t excuse racism

The Panther Editorial Board

Taking down a poster featuring a film that glorifies the Confederacy shouldn’t be a difficult decision to make. But it seems like the administration at Chapman’s Dodge College of Film and Media Arts is having trouble.

“The Birth of a Nation” is a 1915 movie that many consider to be a cinematic masterpiece in terms of technical achievement. But most people now see it for what it really is: propaganda for the Ku Klux Klan (KKK). The film, which depicted the hate group as the saviors of the post-Civil War South, is thought to have helped propel the KKK’s resurgence after William Joseph Simmons, a preacher from Georgia became obsessed with the film.

Historical significance is not an excuse for proudly displaying imagery of a film so closely tied to racism and oppression. It’s like having a Confederate flag bumper sticker or a town proudly displaying a statue of Robert E. Lee. You can argue that it’s just a sticker or just a statue. But for many, it represents years of pain, suffering and inequality.

The New Yorker film writer Richard Brody went as far as to say the worst thing about the film, which showed actors in blackface and depicted racist stereotypes and lynching, is “how good it is.” This apologist reaction disguised as an appreciation for film history is unacceptable. Praising the movie’s “grand and enduring aesthetic” and “profoundly human moments” while ignoring its archaic and disturbing portrayals of black people is insulting to the black community.

“A film that dehumanizes black people, celebrated lynching, and is, in no small part, responsible for the resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan, is not worthy of our praise,” Arri Caviness, a Chapman student who tweeted about the poster and posed in a photo with five other Dodge students, told The Panther.

It took Dodge College’s Twitter account five days to respond to the tweet, and its administration declined to provide a statement to The Panther unless we published it in full.

In a phone interview with The Panther, President Daniele Struppa said that while he has not seen the film, its induction into the Library of Congress’ National Film Registry means it’s “not just any movie.”

“It would seem strange that as a university, we would obfuscate that,” Struppa said, adding that he believes censorship in any form is bad, even when done with the best intentions. “That’s not the way we learn. Instead of erasing, we remember and we criticize and discuss and educate.”

Few people have the privilege – or even the outright ignorance – to look at a poster celebrating racism and hate groups and only see a sign of advancement in film. For a university like Chapman, which purports to strive for diversity, someone should have known better than to put and keep this poster up.

In the 2018 movie “BlacKKKlansman,” members of the KKK are shown eating popcorn and cheering while the film played in the background.

Removing the poster shouldn’t fall in a gray area. It shouldn’t require deliberation. Black students have expressed their discomfort and unease with the poster – and Oscar-winning “BlacK-KKlansman” co-writer, who spoke at a Dodge screening of the film March 7, tweeted that seeing the poster that day was “a little uncomfortable.”

So Dodge, what are you waiting for?
I have been single for about eight months now. I’ve been completely honest, I love it. There is no moody man waiting for me to pay attention to him, or enacting a 1950s housewife policy and guilti...
The Panthers tore onto its home ground at Wilson Field March 31, ready to defeat the team's long-standing rivals, the Concordia University Irvine Eagles. Fueled by the crowd of friends and fans cheering on from the stands, the Panthers were “fired up” in the locker room and ready to play, said junior Wiley Bonham, an attacker on the team and business administration major.

Despite the heated competition, the Panthers ended up winning the game 14-9. This marked the team's eighth consecutive win so far in the season, which Bonham said puts the team on track for the Southwestern Lacrosse Conference (SLC) divisional playoffs and eventually, the Men's Collegiate Lacrosse Association (MCLA) National Championships.

Despite the team's recent wins, the Panthers' season started with two consecutive losses in their second and third games. Chapman lost 15-14 to University of California, Berkeley Feb. 16 and lost 12-11 to George Institute of Technology Feb. 22. Senior goalkeeper Daniel Aguilar, a strategic and corporate communication major, said that the team's early losses might be due to a lack of cohesiveness among teammates.

"We were shooting ourselves in the foot. We were being pretty sloppy," Aguilar said. "It killed our confidence a lot and we were doubting our team for a little bit."

Even though those early losses were "discouraging," junior Jack Phillips, a midfielder and strategic and corporate communication major, said he viewed them as a lesson.

"Those two losses really humbled us and brought perspective to this year," Phillips said. "It made us come together as a team."

Sophomore Ethan Smith, a midfielder and business administration major, said the team began practicing more seriously after its losses. Following that training period, the Panthers made a strong comeback in a next game against Michigan State University March 3, winning 11-9. Bonham said this was the "most satisfying" win of the season — the Panthers lost to Michigan State in the national championship game in 2018.

"After two losses, this game was a do or die for us. It was a must-win," Bonham said.

And it was a turning point for the team. The Panthers have not lost a game since.

"That game was a statement to let everyone know that we're still here and we're not backing down," Phillips said.

Sophomore George McGuirk, an attacker and public relations and advertising major, said the key to the team's success has been its teamwork.

"We play as a team. We're not focused on one person scoring or making all the plays," McGuirk said.

With a 10-game winning streak and only two games left in the season, the Panthers feel primed to make it to both the SLC playoffs and the MCLA National Championships.

But despite the team's record, Phillips said it's "crunch time" for the Panthers.

With a 10-game winning streak and only two games left in the season, the Panthers feel primed to make it to both the SLC playoffs and the MCLA National Championships.

Even though the Panthers are on track for the national championships, the team is aware of the upcoming game against University of California, Santa Barbara on April 14. In preparation for the playoffs and the last few games of the season, Smith said the team practices for two hours daily, which the team's head coach, Dallas Hartley, calls "high tempo."

"We do a little bit more so that when we get on the field, we're prepared and we're able to make the most of that two-hour period," Phillips said.

"The only team that can beat us is ourselves," Smith said.
Setting goals to score them: Zahn closes out lacrosse career

Luca Evans | Staff Writer

There’s a certain amount of motivation required to tally 100 career goals as a college lacrosse player. A target like that appears even more unattainable when trying to balance working in a research lab and at an internship, conducting research for a senior capstone and being a psychology peer advisor – all while maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

But an aspect of Collins’ life no one know about is his passion for fitness. “It’s one addiction that people tend to hear about is his passion for fitness; it’s an amazing one to have,” Kirkpatrick said. “I’m one of those people when if I have some free time or nothing to do, I don’t know what to fill it with, so I like having things that I need to do,” Zahn said.

An ‘amazing’ addiction: Senior baseball pitcher talks lifting, fitness

Nathanyal Leyba | Staff Writer

About 20 miles from Oracle Park, home of the San Francisco Giants, senior business administration major and right-handed pitcher Mason Collins and his father used to practice pitching in front of their house. They would play long toss before moving on to snagging grounders and catching fly balls and one-hoppers.

“Doing that two games in a row was just luck,” Zahn said. “We’ve been running the same plays all season, the same things against every team, so I honestly have no clue what was different.”

But Kirkpatrick said Zahn’s success is due to her hard work and determination. “Those 100 goals (aren’t) because Dani showed up to game days and decided to go hard. Those 100 goals are because Dani goes hard at practice,” Kirkpatrick said.

With about a month left in her lacrosse career, Zahn has one final aim: for the team to achieve a high seed in the conference tournament in early May. So far, Zahn’s two for two on both of her accomplished objectives. And, Kirkpatrick said, she typically achieves her goals. “Our entire season is in front of us,” Kirkpatrick said. “Everything that we want, everything that we’ve been fighting for is still there.”

Senior Danielle Zahn has played in all of the women’s lacrosse 11 games so far this season. She has 28 ground balls and a shooting percentage this season of 55.1 percent.

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Nathanyal Leyba | Staff Writer

About 20 miles from Oracle Park, home of the San Francisco Giants, senior business administration major and right-handed pitcher Mason Collins and his father used to practice pitching in front of their house. They would play long toss before moving on to snagging grounders and catching fly balls and one-hoppers.

“Doing that two games in a row was just luck,” Zahn said. “We’ve been running the same plays all season, the same things against every team, so I honestly have no clue what was different.”

But Kirkpatrick said Zahn’s success is due to her hard work and determination. “Those 100 goals (aren’t) because Dani showed up to game days and decided to go hard. Those 100 goals are because Dani goes hard at practice,” Kirkpatrick said.

With about a month left in her lacrosse career, Zahn has one final aim: for the team to achieve a high seed in the conference tournament in early May. So far, Zahn’s two for two on both of her accomplished objectives. And, Kirkpatrick said, she typically achieves her goals. “Our entire season is in front of us,” Kirkpatrick said. “Everything that we want, everything that we’ve been fighting for is still there.”

Senior Danielle Zahn has played in all of the women’s lacrosse 11 games so far this season. She has 28 ground balls and a shooting percentage this season of 55.1 percent.
This season, the Chapman hockey team didn’t win a game. Despite its record of 0-10, coach and 2016 alumnus Tradon Reid said he still aims for the club team to be recognized by the NCAA as an official ice hockey team.

To achieve this goal, Reid said he started rebranding Chapman’s hockey culture last month to create an attractive destination for top hockey players in the West Coast. “We’re only letting go of two seniors this year and we have a young squad that’s ready to play,” Reid said.

During Chapman’s 2017-2018 season, the team’s record was 0-11. Reid said a major aspect of rebranding the hockey culture at Chapman is increasing its campus exposure. “(The players have to) let people know that they have games coming up that week or the next week,” Reid said. “Just getting people talking about the team will increase attendance at the games, and it just snowballs from there.”

Reid said when he played for Chapman’s hockey team in 2016, there was much more fan support, which made the game more entertaining for the players and the university. Freshman center Harrison Lowe said he also advocates for working to engage Chapman students in the hockey games.

One frustration the hockey team faced was the fact that some of their games were cancelled this season. Reid said the decision was made because of the lack of players on campus around interterm. “For safety issues, we didn’t want to put them in harm’s way with no numbers on the ice with six players against a team of twenty-five,” Reid said.

Players like Lowe understand the critical position the hockey team is in. In order to break through the barriers holding them back, Reid and Lowe both understand the team’s practices need to be adjusted. “This year we’ll have more commitment to preparation,” Lowe said. “During the off-season, we’re expected to work out and, later in the year, we’ll have more required workouts.”

Despite the challenges the team has faced, Lowe said he still aims for success. “Last season was a terrible season for us in terms of our record, but we have so much potential,” Lowe said. “I am definitely more committed for this dynamic of the team.”

Chapman’s hockey team lost 10 games this season. With no wins, the team is looking to rework its training techniques and practices during the off season.