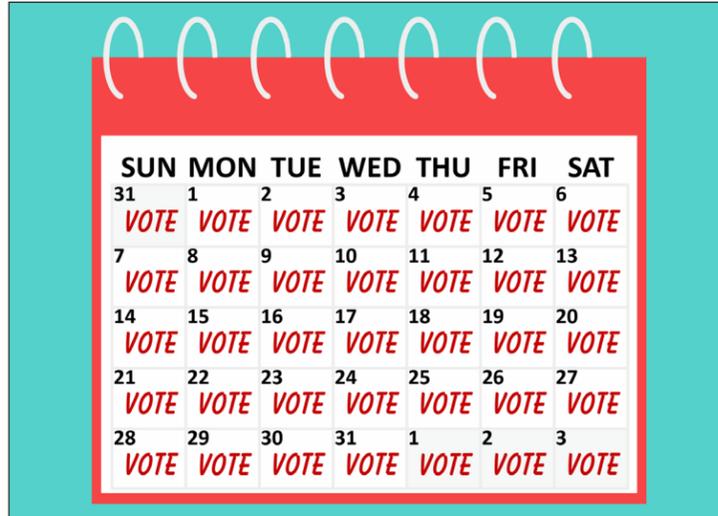


Early voting brings convenience to first time voters



ANTHONY BEIMAL / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Illinois citizens had several options to vote leading up to the election.

JADA HOFFMAN

ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Voting, especially for first-timers, can seem scary. However, it's a simple and relieving process that comes in different forms.

Illinoisans were able to request mail-in ballots until Oct. 29, vote early until Nov. 2 or they can vote on Nov. 3. With all of these options, there's no reason for eligible voters to not vote in this election.

Early voting promotes civic engagement as it encourages people to partake in the election

process. Reasons such as work or school causes people to not vote, however, with early voting they have about a month before the election to find time to vote.

COVID-19 is a newfound reason as to why people may not want to go out and vote. However, there are several options, including mail in ballots, that one can take to still vote. There's little to no excuses for why someone cannot vote.

Rose Kavanaugh, a graduate assistant in the Office of Student Activities, participated in early voting at the Romeoville Village

Township.

"I didn't know what to expect, especially with this being an intense election, so I went early," Kavanaugh said. She wanted to avoid the long lines and rowdiness, and was happy she came early because the line gradually extended after her. She waited in line for about 45 minutes and was greeted by an election judge.

"I brought several documents -- driver's license, student ID and mail from Lewis -- because I wasn't really sure what I needed to prove my residency since I was using my Lewis address," Kavanaugh said.

Illinoisans only need to bring two forms of identification, with one including their current address.

According to Kavanaugh, her election judge was very helpful and nice, especially after learning she was a college student. After accepting her ID's, the judge asked if she had an absentee ballot. Kavanaugh said she was nervous because she did have one and feared it would impact her ability to vote.

"I explained I forgot it and she told me to ensure I destroyed it to avoid having duplicate votes," Kavanaugh explained.

Usually, people are instructed

to bring their absentee ballots so the judges can destroy them. Shortly after this, Kavanaugh put her ballot into a machine and was done with the process.

She explained it was a "smooth" process.

Kavanaugh has had three opportunities to vote in a presidential election, however, this is her first time voting.

"Compared to the other times I had a chance to vote, I'm wiser, older and I've experienced difficult times," Kavanaugh said. "I wasn't a long-term thinker. When I was 18 I cared about where I was living on campus, not who I was voting for. I have developed more skills and matured."

Originally, Kavanaugh requested an absentee ballot, however she was not confident in her vote being included. After gaining more knowledge on the process, she decided early voting was better for her.

"I still don't know what to expect from this ballot, but I'm happy I voted," Kavanaugh said. "I will for sure take advantage of early voting in the future. It's an easier process that allows me to be free on election day and not worry about waiting in long lines."

Inside this Issue

News..... 1-3
Opinions 4-5
Tempo 6-8
Campus Culture..... 9
Sports 10-12

Student embarks on journey to become a Brother

News page 2

QAnon conspiracists banned by YouTube

Tempo page 7

Quarantine procedures are not flawless, but better than nothing

Campus life page 9

Swim team sweeps St. Ambrose in season opener

Sports page 11

Students organize and lead Black Lives Matter protest

JADA HOFFMAN

ASST. NEWS EDITOR

From online petitions to posts on the Lewis U app, students have found ways to effectively and efficiently make their voices heard on campus.

On Oct. 27, three organizations including Catholic Relief Services, Black Student Union and Sigma Lambda Gamma Kappa Epsilon co-sponsored a Black Lives Matter protest from St. Charles Borromeo to the Brother James Gaffney, FSC, Center.

Over 40 people participated in the student-led protest. Faculty members who participated included Chief Diversity Officer and Director of Multicultural Student Services Dr. Kristi Kelly, Assistant Director of Multicultural Student Services, James Williams and Chief of Police Michael Zalgado.

Despite the chilly weather, people came together to support, listen and understand the social injustices Black people have faced throughout the years.

Signage was handed out to encourage students to further participate, reading "Breonna Taylor," "Say His Name," "Say Her Name," and oth-



JADA HOFFMAN, ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Students come together to protest social injustices against Black people.

ers. Aside from holding up the posters, students also led chants, with no megaphone, such as "No Justice, No Peace!" and "Black Lives Matter."

Student protesters weren't just Black students chanting "Black Lives Matter!" It was a diverse population of students from different back-

grounds showing their support for the movement.

Sophomore biology major Amelia Thorgesen participated in the protest to show support for her fellow peers. "This was my first ever protest, and I have been wanting to go for a while... I see what's going on in the world and it makes me sad. I have

a lot of close friends who are people of color and I feel for them," said Thorgesen.

For other students, this movement was personally connected to them and their experiences as a Black person. Senior aviation unmanned aircraft systems major Jaylen Bush is heavily involved on campus as a Resident Assis-

stant, the president of the Alpha Phi Alpha Inc. chapter, a member of the Black Student Union and also in several other organizations.

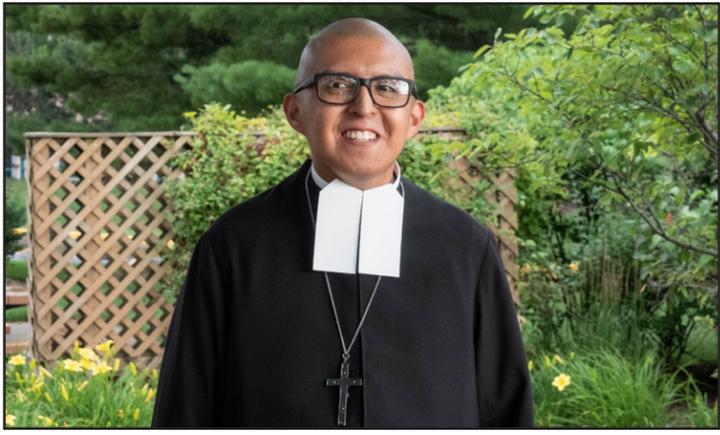
"Before any title I have and organization I am part of... I am a Black man first. I am a Black man that feels attacked by dangers in this society. It's only necessary that I do my part to make the world better and showing up to the protest is part of it," Bush explained.

Like Thorgesen, this was Bush's first protest. He attempted to go over the summer however, he did not want to put his family at risk with COVID-19. As his first protest, he was proud to be part of something big.

"From my years of being at Lewis, this is the first modern protest for something as big as this. I'm happy to have been part of history. I believe we accomplished a lot with this protest and opened doors of opportunities for other students. We also helped those who may feel ashamed of openly showing their Black pride, whether it's with a BLM hoodie or shirt," Bush said.

'STUDENT BLM PROTEST'
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Student embarks on journey to become a Brother



JOE WEBER

Brother Steve Angulo at his robe ceremony in July.

STEPHANIE LINGENFELTER
NEWS EDITOR

Brother Steve Angulo is a senior middle school education student with a minor in math who decided to join the Lasallian Brothers. Right now, Angulo is in his novitiate year at the De La Salle Novitiate in Hyde Park.

Becoming a brother is not an easy feat, and the process can be different for everyone. For Angulo, the first step after getting a call from God was discernment, in which he spent time getting to know the brothers and their mission. This process can take anywhere from one to two years. For Angulo, it took about a year and a half.

After discernment is postulancy. Angulo lived in the Philadelphia Regional Informational House and spent a year living with other brothers to learn about the brother's founder, De La Salle, and experience what it's like to be a brother. There is either some ministry or university work involved in this pro-

cess. For Angulo, his university work was taking classes for his degree. The second year of postulancy was spent in his home district.

Following postulancy is the novitiate year, which is Angulo's current year. This year is one of self-reflection and has no ministry or university work. Brothers learn about who they are as an individual and who they are as a brother, while also strengthening their relationship with God. This year has given Angulo time to pick up new hobbies.

"Being a novitiate and having a lot of free time, I have come to learn about gardening, playing the guitar, running, and being a math person, I've been getting into Sudoku," said Angulo. "Photography is another big thing that Brother Peter Hannon from Lewis has helped me get into."

At the end of his novitiate year, Angulo will return to Lewis, where he can choose to say his first vows. Vows must be renewed yearly for the first five to six years before final vows can

be taken. When he returns to Lewis, he will finish his undergraduate, obtain his education certificate and then soon after begin his graduate studies.

Angulo decided to embark on his journey after seeing that the brothers are human too.

"Before, religious life to me was you're in your house praying 24/7 and that's it, but once I met the brothers, I saw them joking around, talking about politics, sports, movies, music," said Angulo. "That impacted my decision to join because they're human too. They like to have fun."

Seeing the community and the Lasallian mission at Lewis helped influence Angulo to become a brother.

"The professors have a good sense of our Lasallian mission and they follow the Lasallian core values, which are working with the poor," said Angulo. "That's our mission, to work with the students that don't have the opportunity to get a good education. That's the main reason Lewis has helped inspire me to continue on this journey. Also, the whole association between the brothers and the faculty. It's not like the brothers are in their own little bubbles and just teach, we also have to have relationships with our lead partners, colleagues. That aspect has really inspired me. It's not just about us, it's also about others outside of our order."

Angulo is confident that he will take the journey to becoming an official brother to the end, but even if he changes his mind, he knows he will be teaching no matter what.

'STUDENT BLM PROTEST'
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

While around campus, students saw familiar faces including President David Livingston, Provost Christopher Sindt and Associate Provost for Student Life and Dean of Retention Mary Degraw, who were waving and smiling at the students.

Bush noticed the faculty that were spread out around campus, saying, "I appreciate that. I saw them along the path. I think that's a huge progression from summer when they were being silent about the injustices."

Since the summer, student leaders have been coming up with ways to get the University's attention on social justice issues.

Member of Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Ayanna Squires, explained, "The University's immediate response to George Floyd's death was silence and I believe this angered many students," she continued, "CRS has always wanted to do a BLM protest, but never had the chance so I was happy to be able to help bring it to life with the other organizations."

According to Vice President of CRS and President of SLG, Jessica Martinez, this protest has been in the works for about a month and a half. Surprisingly, it wasn't a hard event to bring on campus and had a smooth approval process. Organizers just had to ensure that all CDC guidelines were followed as well as ensuring the University's mission statement was represented.

"The only thing I feared was people thinking I was overstepping boundaries since I am not Black. I am passionate about social justices and seeing my loved ones not feeling loved and supported on and off campus angers me, so in all I know I am doing the right thing," explained Martinez.

The feedback from the protest was positive for various reasons. Member of SLG, Lindsey Knight, admitted, "For the entire summer I wanted to be part of the movement but didn't have time to. I made sure to do everything I could to be a part of this. As a result, not only do I feel proud but it made me bolder."

For Squires, her first protest experience was an, "Uplifting experience... I was nervous about the turnout because the LewisU app has been very political. I feared people who opposed would show up, but as a college student I understand that it's okay if we have differences. I felt safe and powerful to speak our message."

Organizers of this protest want to ensure that this movement is not looked upon as a trend. They want this movement to be supported by the Lewis community every day. The day of the protest, several students inquired about the next one.

Martinez's response is simple: "Don't know the next step, but it won't be a one time event."

Higher Ed Highlights

'Third' presidential debate sees a calmer conversation

EMILY KRIVOGRAD
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

What was meant to be the third presidential debate took place at the Curb Event Center at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee on Oct. 22. The debate, moderated by NBC news anchor Kristen Welker, took on a different format, as each candidate's microphones were muted so that the other could speak uninterrupted for their two-minute windows.

Less chaotic than the first debate, both candidates discussed issues including fighting COVID-19, American families, race in America, climate change, national security and leadership.

While Former Vice President Joe Biden predicted that a "very dark" winter is ahead as COVID-19 cases begin to rise, President Donald Trump countered that under his administration, states are reopening and that there is now more research on COVID-19. When the topics transitioned to

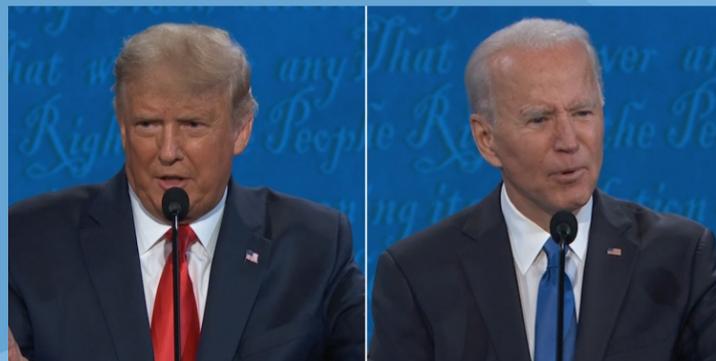
race, Trump said he believed he was the "least racist person in this room."

In preparation for the debate, Belmont University moved all students living in dorms close to the Curb Event Center, a total of about 500 students, to temporarily live at Nashville's Opryland Hotel. "This has definitely been a lot better than the first debate," said Belmont University student Zac Schaffer in an interview with News 4 Nashville. "I do think that we've kind of been able to hear more about what each candidate believes in."

Before Nov. 3, college students who plan to vote can participate in early voting or can send their mail-in ballots in.

Northwestern University students dispute campus policing

Students at Northwestern University protested in front of the school's president Morton Schapiro on the weekend of Oct. 17. This follows a tone of unrest that shook the university in June, as a



CNN

group of students at the university circulated a petition that asked Northwestern to cut ties with local police and disband campus law enforcement. The group, called Northwestern University Community Not Cops (NUCNC), also wants the university to invest in resources for Black students.

While the protests were mostly peaceful, some student protesters were seen vandalizing chain businesses, smashing windows and placing a burned banner by Schapiro's home. In a statement released by Schapiro on Oct. 19,

the president addressed the protests.

"What started as peaceful protests have recently grown into expressions that have been anything but peaceful or productive," Schapiro said. "Crowds blocked the streets of downtown Evanston and nearby residential areas, disrupting businesses and local families, defacing property and violating laws and University standards. Some of the instigators appear not to be Northwestern students at all, but rather outside activists."

In response to Schapiro's letter, faculty and affiliates from the university's Department of African American Studies critiqued his statement, saying "It is only when your own pleasant suburban life was disrupted by student protestors that your expression of outrage and dismay to our university community rose to a level beyond the banal, the tepid and the timid."

The NUCNC released a statement as well, saying, "As a wealthy white man, Morton Schapiro knows that he holds an immense amount of privilege that those facing impending threats of 'personal attacks' do not, as he mobilized the police to do what they are meant to do-protect white property and white lives." On Twitter, the organization said Schapiro is racist and unfit for his job.

NUCNC plans to continue protesting until the university answers their requests.

DeLaSalle
BROTHERS
 OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

LASALLIAN REGION OF NORTH AMERICA

Sharing Faith. Serving the Young.



PRAY WITH US FOR OUR BROTHERS DURING THEIR NOVITIATE YEAR



Brother Steven Angulo

Midwest District
 Gutenberg, NJ

“Being a Brother is about being a witness of God’s presence especially to the young people. Listening to their joyous and struggling moments in life and being a Brother to each other in the community.”



Brother Joseph (J.D.) Macioce

District of Eastern North America
 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

“While discerning my vocational calling, I began to see the Brothers as ordinary men that chose to do something extraordinary with their lives by dedicating themselves to educating young people. In my experience, the Brothers have encouraged my growth as a professional but most importantly as a person of faith.”



Brother Kyle Mena

District of Eastern North America
 Washington Heights, NY

“Being Brother goes beyond the lesson plans, classroom experience and initial formation. It is about being open to communal life in service of others, most especially our students. I entered religious life to try and influence the lives of my students and in return they have been changing my life for the better.”



Brother Rafael Rodriguez

District of San Francisco New Orleans
 Los Angeles, CA

“Whether in ministry or in community, the Brothers have always challenged me to strive to be the best person and Brother I can be. Success and failure come hand in hand and regardless of that day’s outcomes the Brothers were always there to humble me or lift my spirits.”

Called as Brothers.

BROTHERSVOCATION.ORG

Staff Ed: The LewisU App is not a dating service

Ever since the school year began, students have been using the LewisU App to ask questions about their classes, converse about the happenings of the university and connect with other students. However, it seems as if the latter has gone a bit too far, as some students appear to view this app as the perfect place to find their significant other.

Simply put, this should not be. The LewisU App is meant to serve as a resource for students, and while it's fine to use the app for mak-

ing friends, resorting to using a school app to find that special someone is crossing the line.

Not only can other students see what the user of the app posts, but the professors can see what students say as well. Would you like your professor to log on the LewisU App only to find your attempt to flirt with other students for the entire university to see?

Making it worse, some users have even resorted to trying to make a match using the direct messaging feature of the app. Even if this ex-

change is not on display for the entire school to see, your matchmaking attempt is still on a platform monitored by Lewis, and can never truly be deleted.

Flooding the student feed with requests to go out with someone inhibits other users as they try to find information that is of importance on the app, such as an event a club is holding. Using the LewisU App as a dating service hinders the app's ability and undermines the purpose of the student feed feature. Additionally, other

users who are utilizing the app for its intended purpose become uncomfortable.

There is a time and a place for flirting, but if it involves the LewisU App, this is not the right time, nor the right place. Instead, use an app like Tinder, Bumble or Hinge. The purpose of these aforementioned apps is to find other singles and make a connection, which, at the very least, will work much more efficiently than on the LewisU App.

Moving forward this semester, students should keep

the purpose of the LewisU App in mind instead of trying to turn it into a dating service. The LewisU app was made to help students succeed academically and serve as a place for students to talk about school, not their personal desires.

If you find yourself feeling lonely, please just download a dating app. So long as the app doesn't have a "Flyers Promise and Acknowledgment" tab, you'll be good to go, without the risk of embarrassing yourself in front of your classmates.

Losing part of spring break next semester is unfair

KATELYN LEANO
OPINIONS EDITOR

As far as I'm concerned, it's completely unfair that the school decided to cut our spring break in half. Even though it's going to be the same hybrid format as this semester, that doesn't mean the school should cut a few days off of our break.

Many students feel that the school was wrong to limit the number of days that we have off during spring break. They think the school should have included us in the decision-making process before they made that final decision.

"I think it is unfair to dock our spring break days because it is something us students look forward to every year as a mini-break in the spring semester," said Milica Blagojevic, junior secondary education English program major. "I think we should not be docked vacation days because of something the school has to figure out without affecting their students."

Since the beginning of our academic careers, students have always received a week off classes in March or April. When COVID started in the middle of last semester all classes became online, and many in-person events had to be post-

poned or canceled.

In order to ensure the safety of students, the school decided to have hybrid classes. This is only for the vast majority of the semester, as everything is set to go online after Thanksgiving break. As a result, fall break, which is only two days that we usually get off from school every fall semester, was eliminated.

Our school isn't the only one who's reducing the number of days we have off for spring break. Other schools like the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign are canceling their spring breaks altogether for next semester. So I guess you can say that we're one of the lucky ones.

Regardless of Lewis's choice to take a few days off of spring break, as students, we have it easy, since other schools are still struggling with the decision on their spring breaks.

"From Halloween to Thanksgiving, to Christmas, and then to New Years, people travel all over [the country] to spend those holidays with family and friends," said Blagojevic. "It is a safety precaution to quarantine during this pandemic, so yes I understand why the school made the call to elongate our winter break."



MATTHEW PAULSON / FLICKR

Spring break is set to look completely different next semester, as compared to previous semesters.

Even though the school is taking away a few days of our spring break, that doesn't mean that we can't find some safe and fun ways to enjoy the days that we do have off.

Some ideas for activities that can be done at home include binge-watching your favorite shows/movies on streaming services like Netflix, playing video games, hanging out with friends and spending quality time with family.

For past spring breaks, many college-bound students have always gone somewhere on vacation, whether it was inside or

outside the country.

"Spring break [for me] means going to Sedona and Miami and opening up the vacation houses for the season," said Blagojevic. "It has been in my family for years and we go every spring break. It is unfair to dock us something that has been a certain way since we have had our first year of school."

I feel that the school made this executive decision because during the breaks we spend a lot of social time with our friends and family, and the school wants to make sure that we stay safe

and healthy. As much as I would want other students to enjoy their college years during these breaks, I am glad that Lewis made this decision. In this case, I do think that they have the students' best interests in mind.

For more
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please visit

www.thelewisflyer.com

People shouldn't force others with voter registration

KATELYN LEANO
OPINIONS EDITOR

Each time I log onto social media, I don't need to be bombarded by a flurry of Instagram Stories and red, white and blue stickers reminding me to do my civic duty to vote. I've been registered to vote for years, making these reminders pointless. Even so, voting is an individual's personal choice as to whether or not they want to participate in the upcoming election.

For those participating in the election, registering to vote is fairly simple, even if you didn't have ads on social media to guide you. The first way to register to vote is by filling out a form and mailing it. A second way to do this is by filling out an online form. A final way of doing this is by registering at the DMV, when getting a driver's license.

"In order to participate in American elections, citizens have to register as voters by providing their name, address, and other information to their local election authority," said Associate Professor of Political Science Dr. Steven Nawara.

The process of actually registering to vote wasn't that complicated, because all I had to do was fill out some forms on the Will County website, which I then submitted online. It took only a couple of weeks before I received my voter's registration card.

For this current election, this card is useless because of my decision to vote by mail, instead of in-person. Hopefully, for the next election, I'll actually be able to use the voter registration card when I go to my local polling place to vote.

When I voted by mail this year, it didn't give me the same feelings of pride and joy that people can get when they vote in-person. Plus, I didn't receive one of those "I Voted" stickers either.



MARCO VERCH / FLICKR

As the election draws closer, more people are registering to vote, with reminders from social media.

One of the main reasons why someone would post content on social media regarding the election is because they feel the need to spread awareness of the right to vote. They also may want to remind those who are old enough to vote that they should register to do so. In cases in which people who are not registered to vote and plan to participate in the election, these ads educate and make the voting process more seamless.

However, for users who have been registered and see these ads again and again, they don't carry much weight. Yet, while I feel that social media has a negative impact on its users when mentioning registering to vote, others feel that it actually has a positive impact on its users.

"I think the voter registration prompts on social media platforms are a good service provided by these companies because so many of their users have either never voted before, [are] unregistered, or need to update their address," said Nawara. "Without these types of reminders, many people in the country would be unable to participate in the election because they missed a deadline or moved to another apartment, for example."

I can see how social media

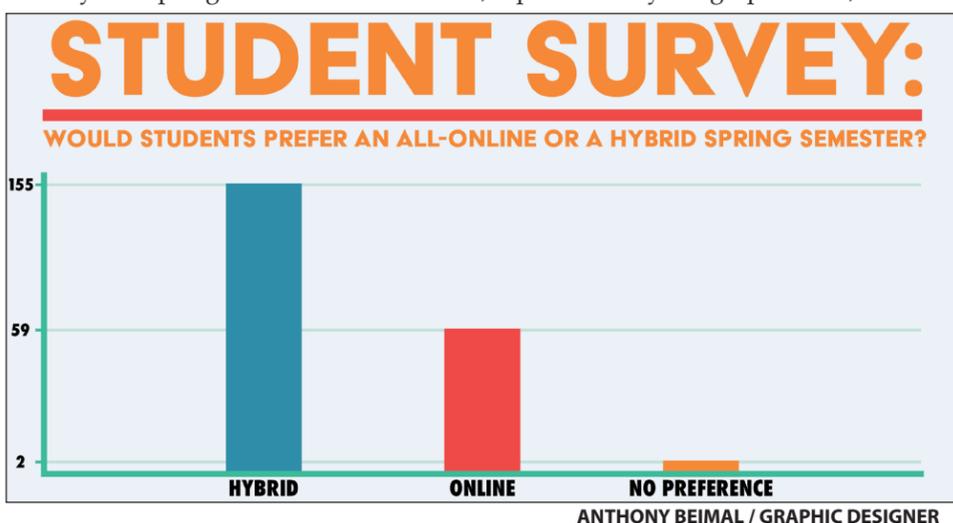
has a positive impact on reminding its users to register to vote, but I still believe that it also carries a negative impact on its users.

I feel that social media platforms, such as Facebook and Instagram, shouldn't have messages on their homepage telling their users to register to vote. That can pressure us to register to vote, even if it's something we don't actually want to do. Especially with Generation Z, not everyone chooses to vote.

Although social media platforms can help its users with the whole voting process, that doesn't mean that its users want to see those types of messages because many people go on social media as a break from the outside world. Those who are already registered to vote don't need a reminder, as these ads accomplish nothing for people who already know their civic duty.

I believe that only one person should be posting about voter registration for the election. Since a lot of people are currently doing it, this defeats the purpose of it just being a reminder, and making it into more of a campaign type purpose, where everyone is spreading awareness on this issue.

As the fall semester progresses, students are considering how their classes will play out over the course of the spring semester. While students are participating in their classes in either an all-online or a hybrid format, some have developed their own preferences for the type of orientation they would like to have when they take their spring courses. In order to find out how a portion of the student body feels on this subject, we surveyed 216 students, asking, "Would you prefer an all-online or a hybrid spring semester?" Our results, represented by the graph below, are as follows.



The Column

How to overcome the post-midterm slump

EMILY KRIVOGRAD
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

There are a few reasons why October is a scary month. First, there's Halloween, obviously. Scariest of all, October is right when midterms kick-off.

Especially with the kind of climate we currently are dealing with as hybrid and all-online students, more than ever, it seems that midterms have knocked the wind out of all of us. With just one gaze around the room at an in-person class I had earlier this week, every student looked unengaged, head on hand and blank stare ahead.

In a way, midterms have always been a bigger beast than finals. While there is a huge, stressful buildup to finals, you rest easy knowing that once you take that test or submit your paper, you can have a break. Meanwhile, students can cram for midterm tests, only to be greeted with a myriad of assignments to be done the very next class.

Luckily, there are a few ways to beat the midterm slump. Having been through my fair share of midterms, I think there are some ways in which students can find the willpower to keep plugging along after the soul-sucking midterms.

After I complete my midterms, I always feel like the remainder suddenly comes charging at me with a slew of assignments, quizzes and tests that I could have sworn were not on the syllabus before. While it sure seems like it, I always remind myself to take the remainder of the semester one week at a time, and personally keep telling myself that we're halfway to the end.

Setting small and large goals for yourself as the semester continues is definitely helpful when you need some motivation. By setting small goals, you will feel accomplished as you get one step closer to the end of the semester, rather than feeling as if you've barely scratched the surface of a project due at the end of the semester.

Speaking of projects, the post-midterm season

is when assignments start picking up. As a result, good time management becomes more imperative than ever. Even if it seems tempting to procrastinate, working away at a large assignment one bit at a time is going to mean less stress in the long run.

If you have a research paper to write, try getting ahead by setting aside time to find sources and then write one page at a time. Even if it seems like the weight of the world is crashing down on you as you cram for final tests in your other classes, the assignments you can work ahead on won't be your worst problem.

Another easy way to stay motivated to keep pushing ahead before the semester ends is finding the motivation in your friends. Plan and meet up with your friends for study groups. Being around other people who are working hard and are staying focused can help you stay on task.

Additionally, remembering why you're even here in the first place is a perfect way to stay motivated to do well as the semester wraps up. Remind yourself that you're going to get that degree, certificate, whatever you came here for, you're on the right track.

Lastly, when you need to, take days off. We didn't get a fall break this year, so make sure you're the one who fits in some kind of break in some way. Whether that means unwinding with your favorite show or, in true Lewis fashion, looking at pictures of planes, doing a mindless task eases your brain and stops you from becoming (too) overworked.

As the semester plugs along, at times, it can feel like there's no light at the end of the tunnel, but we're getting there. Staying motivated in a semester unlike any other that we've seen before is a challenge, but it's one that can be conquered.

Latinx creators demand change in Hollywood

CHRIS J. PATIÑO
Tempo Reporter

A collection of Latinx showrunners, creators, film and TV writers penned an open letter calling on Hollywood not only for increases of inclusion and representation, but for systemic changes to the industry.

The more than 270 signatories include Gloria Calderón-Fleet of "One Day at a Time," Lin Manuel Miranda of "Hamilton," Tanya Saracho of "Vida," John Leguizamo and "Pose" creator Steven Canals. The letter urges increased hiring and promotion of Latinx writers and staff members and to further a Latinx presence beyond what the camera shows.

"Our stories are important," the letter states. "And our erasure on-screen contributes to the persistent prejudice that prevents real change in this country."

Despite making up 18.3% of the U.S. population, Latinx make up only 4.7% of feature writers and 8.7% of TV writers. The numbers within a producorial and showrunning level only diminish further. The Hollywood Reporter's recently released "Hollywood's 50 Most Powerful TV Showrunners of 2020" list does not contain a single Latinx creator.

The group expresses their exhaustion at the continued exclusion, repeatedly remarking, "We are tired."

"We are tired of Latinx projects being developed with no Latinx writer, director, or producer attached," they write. "We refuse to be filtered through a White perspective."

"We are tired of hearing 'we couldn't find any Latinx writers to hire'...of being painted with the same brush. We are made up of an array of backgrounds and ethnicities."

"We are tired of stories that are only about our trauma," the letter continued. "We contain multitudes. We are tired."

The Dear Hollywood letter bookends with a five-point plan detailing out the steps the group believes will lead to concrete change. They demand to have Latinx writers tell their own stories and be hired in volume, offering links to Latinx writer lists curated by their community. Pilots from Latinx creators must also be bought and produced, and that such projects should represent diverse Latinx lifestyles. They also call for regular advancements and promotions to higher staff and showrunner positions and be given writing jobs that are non-Latinx stories.

Hollywood's rallying cry for inclusion and diversity has merited changes, but there re-



Gage Skidmore

John Leguizamo, one of 278 signers, stands in solidarity with Latinx writers and actors.

main large pockets in the industry needing a substantial overhaul. Latinx media advocacy group NALIP put out a report in 2019 investigating Latinx representation in film, on-screen and behind the camera. What the numbers show is that Hollywood's most inclusive club is exclusionary.

From 2007 to 2018, researchers examined the 1,200 most popular films and found staggeringly low numbers among characters, actors and filmmakers. 47% of the total sample completely erased Latino speaking characters, with such characters totaling an overall 4.5% among the 47,268 speaking roles. Latinx

directors made up 4%, or 49, of the 1,335 directing and co-directing jobs, and only one was female: Patricia Riggen of "The 33." Within the producer realm, Latinx men and women amassed a whopping 3% or 97 of 3,616.

"Despite all of the talk about diversity and inclusion in Hollywood and the popular press, these findings represent no change in depictions of the largest ethnic group in America," states the researchers.

The Latinx community commands around \$1.7 trillion in spending power in the U.S., cornering 23% of movie ticket sales. That Hollywood continues to render Latinos invisible,

despite its sizable existence, mystifies reason.

"I'm not asking for more, I just want what's mine," says John Leguizamo to Variety. "If we're 20% of the population and contributing \$2.3 trillion to the GDP... and our women are number one in small business creation and we save the housing market with 68%, then I want what's mine. I don't want what's yours."

The letter comes from the Untitled Latinx Project, an all Latina advocacy group founded by Tanya Saracho, whose goal is to create more Latinx content.

'Hubie Halloween' fails to impress Sandler's fans

BEKKA DVORAK
Tempo Reporter

Starting off in the beautiful town of Salem, Massachusetts, Hubie Dubois, played by Adam Sandler, takes a morning bike ride through the streets of the decorative town. During these first few moments of the new film "Hubie Halloween," it is immediately established that Sandler has not only lost his edge but has run out of money-making ideas.

In a somewhat remake of 1998's "The Waterboy," Sandler's plotline tries to unethically remake many of the same successful qualities. However, given that times have changed and certain aspects are no longer deemed as fit for humor, the film lacks an appeal for the newer generation.

Clearly trying to gain the audience of tween viewers, Sandler continues to portray a simpleminded character with easy qualities to make fun of. Though the time has come for the actor to retire the suggested mentally disabled characters, it seems viewers must yet

again suffer through another poorly acted movie.

The jokes lack humor, the characters lack depth, the costumes lack originality and the plotline lacks any quality that could help promote this Happy Madison score as a success. As if this is not enough to spoil the score of the film, the Netflix original only continues to prove its astonishingly disastrous script.

With Sandler's character considering himself the 'monitor' of the township, it is his unofficial job to oversee the activities taking place on Halloween in the strange, historic Salem. However, given that Hubie still lives with his mom and carries around a scientifically impossible multipurpose thermos, he is named as the target of the town for teasing and bullying.

Due to Hubie being the most bullied individual in the town, his overexaggerated hunch of something sinister happening on Halloween night is quickly dismissed with a flaming bag of dog poop being thrown at his head throughout the entire movie.

One of the sole bases of this film seems to focus on bully-

ing; almost every screen shot showcases a group of individuals harassing a mentally disabled character. Though this was one of the main qualities of "The Waterboy," the only positive message both movies contain is the happy ending for the hated character, and the message to always be yourself. But even this somewhat positive message was still not sufficient to save this horrific film.

The star-studded cast was not even enough to help vamp the ratings.

Ray Liotta, Kenan Thompson, Maya Rudolph and a surprise reprised role of Orderly Hal from "Happy Gilmore" played by Ben Stiller still could not help the horrendous inadequacy of "Hubie Halloween."

With Halloween approaching and the need for horror, candy and entertainment, this new Netflix original does not justice for any of these categories. However, if there is a need for a whimsically cringeworthy background noise as candy is passed out, then Sandler's new landslide is the flick for you.



IMDB

Adam Sandler's newest Netflix original lacks quality for fans

The LANY goes country pop on 'mama's boy

Derek Swanson
Managing Editor

This is a musical shift I don't think anyone saw coming.

Gen-Z anthem generators LANY are back for their third album, titled "mama's boy," in an attempt to capture some essence of good ol' southern values.

The group, whose name represents combining the atmosphere of Los Angeles and New York, have carved out quite a niche for themselves in the alt-pop world, providing aching teen hearts with soft synth tunes and silky-smooth vocal deliveries. Their previous effort, "Malibu Nights," released in 2018, documented frontman Paul Jason Klein's own breakup with Dua Lipa to great success.

With overwhelmingly positive critical reception, it seemed that LANY had defined their sound, and fans prayed they would keep producing hits.

Well, that praying certainly earned fans something, because LANY has turned to making music about Jesus with pseudo-country aesthetics sprinkled throughout. While this is a twist that most fans did not expect, there is some resemblance to the group's previous work, hidden underneath the thin layer of southern sentimentality. Songs like "paper" deliver a simple take on a strained relationship, with a catchy hook and soothing vocals.

Unfortunately, there just aren't that many songs that call back to the band's old sound, though "when you're drunk" is another that stuck with me. So far that's two, and with 14 songs and a 50-minute run time, this album is definitely bloated with filler.

It feels as though LANY, desperate to reinvent their sound, threw some tracks into the final cut that would have best been served as B-sides, if anything. The al-

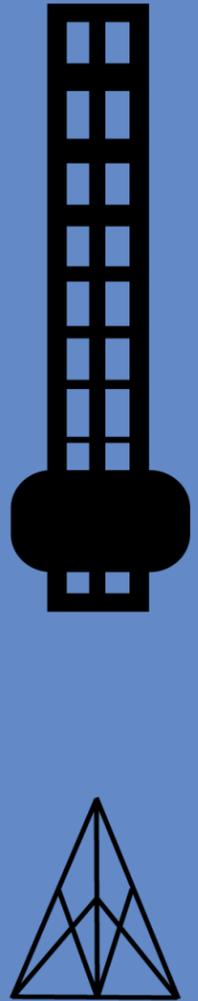
bum's opener "you!" is as generic as can be and left a sour taste in my mouth that carried over into at least the next three tracks. "cowboy in LA" is the first country pop flop on the project, and without the inclusion of some quite tasteful pedal steel guitar, this track might have ended my listening experience of this album.

I can't say it's horrible; I really do respect the efforts of bands trying to reinvent their sounds when they feel they are being backed into a corner with a style they aren't totally comfortable with. The biggest downside of this record is that the best tracks sound like old LANY, so much so that I felt actual relief after shuffling into the group's older material that I've come to appreciate so much more now.

It's time to address the biggest flop on the whole project, that is "i still talk to jesus." If LANY wants to reinvent themselves as a gospel jam band, complete with a soulful backing choir, they need to do better than lines like "I don't change my ways, I don't change my shirt, I go from the club straight to the church."

The self-awareness of knowing he should be doing better in life if he wants to fit the ideal Jesus supporter image, coupled with the blatant disregard for any of the limitations which that life brings ensures this track ends up saying nothing at all. It follows the ever-predictable pop structure of, "I do all these bad things, but I'm still a good guy in the end," which plagues so much of the mainstream music sound that LANY stood up against in prior releases. Now, it is sad to see that the group has fallen in line with some of those most disappointing tropes.

Is the album worth a listen? Possibly, if you are a fan of chill country-esque pop tunes that stray away from tough topics and only serve as easy listening. I can encourage LANY fans to check out "when you're drunk" and "paper" if they are desperate for new tracks from the group, but based on the mixed to negative critical reception the album has received, it might be due time for LANY to switch their sound once again.



QAnon conspiracists banned by YouTube

JILLIAN GUZZI
Reporter

After years of taking down thousands of videos and removing hundreds of channels promoting some of today's most widely circulated conspiracy theories, YouTube has announced the roll out of new content policies being put in place effective immediately.

The initial announcement, posted to YouTube's official blog on Oct. 15, explained how the platform's policies are changing to "curb hate and harassment," along with "real-world violence" connected to the QAnon conspiracy.

Since 2017, QAnon has made its way through the dark web, onto the mainstream internet and now onto the majority of existing social media platforms. Because of this, QAnon is now known around the world, and certain aspects of the conspiracy theory are supported by believers both foreign and domestic.

YouTube, along with some of its most significant competitors, have been fighting the conspiracy theory since the beginning, specifically amping up their efforts in the beginning of 2019.

The conspiracy, which gained much of its traction and popularity during the COVID-19 pandemic and 2020 presidential campaign season, focuses mainly on American politics and an alleged relation to child-sex trafficking and Satanism.

In the minds of QAnon followers, President Donald Trump was put into his current role to fight the "deep state," or "cabal." This cabal, according to QAnon supporters, consists of American politicians and global elites that run a worldwide child sex-trafficking ring while hailing Satan.

The theory originally surfaced on 4chan, an anonymous online bulletin board used to exchange videos, memes and miscellaneous information. Believers are under the impression that a high ranking government official, who goes by the alias "Q," was responsible for the initial 2017 release of information. Along with this, they also believe that this official has access to classified documents that will eventually lead to what they call "the day of reckoning," or, the day when President Trump will announce the arrests of thousands of cabal members.

In reality, though, social me-



Marc Nozell

A QAnon supporter is spotted at a rally for President Donald Trump. YouTube has created policies to stop the spread of QAnon theories.

dia platforms like YouTube are responsible for fighting misinformation while still providing their users with access to important information and news. With these goals in mind, YouTube will continue to allow the publication of QAnon news and discussion content so long as it isn't of a threatening or harmful nature that targets any person or group.

However, getting rid of select QAnon content might not be as easy of a feat as Twitter believes. "Q" followers are notorious for speaking in codes,

leaving "breadcrumb" type mini messages, while also intertwining the true nature of their profiles with the discussion of real world, unproblematic issues such as saving children from sex-trafficking.

The video streaming platform's announcement came just months after social media conglomerate Facebook banned all QAnon content, along with any pages and groups responsible for spreading misinformation. Along with this, Facebook has pledged to delete any Insta-

gram accounts promoting QAnon with the ultimate goal of having all conspiracy content fully removed from their platforms in the near future.

Twitter hopes that its new policies will be enough to stop the misinformation that has reared its head on the majority of mainstream platforms across the internet. Accompanied by the fact that the FBI has deemed the QAnon conspiracy as a source of "growing domestic terrorism threats," YouTube will continue to change with the conspiracy in order to filter out misinformation.

Ariana Grande announces new album release

BEKKA DVORAK

Tempo Reporter

Ariana Grande has continued to make headlines since her first appearance on Nickelodeon's 2010s "Victorious." Since the then-redheaded, soft-spoken star gained her first presence on the big screen, she has only continuously gained viewers' admiration.

After the breakup of the hit show, Grande appeared on a spinoff of 2013's "Sam & Cat" maintaining her role as the fan-favorite eccentric, lackadaisical character. Once Grande's acting career for Nickelodeon ended, the famous pop sensation's music career took off.

However, all of these factors are known to a giant portion of the public.

It is no secret that Grande has taken over a majority of social media and news outlets since her rise to fame. Producing hit singles, award-winning albums and continuously appearing on sets and creating popular music videos, the pop singer truly has

built a successful platform for herself.

After a year and a half, fans finally get to make that assumption for themselves.

As of the date of this publication, Ariana Grande will be finally releasing a new album following up her successful 2019's "Thank U, Next." The title of the new edition to Grande's collection will be "Positions," as well as the title track and lead single. Grande has also managed to include a flirtatious music video that will give off an empowering image, and is the main focus of the album for fans to enjoy.

However, fans are not the only ones excited at this time for the new album.

"This project is my favorite for many reasons and i really can't wait for it to be yours. thank u for your love and excitement, it means the world to me," Grande tweeted on Oct. 24.

The album will also include artists Doja Cat, The Weeknd and Ty Dolla \$ign, leaving fans to assume that Grande paid



Emma

Ariana Grande finally debuted her new album

every expense to go all out.

The album is said to have offered a different side of the pop singer, singling out her journey into finding happiness in love following the many tragic events with her ex's.

A lot of assumptions have been made about "Positions" considering it does not offer the same vibes as her previous creations. Much of the specu-

lations involve her newfound lover Dalton Gomez.

Not much is known about the relationship, but with the lyrics and actions of the album, it is safe to assume that Grande is living her best life during this outrageous time. This also means that if fans have unexpectedly gained interest in Grande's past works, then a brighter, happier album

can be a win for their playlists as well.

'The Trial of the Chicago 7' review

CHRIS J. PATIÑO

Tempo Reporter

Aaron Sorkin is back, baby, and his new film is a doozy. "The Trial of the Chicago 7" is the highly dramatized telling of the infamous real-life 1969 court hearing. Eight men faced charges of criminal conspiracy in the wake of the riots between police and protesters in Chicago against the backdrop of the 1968 Democratic National Convention.

The trial served as a theater of juxtaposition of the cultural shifts occurring outside the courtroom's doors. As both writer and director, Sorkin helms an all-star ensemble featuring Sacha Baron Cohen, Eddie Redmayne, Mark Rylance, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Frank Langella and Yahya Abdul-Mateen II in what is undoubtedly one of the year's absolute best films.

No one makes the walk-and-talk sizzle like Sorkin. An Oscar-winning screenwriter, Sorkin possesses a keen ability to make everyday speech and scenarios come to life with a ripcord, kinetic energy. His syntax and phrasing prowess are damn near impeccable. "The Trial of the Chicago 7" once again sees Sorkin batting a thousand. The script's detail and specificity seep through in the art and production de-



IMDB

The cast assumes their roles as the infamous 1969 trial begins.

sign; the era existent rather than gimmicky. The dialogue sings with wit and deliberate diction. You know Sorkin oration when you hear it. There's a purpose to it. No syllable is for naught.

Dramatic licensing is also a key feature in Sorkin's life-based movies. It's not like he's trying to fool anybody, though. He'll openly admit to the freedoms his scripts take. He's more interested in creating an impression of the events and people, not a literal transcription. Whether you agree or not, it is his artistic lens. One he views through again here. And as a film, this one a winner.

Set against the political landscape of the late sixties Viet-

nam War, "The Trial of the Chicago 7" navigates the bog of federal strong-arming, police brutality and seismic cultural upheaval. Sound familiar? Wardrobe and hairstyles notwithstanding, there's much of that era that continues to ring true today. It's these themes that make the film's message universal, timeless, even if the historical facts are muddled. Sorkin doesn't call this a biopic. It's a painting. The goal is to get you to feel.

From a storytelling standpoint, Sorkin demonstrates what I can only describe as pure flex. There's nothing but absolute confidence behind the camera in tone, editing, structure and pace. If the film's editors don't snag nods

from the Academy, something is truly wrong in the world. The technical aptitude only highlights the filmmakers' grip and focus on the story.

As you can surmise from the title, the film runs the trial's course, condensing a five-month hearing within a two-hour runtime. The story's scope is enough to overwhelm the narrative center. Still, Sorkin manages to keep the feature on the fast track, bulleting ahead in an energized wave of momentum that sparks within the first seven minutes and never lets up. It's an exhilarating watch.

But undoubtedly, none of this works without this cast. This story needs performers

worthy of the material. And they are; because the material is worthy of them.

Sacha Baron Cohen stretches dramatic muscles that we rarely see. Much like Adam Sandler and Robin Williams, Cohen has the range to convey the necessary hilarity and gravitas. Redmayne, Gordon-Levitt and Rylance are as reliable as always, and a scene-stealing John Carroll Lynch renders a tenderness that brought me to tears.

But far and away, it's Yahya Abdul-Mateen II and Frank Langella who steal this entire movie. As Bobby Seale, co-founder of the Black Panthers, Abdul-Mateen II is a lighting strike, combusting on the scene with a tenacious zeal. There's a humanity in his rage, a heaviness in his silences. He's a powerful presence illuminating the brick wall of systemic racism—a system led in the courtroom by Frank Langella's cantankerous Judge Julius Hoffman. He's a real son of a mother, and Langella all but oozes with delicious contempt. He's a terrific villain who helps to reflect the heart and soul of our protagonists.

Despite occasional dips into sappiness, "The Trial of the Chicago 7" is a gripping, tense litigation drama that struts in Sorkin sophistication. It's a film that strives to remind us of why we fight and why it matters.

Campus Life

Quarantine procedures are not flawless, but better than nothing

DEREK SWANSON
MANAGING EDITOR

As the halfway point of the semester passes and mid-terms come to a close, students have adjusted to the changes brought on by the ongoing pandemic. Though cases across the state and country continue to rise once again, Lewis has still remained committed to keeping the hybrid course structure until after Thanksgiving break.

One of the ways they have been able to keep track of cases and keep students on campus has been through the quarantining procedures, adopted in part from recommendations from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). Resident students who receive a positive test result or come in close contact with someone who is sick are instructed to remain in their dorms, or in severe cases, are moved to the “quarantine wing” of Fitzpatrick Hall.

In some cases, however, false alarms are enough to get students put in quarantine, whether or not they actually

Quarantine  **Keeps people who might have been exposed to COVID-19 away from others.**

Isolation  **Used to separate people with active infections from people who do not have the virus.**

test positive for COVID-19.

Rachel Fosler, a sophomore art illustration major, found out just how sensitive the symptom screening can be one day in September, when she was feeling under the weather.

“I had severe cold symptoms and I was recovering from mono, so I marked off one of the symptoms on the daily screening just to be safe, because I didn’t know for sure that it was a cold,” said Fosler. “I didn’t know what would happen if I just marked one symptom off, they hadn’t re-

ally communicated that well to us. I discovered that you immediately are told to self-quarantine and not go anywhere, and you have to get tested.”

Taken aback that one symptom was enough to warrant a quarantine order, Fosler went to get tested, hoping that a negative result would end her predicament. She would soon find out otherwise, even though she did test negative for COVID-19.

“I quarantined in Pope, the dorm that I live in,” said Fosler. “Since I tested negative,

I didn’t have to quarantine at home or in whatever dorm rooms they have set aside for COVID, but I still had to quarantine for 10 days because of a policy in our county, which was very frustrating, since I missed more than a week of class and work.

Fosler added that since the system is not perfect, better communication with students could have gone a long way to prevent false positives in the screening.

She, like all other students who have been quarantined,

had to get creative in ways to occupy her time. As an art major, she spent a good deal of time honing her craft, as well as completing other assignments to keep up with her now online classes. Fosler added that after testing negative and recovering from her cold symptoms, she took socially distanced hikes with her pod mates to catch some fresh air.

Though students who test positive are not afforded the luxury of visiting friends, there are still other creative ways to keep entertained while keeping inside. For starters, getting ahead on homework is never a bad move, and finding a creative outlet, whether it be art, music or playing games, can be crucial in passing the time.

Resources are available to students who are put in quarantine, including food delivery from the Bite app, as well as the continued efforts from professors to accommodate sick students in their hybrid lectures. If you are told to quarantine, visit the Health Services link on the Lewis website for additional information.

DEREK SWANSON, MANAGING EDITOR

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Swim team sweeps St. Ambrose in season opener

DANI NAVARRETE
SPORTS EDITOR

On Oct. 17, the women and men's swim teams swept St. Ambrose University at home in their first meet of the season, with a final score of 139-14 on the women's side and 149-93 on the men's. The Lewis pool hosted some fast swimming provided by the Flyers, as both teams dominated the competition; the women won 13 out of 14 races and the men 12.

Some meet highlights from the women's team include freshman sport management major Larissa Alves leading the way for the Flyers with three individual wins: 100-yard butterfly with a time of 1:02.37, 100-yard freestyle in a 55.63 and the 200-yard individual medley with a 2:16.28.

Fellow freshmen accounting major Melanie

Patterson and exercise and movement science major Kiara Barnes won two individual events each. Patterson touched first in both the 50 (32.36) and 100-yard breaststroke (1:11.25), while Barnes won the 500 (5:36.88) and 1000-yard freestyle (11:26.88).

Senior human resource management major Stephanie Palczynski along with sophomore aviation major Mariia Melnichuk went home with a pair of individual victories as well. Palczynski won the 200-yard freestyle (2:03.04) and 100-yard backstroke (1:00.48), and Melnichuk won in the 50-yard freestyle (25.12) and backstroke (28.30).

On the men's side, senior finance major Ruben Van Leeuwen topped three individual events; the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:44.60, the 100-yard butterfly in a 52.23 and the 100-yard freestyle with a

47.22.

Junior exercise and movement science major Jabari Ramsey and junior flight major Jackson Mugg won two events each. Ramsey touched first in the 50 (26.95) and 100-yard breaststroke (1:00.77), while Mugg won the 500 (4:55.61) and 100-yard freestyle (10:08.30).

Fellow junior business administration major Mariano Sosa picked up a couple of individual wins as well in the 50-yard backstroke (25.17) and in the 200-yard individual medley (2:03.02). Furthermore, sophomores Ari Kissel and Adrian Wlodarz won an event each: Kissel the 100-yard backstroke (52.84) and Wlodarz the 50-yard freestyle (21.99).

Despite the early success in their first meet, before the school year started, swimmers were uneasy about the uncertainty of



Luis Chavez / Photographer

Lewis swimming is relying on a supportive and encouraging team culture that will help them succeed throughout the year. (From left to right: Sophomore Ethan Fox, sophomore Ari Kissel, junior Filip Bjorkholm)

the season taking place due to the pandemic. Many college swim teams across the country started canceling their seasons and it was not until mid-July that the Flyers knew for sure they were having theirs.

"I honestly felt that our

swimming season was going to be cancelled and I was losing my hopes about swimming this year," said Sosa, a transfer student.

'SWIM TEAM'
CONTINUES ON
PAGE 12

Women's bowling places sixth at Bearcat Hammer Open

DANI NAVARRETE
SPORTS EDITOR

The women's bowling team competed in its first tournament of the season from Oct. 23 to 25 at St. Clair Bowl in Fairview Heights, Illinois, finishing in sixth place out of eight teams.

The Flyers finished the weekend with a 5-8 record. On the first day of competition, they had five different five-game cumulative Baker matches. The team won against Upper Iowa 884-816 and Drury 861-799, but lost to Maryville 931-980, Youngstown State 897-1,066 and seventh nationally-ranked Stephen F. Austin 840-941.

On Saturday, the team bowled in five traditional matches where they defeated Drury 979-966 and lost to McKendree 918-1,000, Valparaiso 906-990, Stephen F. Austin 873-955 and Youngstown State 860-975.

During the last day, the Flyer bowlers finished traditional play with a 913-749 win over Valparaiso and earned the No. 5 seed in bracket play with 9,862 pins and a 179.3 average.

In bracket play, Lewis beat Upper Iowa 4.5-3.5, as the team won the first game 178-136, third 224-183, fifth 192-152 and eighth 127-95. Game seven ended as a tie 201-201 but the

Flyers rallied in the tiebreak by rolling four straight strikes.

In the fifth-place match, the Flyers came back from a 3-0 deficit to play a seventh game before falling 4-3 to Valparaiso (140-152, 145-149, 150-158, 185-154, 180-144, 156-146, 162-198).

Regarding individual highlights, junior Erin Biccoci and sophomore Kayla Dench earned All-Tournament Team honors. They finished in fourth and fifth place, with Biccoci recording a total score of 1,172 and Dench a 1,156 throughout six games.

Freshman Erica Lohr shot a 1,053, while fellow freshmen DeAlani Fishbeck and Morgan Lane recorded a 744 and 665, respectively, in four games. Sophomores Jenna Sussenbach and Amber-Grace Carroll added a 324 in two games and a 178 game, and freshman Savannah Magruder had a 157 score game.

This first showdown was a tough one, according to freshman and early childhood education major Erika Lohr. "The tournament definitely had some good competition," said Lohr. "Within the eight team field, there were three top ten programs and four top 20 programs, so it was filled with strong teams." The challenge of the tournament was about what she expected going into

it.

Lohr has no doubt it was the best decision to continue with her education and sport in college as she arrived on campus back in August. "I knew Lewis would be the best school for me in regards to bowling because of the opportunities that I have here and getting to compete at on one of the highest levels in college," said Lohr. "I also knew that Lewis would help guide me in becoming a better person academically, and no matter what I choose to major in, will help me in pursuing whatever career I choose."

The team started its third season in program history, which means that they are a pretty young, up-and-coming team with a lot of room for success. "A few of our team goals for the year include a top five GPA among the athletic programs, a team average in the 180s, a top 25 finish in the NCAA, 85% in single pin spares, 80% overall fill percentage, and above a .500 win/loss record for the season," said Lohr.

The women's bowling team is currently ranked No. 9 in the nation, according to the National Tenpin Coaches Association (NTCA) Division II/III preseason poll that was released on Oct. 12. The Flyers moved up one spot with their



DTR Photography

A native from Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, Erica Lohr is looking forward contribute to the team as much as she can.

223 points received, as last season they finished in tenth in the final rankings. During the 2019-2020 season, the team

ended with a 53-36 record and swept a second-place finish in the Flyer Classic.

MLS struggles with game postponements

DANI NAVARRETE
SPORTS EDITOR

On Oct. 14, Chicago Fire was scheduled to play against Minnesota United at 7 p.m. at the Allianz Field in Saint Paul, Minn. However, the game had to be postponed due to a “suspected case of COVID-19” among Minnesota players and staff members. Major League Soccer (MLS) made the announcement less than two hours before the game was supposed to begin.

This is the second time in a row that a Minnesota game has been postponed. On the evening of Oct. 10, the Loons game against FC Dallas that was scheduled for Oct. 11 was put off after Minnesota confirmed two positive COVID-19 tests among the players.

After the success of the “MLS Is Back Tournament” that took place in Orlando, Florida, back in July and August, the league decided that an 18-game regular season schedule could be held. The games are now being played in distinct locations all around the country. Compared to having 24 out of the

26 MLS teams bubbled in the ESPN Sports Complex in Florida, travelling back and forth across local markets does not sound very COVID-friendly.

Due to positive cases from players, coaches and staff, many games have been postponed since the start of the regular season.

Some of these include Columbus Crew vs Ohio City and Colorado Rapids vs LA Galaxy. The Rapids game was scheduled for Oct. 10 but the night before it got called off due to a positive case among the players. This was Colorado’s fourth consecutive postponed game. According to an ESPN press release, 12 Colorado staff members and five players have tested positive since Sept. 24.

Some of the league’s COVID regulations include same-day travel and charter flights to avoid exposure to the virus, as the teams would usually fly in commercial flights as any other regular traveler. “You don’t have to go deal with baggage claim, you don’t have to check players in one by one with boarding passes and all that stuff,” said

Alex Boler, the Fire’s senior manager of team and soccer operations. “That helps out logistically from my end... It’s not cost-friendly, but it’s definitely a positive.”

However, flying in and out of Chicago on the same day means that the players will go back and sleep at home with their families, and there is not really a guarantee that the players’ wives or kids are not being exposed to the virus in environments of their own. Therefore, the disease could be easily spread in such cases, not only among players, but coaches and staff members are in the same boat as well.

Regarding fans, only a few teams announced back in August that they were allowing spectators. Yet, with very little revenue coming in and outbreaks in COVID cases, is it really worth it to have people risk their health and safety in the middle of a pandemic?

Cases across the country are increasing rapidly amid the changing seasons. Postponements will keep on happening as there is not a full certainty that a team will have zero exposure to the

virus. MLS deputy commissioner and president Mark Abbott remains optimistic about the possibility of getting into the final game of the tournament though. “There is nothing we’re seeing that would cause us to think that we won’t finish the season,” said Abbott in an interview with ESPN.

Playoffs are scheduled to start on Nov. 20, but many of the “postponed” games have not been rescheduled yet. Although the ideal solution would be to bubble the teams back so they can be able to play in November, the league is struggling financially and will not be able to afford health and safety protocols once again.

The postponements are affecting the teams’ training cycles, which could deter their performance in the actual games. Additionally, compared to college football, Major League Soccer does not economically impact communities as much. The best solution is to either keep everyone in the same bubble, or postpone everything until COVID lets us see brighter times.

‘SWIM TEAM’
CONTINUED FROM
PAGE 11

A native from Argentina, Sosa thought he was going to have hybrid classes and regular training sessions right when he arrived to campus. “When I got here, things were the opposite: all my classes were online and we did not start training until the end of September,” said Sosa. “But after those rough days at the beginning, everything started to feel ‘normal’ and I was able to train with my team and enjoy the swimming environment once again.”

The only thing athletes had in mind at their first home meet was to have fun and enjoy, because most of them were unable to practice or compete since the spring. “A lot of us weren’t able to swim a lot since March because pools closed,” said business administration major Kissel, a transfer originally from Germany. “I didn’t really have high expectations regarding times that I wanted to swim at this first meet; I just wanted to enjoy the meet atmosphere with the team and give it my best to see where I’m at with my swimming.”

For the novices, having their first college swim meet during COVID was an odd but rewarding experience. “Even if the whole team was not supposed to be on the pool deck during the meet because of COVID regulations, a few teammates that were waiting for their next events would cheer for the ones in the pool,” said Alves, a native from Brazil. “I was really happy when it was my time to swim and I could hear them cheering.”

Alves explained that the encouraging team atmosphere is also felt while in training. “When we have difficult practices and a teammate tells me ‘one more round’, ‘you got it,’ ‘we can do this’ or after I’m done, I listen to ‘great work’, it is an extra motivation to keep working hard.”

The three newcomers are looking forward to putting Lewis on the swim map with the rest of the team as they look to score in conference and qualify for nationals. “As a whole, this team is full of hard-workers and people with big goals and that makes the Lewis spirit really competitive,” said Sosa.



CHICAGO FIRE PLAYERS / FLICKR

Chicago Fire is currently ranked tenth in the East Conference.