

# The Panther

thepantheronline.com • Monday, April 2, 2018 • Volume 112 Number VIII • Chapman University • @PantherOnline

## Female filmmakers in *focus*

*Former and current Chapman students encourage feminism in film*



**Features, Page 6**

Illustrated by Gaby Fantone

## Wide receiver tries to run route to the pros



**Sports, Page 12**

DIANO PACHOTE Staff Photographer



BONNIE CASH Photo Editor

## 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.

News, Page 2





Photos by BONNIE CASH Photo Editor

Tomorrow's Leadership Collaborative, an inclusive charter school that will integrate students with and without disabilities into the same classrooms, will be built where the First Christian Church of Orange is currently located, at 1130 E. Walnut St.

## 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



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

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 budgeting didn't match its proposed pro-

grams, 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."





Illustration by MELISSA ZHUANG Staff Photographer

The Grand Challenges Initiative was first introduced to the Schmid College course catalog in the fall of 2017. Freshmen are required to enroll in the First-Year Foundations topic, Grand Challenges in Science and Technology, and are expected to participate in the four-semester-long research.

## Grand Challenges Initiative faces backlash

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 Sonnenschein, 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 prog-



Panther Archives

Students who participate the Grand Challenges Initiative are expected to come up with a scientific research project, produce a prototype, conduct data from an experiment and create a research proposal.

ress, 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

“

***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.***

**- Jose Raul Gonzales,  
GCI professor**

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

“

***GCI should be dropped completely. It should not be mandatory for computer science and data analytics majors due to their lack of need to work in a lab.***

**- Robert Farmer,  
Schmid student**

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

Alya Hijazi | Staff Writer

Killefer Square, a housing project for Chapman students proposed by private developers, has integrated more measures to preserve the historic aspects 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 Moshier, 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," Moshier said. "It needs to be approved by the planning commission next, and then needs signing by city council."

The ruling helps preserve the historic nature of the building that the Orange Unified School District had neglected to review, according to a March 22 Facebook post by the Old Towne Preservation Association, a nonprofit that protects historic buildings in Orange. The Killefer School 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 unani- mously denied by (the Design Review Committee)."

The Killefer School is expected to become a one-and-two-bedroom residential building, according to the Design Review Committee's meeting



Panther Archives

Marissa Moshier, the historic preservation planner of Orange, said that the developers for the Killefer Square Project are getting their development plans reviewed before the project can be fully approved.

agenda. The project is designed for college students, architect Leason Pomeroy 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, Moshier 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."

Moshier 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.

"(Killefer) doesn't bother me," Justice said. "Students are everywhere. It's (a part of the) community."

# Norman Finkelstein speaks on Gaza crisis

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 protests from pro-Israeli groups on other college campuses, like at Columbia University in 2006, when about 600 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 Nubar Hovsepian. The event coincides with the release of Finkelstein's latest book, "Gaza: An Inquest into Its Martyrdom."

Hovsepian said the book, which describes Gaza's occupation by Israel as a "man-made humanitarian crisis," is Finkelstein's "magnum opus," but will "boil (the reader's) blood in either agreement or disagreement."



RIANI ASTUTI Staff Photographer

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.

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 Hovsepian told The Panther that he wishes 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," Hovsepian said.

Spencer Kaseff, a junior television writing and production major, wanted to attend both the forum and Hillel's event, but chose the former because it challenged her beliefs.

"I already know what I'm going to talk about when I sit down with a group of my friends (in Hillel)," 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, Hovsepian 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.

## Senate updates

March 30 meeting

### Special notes

Vice President-elect Arianna Ngomire attended the meeting.

### University and Academic Affairs

Student government's Cocoa and Conversation took place in the Attallah Piazza March 27 and 28. The event focused on locating more outdoor 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 Allocations Committee denied a request for graduation stoles March 28 at Wednesday's meeting.

### Executive Council

Vice President Sarah Tabsh is training Vice President-elect Ngomire. 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 send a representative to the meeting for a funding request of \$4,267.07. 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. This request is three-fourths of what remains of the student organizations fund. The request will be tabled until a representative is present.

### Open forum

Ansley 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 Alyssa 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

## INCIDENT LOG

### March 20

A subject was arrested on the 100 block of West Palm Avenue and possibly under the influence of drugs.

### March 24

A resident attempted to enter someone else's room in Pralle-Soldaro Hall – between the hours of 1:38 a.m. and 3:15 a.m. – through a locked window and was arrested for burglary.

### March 26

An unknown person removed cash from an unattended purse in the Musco Center.

### March 26

A student had some personal property stolen from the laundry room in Henley Hall.

Compiled by Jasmin Sani from the Public Safety daily crime log



# 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

way will be tasteful and provide students with an incredible spring concert.”

Tim’s estate and image rights were passed on to his brother, Tom, as Tim’s wife Tina died before he did and Tim never remarried. Tom declined to comment directly, but released the following statement regarding the performance:

“This concert was Tim’s dream, and I want people to remember Tim for his vocal talents and not just for the way he died. I hope this performance can capture even just a bit of who Tim was as a turkey and a husband. I’m not sure I’ll be able to keep it together when he performs ‘Flightless Fowls,’ or ‘Winged Woman’ – that was about Tina – but I think it’s something that can bring people together and I know that’s what Tim would want.”



Photo illustration by KALI HOFFMAN

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.

# 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.”

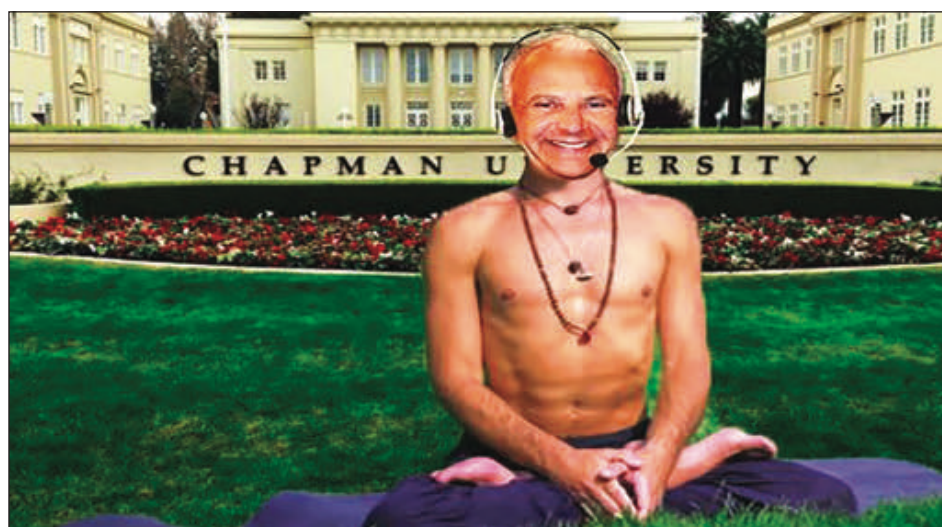


Photo illustration by KALI HOFFMAN

President Emeritus Jim Doti convinced undergraduates to donate millions to Chapman’s endowment in an event titled “Doti the Yogi.”

**I can't believe it's not news!**

**The Panther's April Fool's special section**

**Featuring satirical articles such as:**

**“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](http://thepantheronline.com/april-fools)**

## ADVERTISEMENT

**Charming condominium loft for sale in highly desired private 14 unit complex!  
WALK TO CAMPUS !**



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

- Large one bedroom, one and one half bathroom, two story condominium for sale!
  - Could sleep up to 3 adults comfortably. Call for details. Walking distance to Old Town Orange, Restaurants, Bars, Chapman College & Metro Station!
  - Perfect first home environment! Quiet, peaceful, desirable setting.
  - 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 # 004807528714-381-1031; fax: 866-567-3106 peartrei@aol.com



# Zambian-raised alumna nominated for Emmy

Yuki Klotz-Burkwell | Staff Writer

Chapman alumna Shamola 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.

After spending seven years at Chapman to receive her master's degree in business administration degree and master of fine arts in film production, 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 her 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 spring 2016, I produced a short film in association with Dodge called "The Monkey King 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 looks deeper inside his culture and see what he can find, and he ends up finding the Monkey King.

He's teased at school by a bully but the story is about how you have to look at what is inside you to beat a cultural bias. We use the bully as an external conflict, but inside the conflict is getting over any cultural stereotype and breaking the boundaries that one has in their subconscious mind.



Photo courtesy of Shamola Kharkar

Emmy-nominated alumna Shamola Kharkar hopes to continue her film career in India and Africa.

**Q: What made you choose Chapman?**

A: I was a very confused child. I wanted to be a pilot. I wanted to be a solar scientist. I wanted to do something where I could combine everything and create different types of movies and content where I can tell someone about science and history. I'm very used to personalized schooling. I went to a small school in Zambia, and I was always used to my teachers knowing my name. That's what I looked for when selecting schools. I only applied to Chapman.

**Q: What are some of your favorite Chapman experiences?**

A: I love seeing how Chapman has transformed. I remember in 2010 walking on a campus where the majority of the people were white. I came from a school with students from over 52 countries. I had never experienced white people on a campus, and that freaked me out. It's always refreshing to see what's changing at Chapman. This school is constantly growing, and

it should be.

**Q: What has it been like being at Chapman for seven years?**

A: People think I'm crazy when I tell them I've been at Chapman for seven years. This is my home. Even though it annoys me that half of this place shuts down by 10 p.m., it's still been one-third of my life. I'm forever a panther.

**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 awards show last May, and that was one of the most amazing opportunities I could have gotten.

**Q: What are you working on now?**

A: I'm producing screen actors' and theater students' thesis films. I'm not doing it to get paid for it, but I'm doing my service to the school. I am also working on a startup in (virtual and augmented reality) entertainment. We are creating this package product where we combine VR technology in our film, so it's basically an animated, 360-degree image that tells a story.

**Q: If you went back to Zambia, what would you be working on?**

A: If I have to move back to Zambia because I can't get my US visa, I'm trying to be proactive and come up with a plan of what I can do. I'm trying to set up a film academy to start really pushing film in Zambia. Our president just put in mandates to encourage filmmaking, and people can pick up cameras and film, but there's no formal teaching or understanding of how to put everything together.

**Q: What are your goals for the future?**

A: I want to be a traveling filmmaker. I want to go back to India 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 original storytelling methods to come back. I grew up every evening listening to stories. We would lose electricity and lights. We would step into our backyard, light a little bonfire and tell stories. That's something that I know my ancestors have done. I feel like there are so many times on screen that we're surrounded by Western culture. There's so much more out there that people need to hear about.

## Awards ceremony focuses on female filmmakers

Yuki Klotz-Burkwell | Staff Writer

Bella Wadhvani, a junior creative producing major, believes the Dodge College of Film and Media Arts supports everyone regardless of gender. Still, she is no stranger to experiencing inequality on set.

"I was producing for a film and one of the crew members treated me differently than he treated men on the team," she said. "I don't know if he realized it or if it was just his personality, but I had to eventually work for his respect, which is frustrating, because most men have that respect automatically."

While some students may believe the film community at Chapman is gender-inclusive, the behind-the-scenes reality is that Hollywood is still an industry filled with inequalities.

Women comprised of 18 percent of all directors, writers, producers, editors and cinematographers of the top 250 films in 2017, according to a study by the Center for the Study of Women in Television and Film at San Diego State University. Only 9 percent of the top films that year had a female director, and in the history of the Academy Awards, only one woman has ever won the Academy Award for Best Director, according to The Hollywood Reporter.

"None of my male peers have to worry about going into a sexist industry where they have a high chance of being taken advantage of," said



Panther Archives

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 Marissa 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 MacRae Memorial Award 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 specifically support female filmmakers," Ellena said. "We, as Dodge College, want to ensure that students are given the opportunity 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."

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

"The Women in Focus Awards, and having more female representation in the film industry, are steps in the right direction not only for Dodge and Chapman, but also for the industry," Wadhvani said.

Wadhvani produced a short film that was recently accepted into the Cannes Film Festival in France, which she will attend in May.

"The support I've received for that has been overwhelming," she said. "Finding that niche and family 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 struggles 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's happy 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



RIANI ASTUTI Staff Photographer

Members of the American Sign Language can eat alphabet cookies after showing that they can sign the letter.

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 interest, for Nissenbaum, it was a necessity. She struggled with learning other foreign languages since she relies so much on reading lips. Though Nissenbaum learned ASL, she never

felt like she was a part of deaf culture, since she has always attended hearing schools, and most people who first meet her don't realize she's deaf. Joining ASL club was a way to connect with that part of her 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."

## REVIEW

# 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.

With no hard-hitting numbers or surprising elements, the easy-going soundtrack is ideal for slow summer days.

Named after an Airbnb owner in Barcelona, "Staying At Tamara's" is a testament to Ezra's travels, whisking listeners away to spirited adventures sanctioned with strums, hums and youthful delight.

The single, "Paradise," released Jan. 19, is coated with carefree indulgence that narrates a tale of young love. Similarly, "Don't Matter Now" and "Get Away" feature lively tempos complemented by playful vocal styles. Additives like chants, joyous shouts and non-lexical utterances create a sense of quirky pep that strays from Ezra's typical lone acoustic. These good-natured tunes make March feel like August, further bringing listeners into a warm weather, vacation mindset.

Even with complicated instrumental arrangements and miscellaneous noises, Ezra always finds his way back to a simplicity that is undeniably wholesome. The blaring trumpets and psychedelic synth make "Shotgun" a pop-rock celebration tinged with folk, which



WikiCommons

George Ezra's new album "Staying at Tamara's" was released March 23.

brings a groovy perspective to the album.

From happy-go-lucky to heartfelt, "Sugarcoat" and "Hold My Girl" have slower progressions that offer moments of tender companionship. Matching the atmosphere of a mid-summer barn wedding, these tracks could accompany a slideshow featuring sweet snapshots of a beloved couple.

Other ballads in the album dampen the mood. Though swaying dangerously close to the line of melancholy, "Only a Human" avoids becoming weepy with the gradual lift in spirits through

verse and cadence. "The Beautiful Dream" is a declaration of love that is colored gossamer gray, like a slow-moving fog filling a void of empty space.

First Aid Kit, an airy folk duo, envelops the deep rumblings with angelic harmonies in "Saviour." For the majority of the time, the guest vocals are merely a whisper, as if taken aback by the rich luxury of Ezra's voice. As the song wears on, the combination of chords takes on a spiritual semblance, making the entire track feel like a transformative, religious experience.

"Staying at Tamara's" flaunts

dynamic range and capacity. Many songs frequent an ascendance: piano to forte, slow to fast and soft murmuring to a full-out bellow. Though there are repetitions that tie the tracks together, the effervescence is enough to keep listeners involved. The album is guaranteed to uplift with the optimistically sweet – but not sickly – way that Ezra delivers the hybrid genre of folk rock.





## 'Hands up, don't shoot' again



Gracie Fleischman  
Opinions Editor

Yet another young black man was brutally 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, not 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 only 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 around 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.

Sequita Thompson, Clark's grandmother, said, "Why didn't you shoot him in the arm? Shoot him in the legs? Send in dogs? Send in a Taser? Why? Why?"

Clark's family plans to file a federal suit and has the support of thousands of people across the country, many of whom have protested peacefully in the streets of New York and Sacramento. It's 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 another senseless murder at the hands of the people who are supposed to protect the citizens that pay them with 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.

### EDITORIAL



Illustrated by EMMA STESSMAN Art Director

## Comment with courtesy

The Panther Editorial Board

If you're a frequent visitor of our website, you 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 attach 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 commenters.

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.

### The Panther Newspaper

**Editor-in-Chief**  
Jamie Altman

**Managing Editor**  
Rebecca Glaser

**News Editor**  
Jasmin Sani

**Features Editor**  
Kali Hoffman

**Assistant Features Editor**  
Leslie Song

**Sports Editor**  
Jacob Hutchinson

**Opinions Editor**  
Gracie Fleischman

**Photo Editor**  
Bonnie Cash

**Web Editor**  
Jackie Cohen

**Assistant Web Editor**  
Natalie van Winden

**Video Editor**  
Leah de Leon

**Art Director**  
Emma Stessman

**Copy Editor**  
Emma Asson

**Business Manager**  
Austin Bourassa

**Advertising Manager**  
Saranna Quach

**Distribution Manager**  
Blair Pennington

Have a question, comment or idea? Contact us at [thepanthernewspaper@gmail.com](mailto:thepanthernewspaper@gmail.com).



## On Public Safety, active shooter experience and gun control



Kyler Asato, senior sociology major

During my first finals week at Chapman in 2015, there was an alleged active shooter in DeMille Hall. It was later revealed that the alleged shooter did not actually have a gun, but the Orange Police Department (OPD) and Public Safety couldn't find him for an hour, and the two departments eventually gave up.

During that terrifying week, my mind was not on "does he actually have a gun?" but rather "will I be safe?" and "will my friends taking their finals in DeMille Hall be safe?" I remember going to my room from Argyros Forum and sitting on the floor because I didn't want to take any chances of being caught by a bullet through my window. I had no idea where the shooter was, and neither did Public Safety or the police.

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 recalled how 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 human beings 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 directly on main campus – as if the space between the Dodge College of Film and Media Arts and Chapman was a safe zone for stalkers. I am also concerned by the lack of blue poles on main campus.

However, in addition to my skepticism in officers' ability to protect us, I also worry about implicit biases against people of color. Returning to the Black Student Union open letter, I ask again how we can ensure that a partially armed Public Safety would ensure the safety of all students, including the ones with marginalized 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 police officers 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](http://thepantheronline.com)

## Chapman needs balance when hosting controversial speakers



Jackie Cohen, web editor

I grew up in 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.

I don't believe that people with opposing views should be shut down. Free speech is a basic right that allows us to have these conversations. However, a university should present multiple perspectives when discussing controversial issues.

On March 27, the political science department hosted Norman Finkelstein, who has previously claimed that Jews use the Holocaust for political and financial gain, calling it an "extortion racket." He also wrote that "the honorable thing now is to

show solidarity with Hezbollah," which the U.S. designated as a terrorist organization in 1997.

This isn't Chapman's first time hosting 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.

When Finkelstein spoke, there was no opposing perspective, which denied students the ability to analyze all of the information and formulate their own conclusions.

This wasn't Finkelstein's first visit to Chapman. In 2013, Finkelstein attacked late Holocaust survivor and Chapman distinguished presidential fellow Elie Wiesel while speaking on campus.

"I've never read anything by Elie Wiesel that had any content," he said in 2013. "He's good theater. I'm not an actor – that's the difference between us."

After Finkelstein's speech, Jewish students expressed concerns about his support for Hezbollah, yet for some reason, he was brought back to campus this year.

Finkelstein's inflammatory statements go beyond his speeches across college campuses. He runs a blog and has written six books about Israel and the Holocaust.

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 look anything but harmless. It is also false to claim that the rockets "don't paralyze the country." Every time a rocket is shot into Israel, a code red siren blares and people have 15 seconds to find a bomb shelter.

During peaceful times, the country can go months without a code red, but during the 50 days of Operation Protective Edge in 2014, more than 4,500 projectiles were launched into Israel. How does that not paralyze a society?

This brings me to Finkelstein's claim that Israel has targeted Palestinian civilians. In 2005, Israel disengaged from Gaza, moving Israeli citizens out in a peace effort. Gaza then held an election – its first and only – and elected Hamas, a terrorist organization.

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).

To read the rest of this article, visit [thepantheronline.com](http://thepantheronline.com)

## Sleepless in college: a guide to dealing with insomnia



Rebecca Glaser, managing editor

I have always had trouble sleeping. When I was younger, I would stare at the moon, count cats (not sheep – I was too original for that) and sometimes even pace around my room 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 preteen 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 and I never considered my sleeping habits were unusual until I realized that I would stay awake long after my freshman year roommates had fallen asleep. 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 reluctant to take sleeping pills because they can cause some pretty terrible side effects – including aneurysms and psychological dependence – but I've tried natural remedies and lifestyle changes to curb my symptoms.

### Using essential oils

I understand the skepticism surrounding holistic 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. After buying the oil to test it out, I found that dabbing it on my wrists and neck calmed me before bed. One night, I even conked out before midnight.

### Changing my diet

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 me: foods 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 National Institutes of Health 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 could function on fewer hours of sleep without feeling tired.

### Ditching the technology

Remember being told as a teenager to get off your phone right before bed? Your parents might have been onto something. According to a 2017 Harvard Health Letter, the artificial blue light emitted by your favorite technology can interrupt circadian rhythm and melatonin production, two things crucial for quality sleep. Instead of scrolling through social media before bed, I try to shut down my computer and turn off my phone, or at least use Apple's new Night Shift feature, which changes your phone's display to a warmer color before bed.

Insomnia isn't a simple disorder, and there's not really a catch-all cure, but with my arsenal of tools, I've been able to mitigate its effects – it's just a matter of finding your own toolset.



## Division I athletes deserve to be paid



Jacob Hutchinson  
Sports Editor

You've heard this debate before. Should Division I college athletes be paid? If so, how? Aren't full-ride scholarships enough? Would removing athletes' amateur status ruin the integrity of college sports?

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. Just asking whether Division I athletes should be paid represents an understanding of how much work these athletes put in – their sports are essentially full-time jobs. You would never take a full-time job that paid you in experience, but in the NCAA, that's your only choice.

There is a bill in the California Assembly that would make California the first state in the country to change the rules governing 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 needs to be passed.

Yes, athletic scholarships are available to Division I athletes. Some even get free or partial rides to schools. But 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 sports with more African-American athletes than white athletes: men's and women's basketball and football.

I'm not saying the NCAA goes out of its way to prevent athletes from being paid solely because they're African-American. The NCAA is a business – it's reluctant to pay athletes regardless of their skin color.

But people's hesitancy to pay athletes is tied to race. Most top prospects are African-American, according to the 2018 NBA and NFL drafts, and in the U.S., there are few people more targeted than young, wealthy black athletes.

When we pose 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 with bonuses for exceeding standards. Implement multiyear deals so that one-and-done players become less common.

Some top-tier athletes might insist on single-year deals, knowing that they'll be drafted in the NBA the following year. But if you can offer athletes these contracts to go to college for a few years, chances are good that more athletes would stay in school longer. This would benefit the NCAA by limiting "one-and-dones," creating better competition.

And when the black market of recruitment is gone, so is the need for FBI wiretap investigations to find recruiting violations. Paying athletes would become regulated.

So yes, pay athletes. Pay them because there is no legitimate reason not to, other than a discomfort with giving mostly African-American young men and women a large paycheck.

# Isabel tries to catch NFL Hail Mary

*Chapman wide receiver catches seven passes, shines among NFL prospects at rainy USC pro day*

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 De'Quan 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 he'd 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. "They wanted Sam (Darnold) to look good and I was there making him look good."

Isabel also ran a 4.48 second 40-meter dash, which would have tied him for 12th-best among wide receivers at the NFL Scouting Combine. But after he caught the last pass of the day and felt confident in his performance, Isabel said the Los Angeles Rams was the only team to approach him. The team had him take the Wonderlic test, which NFL teams use to gauge player intelligence.

"It kind of sucks, I thought I performed well enough to talk to some more people," Isabel said. "I'm just trying to stay patient, positive and keep on working out, because someone is going to end up calling. I think."

About a week later, it's 1 p.m. March 29 and the sun is beating down on Chapman's Wilson Field. Isabel drops his black duffle bag on the turf and takes a seat at the end of one of the aluminum benches on the sideline. He takes off his running shoes and reaches into the bag for his white Adizero cleats.

Isabel just finished a two-hour training session at Athletic Republic and now he laces up the cleats and prepares to catch passes with Chapman quarterback Ricky Bautista. After an hour, he'll head off the field to lift in the athletes' weight room.

If it were a Monday, Wednesday or Friday, Isabel would have the rest of the day to himself, maybe heading home to his girlfriend in Torrance and working on marketing himself to



Photos by DIANO PACHOTE Staff Photographer

Above: Senior wide receiver Jacob Isabel catches a pass from senior quarterback Ricky Bautista. Below: Isabel catches a one-handed pass while warming up.

**“ Isabel’s got a shot. Every time he gets an opportunity, he needs to make sure he’s taking advantage of it. ”**

**- Marc Lillibridge, ex-NFL player and scout**

potential teams in the NFL or Canadian Football League (CFL). But it's a Thursday, and on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Isabel has class until 10 p.m.

"It's weird, I don't really get tired," he said.

The grind isn't new to Isabel. 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 school receiving records in touchdowns, with 10, and yards, with 1,050.

But is that, coupled with his pro day performance, enough for the NFL? Ex-NFL player and scout Marc Lillibridge says it may be.



"He's got a shot," Lillibridge 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."

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 got 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."

Isabel said he'll continue to pursue a football career for the next few years, whether it's in the CFL, an arena league or even Europe. But in terms of getting that NFL shot? He's not quite sure.

"I know I can play," Isabel said. "It's just going to take someone to like my film. Once someone watches my film, I know that they're going to give me a call."



# Concert *Intime*

April 5 — 7  
Waltmar Theatre

**\$15 — \$5**



# University Choir & Singers

April 7  
Fish Interfaith Center

**\$15 — \$5**



Opera Chapman Presents:

# Albert Herring

April 20 & 22  
Musco Center for the Arts

**\$25 — \$10**



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF PERFORMING ARTS



[chapman.edu/tickets](http://chapman.edu/tickets)

(714) 997-6624



# Saving shots on the field, taking them on the court

Emmie Farber | Staff Writer

Midway through the second half of a Feb. 24 lacrosse game, Taylor Hextrum, the only goalkeeper listed on the women's lacrosse roster, left her net, grabbed her things and hustled off Chapman's Wilson Field. Hextrum, a freshman, had to leave to compete in the women's basketball conference championship game at Claremont-Mudd-Scripps on the same day.

She stepped outside the field gate to meet her mother and brother. The Hextrums jogged down the steps under Wilson Field, hopped in the Honda Pilot they'd driven down from Santa Rosa, California, and took off 30 miles north on Route 57 toward Claremont, where Hextrum arrived an hour before tipoff.

"I had my entire lacrosse uniform on, changing as quickly as possible, and in a span of 20 minutes, I had jumped from one sport to the next," Hextrum said. "It was hectic, but fun."

The frenetic day culminated with the satisfaction of raising the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SCIAC) trophy.

"Winning the championship was surreal because of what a chaotic game it was and how long it took us to achieve that win," Hextrum said. "We always joked about how this season seemed like it was taking years to finish, and that game went by in stressful and exciting moments."

Had Hextrum stayed in net, where she's been an anchor for a struggling

women's lacrosse team (2-7 overall, 1-4 in-conference), she would have missed the basketball team's first SCIAC title – a double-overtime 70-61 win over Claremont-Mudd-Scripps.

At the start of the year, Hextrum wasn't even sure she'd play one sport, let alone two, because she wanted to focus on her education.

Hextrum, an integrated educational studies major, hopes to become a kindergarten teacher. The interest comes from her mom, who owns a preschool in her Northern California hometown.

"My mom always says to me, 'Maybe you will take over the preschool and we can make it a family business,'" said Hextrum, who is the oldest of four children.

Hextrum said she's inspired by her family's drive.

"My family accomplishes more in a week than any family can in an entire year," Hextrum said. "My mom always says this when so much is going on in our household, from running around to gyms, fields, and swimming pools."

As the only goalie on the lacrosse team, Hextrum said she feels needed – whereas during the basketball season, she was largely relegated to the bench.

"I really wanted her to join the lacrosse team because I thought she could be a main contributor, and we really needed a goalie," said women's lacrosse head coach Dan Kirkpatrick,



DIANO PACHOTE Staff Photographer

Freshman goalkeeper Taylor Hextrum defends a shot against Stevenson University March 15.

who was a goalie at Chapman as an undergraduate.

Hextrum enjoys the responsibility and says she likes lacrosse and basketball equally.

"In lacrosse, it's nice to be told, 'Wow you just saved our butts,'" Hextrum said.

Hextrum's experience would've

been completely different if she didn't play sports at Chapman, she said – she wouldn't have met some of her closest friends.

"If I had not played lacrosse, it would have been almost depressing," Hextrum said. "I have always had a practice to go to and a team to be a part of."

# Two under par: Siblings drive each other's golf game

Tasha Rebensdorf | 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, 27, 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



GRANT SEWELL Staff Photographer

Junior Emily Lewis practices her swing on Chapman's Wilson Field.

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 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, the Chapman 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, 56-year-old September Mirghanbari, 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," Mirghanbari 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."