

Campus updates services across campus to enhance learning experience

JADA HOFFMAN
NEWS EDITOR

Students have returned to Lewis for the fall semester with a sense of normalcy as the campus brings new updated services.

The pandemic has taught universities around the nation how to adapt to unforeseen circumstances and mainly online formats. Lewis has taken what they learned last year, and have changed services and amenities across campus.

With several students still having classes online, the Wi-Fi across campus has been updated to ensure students and faculty are able to successfully join their classes. Parking lots such as Lot L, located in front of the LRC building, were even updated for commuters who may have to attend class or complete assignments in their car.

Classrooms across campus also received enhanced audio for instructor voice reinforcements. This allows instructors to teach virtually and in-person in an effective manner so that students at home can easily hear them, with little to no interruptions.

Senior aviation administration major and business administration minor Angelo Goduto was impressed with the updated

technology in his computer science class in the Arts and Sciences Building.

"As a smaller school, it's pretty cool to see technology that large schools have," said Goduto. "Lewis should keep boosting their technology, it gives more of a home feel."

To ensure students' comfort, Goduto's professor gave his entire class a disclaimer that there is a camera and mic in the classroom. However, the camera only faces the professor so that those who are joining virtually can feel as though they are in an in-person class.

This development is an improvement Goduto is grateful for.

"I remember my freshman year when I would record lectures on my phone to go back to them after the class and study," said Goduto. "These recordings make it easier for those at home, but also those in the class [to] view the recordings post-class and study effectively."

The Student Technology Academic Resources (STAR) Program is now a fully implemented program. It started as a test, but is now a permanent program that loans laptops and hotspots to students who may need it.

Students are able to complete

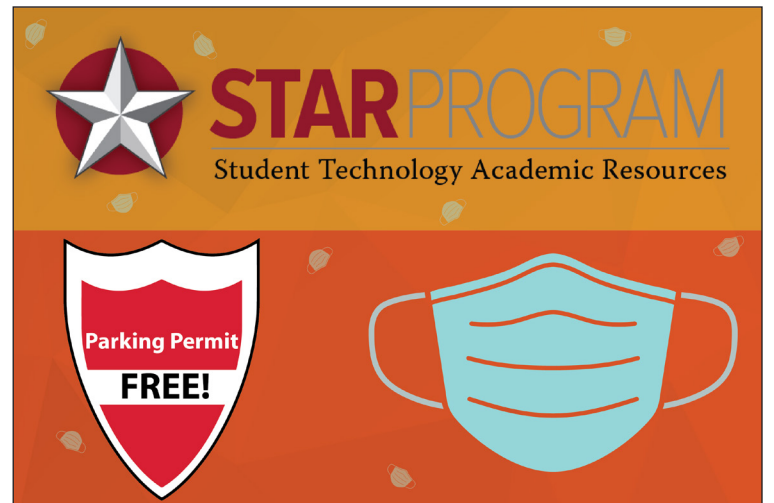
a form answering simple questions like, "Who are you?" and "Why do you need it?" Upon completion, they can pick up their laptop or hotspots from the library and hold onto them for the duration of the semester. If they still need this technology after the fall semester ends, they can keep it going into the spring semester. After the spring semester, all equipment is collected to make sure they are still operable. If students require these services over the summer, they can reapply.

Kurt Shackmuth, vice president of mission and academic services, explained, "This program has value outside of the pandemic, so we are just going to continue to do this. It will just be part of our Academic Services programs."

A grant was given to the university allowing more laptops and hotspots to be purchased. Over 100 laptops and hotspots are available and Shackmuth explained they have never had to turn down a student.

"This is one of the good things that came out of the pandemic," said Shackmuth. "We found ways to respond to students and meet their needs."

Several other new features were added to campus as well. Parking passes are now free for the academic semester for all



ANTHONY BEIMAL / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Students can now rent laptops and hotspots, they no longer have to pay for parking and still must wear masks, regardless of vaccination on campus.

students; they just have to ensure they have a sticker on their vehicle. If there's no sticker, students may get ticketed.

Digital signs have also been placed around the Romeoville area in an attempt to limit traffic accidents surrounding campus.

Additionally, Sodexo has gone back to a few normal services. One of them is the self-served food at the Laverne and Brown Dining Hall, with the exception of the grill and authentic-food stations. Along with that, a new waffle machine was also installed and dining halls are back at normal capacity.

For commuters, Sodexo has implemented a commuter meal plan as opposed to them only receiving \$25 Flyer Dollars.

Masks are still required in all indoor spaces, regardless of vaccination status.

According to an email sent out by President Livingston, Lewis invested \$10 million in private support from alumni, parents and community members that assisted with enhancing and advancing student's learning experience. More improvements are likely to be implemented as the academic year progresses.

Aviation department lands new aircraft

ANDREW J. MILLIGAN
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

On Aug. 2 a new twin-engine Piper PA-44 Seminole light aircraft was procured by the aviation department. A small team of Lewis personnel flew to Piper Aircraft, Inc. in Vero Beach, Florida to retrieve and bring the aircraft back to campus.

The team, consisting of Senior Assistant Chief Pilot Matthew Massey and Flight Instructor Ross Harris, spent the day flying the aircraft to Lewis. Harris said the flight back was nearly nine hours.

The flight to Piper Aircraft HQ was calm and uneventful. "I like to say that my favorite types of flights are boring," said Massey. "As we were getting in towards Florida, the weather and everything looked great."

After arriving at the airport in Florida, both instructors were

able to stretch their legs for a brief moment.

"They offered us food and a tour of the facility, but with the storms that were starting to brew up, we wanted to get out before they got too big," said Harris.

The return to Lewis was slightly more exciting.

"As is always the case in Florida this time of year you get these little pop-up storms that start to develop," said Massey. "As long as you can see them, they're not particularly hazardous because they're very small. You can literally just steer around them."

With a wingspan of 38 feet 6 inches, a height of 8 feet 5 inches and a length of 27 feet 7 inches, the PA-44 Seminole is a comfortably sized twin-engine training aircraft. The aircraft has a range of 700 nautical miles and a maximum cruise-

ing speed of 162 knots true airspeed. GARMIN's G1000 NXi Avionics Suite, which comes with better navigation software, comes standard in the aircraft. This new technology should help to acclimate students to modern electronics suites they would encounter in the aviation industry.

The new twin engine aircraft was procured to augment the multi-engine course the aviation department provides.

"It was purchased as a replacement for the older Seminole that we've got that, at some point, is going to be retired," said Massey. "Most aircraft nowadays have a glass cockpit, which means they've got computer screens and integrated electronics...The old ones have mechanical equipment. It's much closer to what they'd be flying in industry."

The older Seminole in Lewis'

aircraft fleet is a model from 1979.

"It's night and day between the two different Seminoles," said Harris. "You think of the difference between '79 Mustang and a '21 Mustang."

There are no definite plans to acquire more of these aircraft at this time. However, the aviation department has been steadily updating its fleet with more modern and uniformly decade aircraft.

"Aircraft are always going to have to be replaced," said Harris. "With the growing number of students that we have, there is going to be a need for us to expand our fleet and replace ag-



ANTHONY BEIMAL / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

ing aircraft." Students have already been taking advantage of the new addition to the fleet by flying the aircraft. This new airplane will continue to enrich the education of flight students for several years.

LUPD assures safety despite blue light tower outage

JADA HOFFMAN
NEWS EDITOR

On the first day of classes, students received an email from LUPD explaining that the “blue light” emergency phones are out of order. These phone systems operated in a “push for service” operation, in which if someone needed assistance or felt unsafe, they could push the button and would be connected with dispatch.

Over the summer, the university implemented a software update that upgraded the university’s phone system causing some analogs to stop communicating with these blue light phones. LUPD also learned from a student survey that these systems were not intuitive, causing many challenges for those attempting to get help.

Before, the technology made it difficult for students to speak directly to the dispatcher once they clicked the button. In contrast, the

new system will work like a regular phone call. As soon as one clicks the button, the dispatcher’s phone will ring and they will be able to have a conversation.

There is no exact date of completion for this large endeavor, as it has several working parts. LUPD will be teaming up with an outside vendor, as well as the Office of Technology, to complete this project. They hope to finalize it by the end of the fall semester.

Safety is top priority and LUPD assures students should have no concern with this system being out of order.

“Those phones are [not] frequently utilized; maybe about three to four times a year,” said Chief of Police Michael Zegadlo.

The phone systems are only one of the many ways students can reach LUPD on campus. Students can call LUPD’s non-emergency number at 815-836-5222 or

their emergency number at 815-836-5911. Both call lines are available 24/7.

The yellow emergency call boxes located in buildings across campus are still in-service as well. The police escort system also continues to be available, allowing students to call LUPD in the event that they feel unsafe walking around campus.

Zegadlo encourages students to use these services as they are here to protect the Lewis community. “Whenever you are on campus, you should be able to contact us,” said Zegadlo.

The campus crime rates remain low and LUPD is confident that it will stay that way, despite this change.

“No student should feel as though they are unsafe or alone... we have a very safe campus,” said Zegadlo. “We don’t have the type of incidents we see on other campuses related to crime.”



JADA HOFFMAN / NEWS EDITOR

Blue light phone towers are currently out of order across campus. Left (Dan Ford, Senior Aviation Flight Management major) Right (Daniel Arimi, Junior, Exercise Science major)

Higher Ed Highlights

COVID-19 vaccine controversy circulates among universities

EMILY KRIVOGRAD
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On Sept. 9, President Joe Biden announced what many are calling the Biden administration’s most sweeping COVID-19 vaccination policy yet. The new policy will mandate that employees of large companies and federal workers and contractors get vaccinated — a policy that is estimated to impact thousands of colleges across the U.S.

This new rule comes as an emergency policy from the Department of Labor, which

outlines that businesses with more than 100 employees will have to be vaccinated or tested on a weekly basis. Of the approximately 80 million workers the policy is estimated to affect, it’s likely that many of the 4 million employees who work at a college or university will have to adhere to these new regulations.

While many colleges already made vaccinations a requirement for students who attend in-person classes, this new policy comes from the federal level, and urges even more workers in

higher education to receive a vaccination. In order to compensate employees who get vaccinated, the Department of Labor requires that employers delegate paid time off for employees who get vaccinated.

“We’re going to protect vaccinated workers from unvaccinated co-workers,” Biden said in his announcement of the new policy. “It’s about protecting yourself and those around you — the people you work with, the people you care about [and] the people you love.”

However, not all colleges,

or employees, are likely to welcome the new policy. Though the CDC still recommends that people get vaccinated, some states have prohibited universities from requiring that students or faculty get vaccinated, and some have even barred universities from requiring masks on campus. Arizona, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Utah were the only states where both of these prohibitions were in place.

Yet, a multitude of universities in other states, such as California, Illinois, New York and Washington have

formed a COVID-19 vaccination requirement for either students, faculty or both. Since the Pfizer vaccine received full FDA approval in late August, more than 100 higher education institutions have called for a vaccination requirement.

Though the Biden Administration Path Out of the Pandemic plan mentions that they intend to “take the right steps” by ensuring that all staff and students are vaccinated, it’s still unclear how this new policy will impact other, smaller private or public colleges.

New study cites barriers Latinx students disproportionately face

A recently published study found that Latinx college students disproportionately face obstacles when working toward their degrees. Conducted by students at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the findings suggest that Latinx students are more likely to avoid taking out student loans and borrowing money and also experience issues with transportation at a higher rate than their white peers.

Though, historically,

Latinx students make up a high percentage of enrolled college students, at about 3.8 million students, other groups have attained college degrees at a higher rate. In this study, researchers surveyed 1,500 students who had started, and never finished, their degrees, and noticed that Latinx students identified two main obstacles.

Education debt aversion, or avoiding taking out student loans, was often cited as a financial reason for

halting their degrees. Debt aversion stems from uncertainty in the economy and discrimination in the labor market, and is a response to a failed borrowing system. Latinx students reported having a fear of borrowing money, often citing the impact unresolved student debt could have on their families.

Second, unreliable or difficult-to-attain transportation systems were also disproportionately reported among Latinx students.

Most participants said that they used a public transportation system, such as a bus, and transportation barriers affected their education, work and personal lives.

This study follows a historic drop in enrolled Hispanic college students; in the fall 2020 semester, colleges across the country saw Hispanic enrollment drop 20%.

“One thing from this report that I think comes out clear is debt-financed high-

er education is not working for the Latino community,” said Kate Sablosky Elen-gold, a professor of law at the University of North Carolina and principal investigator in the study, in an interview with Inside Higher Ed. “It’s not helping with the equity gap in higher education, so we need to rethink who bears the risk and the burden of higher education in our society.”

Chicago makes hypocritical decision to cancel Pride Fest

STEPHANIE LINGENFELTER
MANAGING EDITOR

Chicago hosted 385,000 people for Lollapalooza but has now canceled Pride Fest. The event was originally supposed to be in June but it was postponed to October before officially being canceled. This marks two years of no Pride Fest.

This move seems a little hypocritical, as a music festival was allowed, but not a celebration of a marginalized group. The rise in COVID-19 rates due to the Delta variant was cited as the reason, but the Delta variant was known about when Lollapalooza began.

Lollapalooza had numerous regulations to reduce the spread of COVID-19, including the requirement of vaccines or a negative COVID test within 72 hours of attendance. Unvaccinated attendees were also required to wear masks. There were only 203 reported cases after the event.

Similar precautions would suffice to ensure Pride Fest could occur. A complete mask mandate for both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals could easily be added to increase safety instead of just canceling the event.

Pride Fest occurs annually in commemoration of the 1969 Stonewall riots in New York



Credit: Wally Skaliy/Los Angeles Times/TNS

Chicago has cancelled the annual Pride Parade for the second year in a row.

City. Police officers routinely stormed gay bars at the time, as homosexual acts were illegal in every state but Illinois. However, this time was different because this time, the LGBTQ+ community decided to fight back, marking the turning point in the fight for LGBTQ+ rights.

The next year, on the first anniversary of the police raid on Stonewall Inn, activists organized the first Gay Pride Week. Since then, cities all over the U.S. and the world host pride parades.

The LGBTQ+ community continues to be marginalized and their rights continue to be threatened. In 2020, 37 transgender and gender-nonconforming people were violently killed, making this the most

violent year for the LGBTQ+ community to date.

This exemplifies how necessary Pride is. Pride allows LGBTQ+ people to find community, advocate for themselves and celebrate being who they are. It also provides an avenue in which they can share LGBTQ+ issues and petition politicians for equality. The festival helps show young people that being LGBTQ+ is normal and okay, helping to foster a better, more accepting and equal culture for the future.

This cancellation reflects poorly on the city of Chicago, a city that traditionally is filled with diversity. Hopefully, organizers will at least put on some kind of online celebration but nothing has been announced yet.

Texas abortion ban violation of human rights

STEPHANIE LINGENFELTER
MANAGING EDITOR

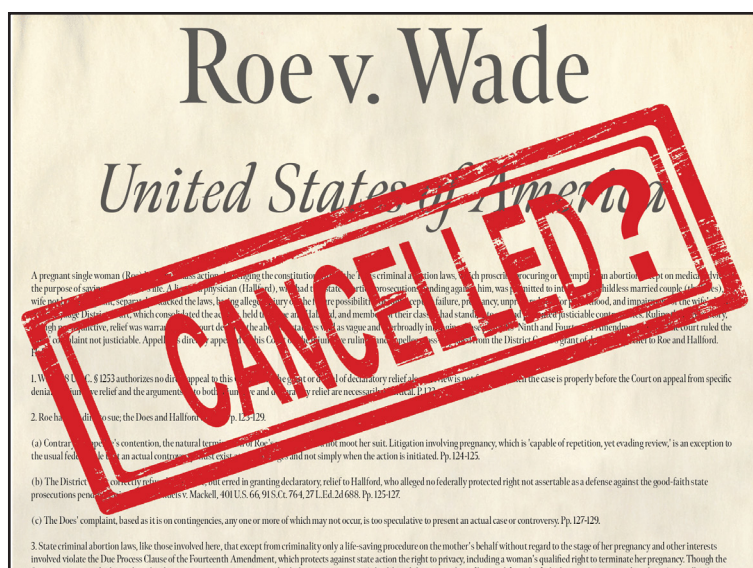
Texas Senate Bill 8 marks the most restrictive abortion ban since the passing of Roe v. Wade and leaves many with the fear that Roe v. Wade may be overturned after 50 years.

This bill is a violation of human rights with a near total abortion ban. The law bans abortions after six weeks since the patient's last menstrual period, which is before most women even know they're pregnant.

It even turns citizens into bounty hunters with anyone being reported to have aided someone in an abortion sued for \$10,000, a payment given to the individual who reported the concerns. This threatens car service drivers and medical professionals. This loophole of turning private citizens into enforcers rather than criminalizing abortion is how the bill passed in the first place.

With the Supreme Court rejecting an emergency injunction from the American Civil Liberties in a five to four vote, there is a fear that further bans will spread and abortion will no longer be federally protected.

The bill is currently being challenged by Biden's Justice Department suing the state,



with Attorney General Merrick Garland.

The lawsuit will first be heard in a federal court in Austin, Texas, but most likely will make its way to the Supreme Court. As long as the Supreme Court follows past precedents established by Roe v. Wade, the bill will be overturned. However, there are two issues with this preceding. One, it could take several months or even years before it makes it to the Supreme Court and two, with a mostly conservative court, there is fear that Roe v. Wade will be overturned.

In the meantime, if someone in Texas needs an abortion, they must travel to another state, a feat many do not have the time or money for. Further abortion

bans in other states will also likely follow suit, leaving even more without access to a basic healthcare procedure. If one state can get away with it, why can't others?

Illinois being historically democratic will likely prevent any statewide bans here. However, abortion bans in any state are threats to women everywhere as it is a decrease in progress and violates women's rights.

What Texas lawmakers are failing to see is their ban won't prevent abortions but it will prevent medically safe abortions. This ban needs to be ruled unconstitutional and Roe v. Wade needs to be protected so that women's reproduction rights are safe.

The Column

EMILY KRIVOGRAD
Editor-in-Chief

The fall semester has officially started and the days of relaxing out in the sun, reading something besides a textbook and sipping something other than Sodexo coffee have been replaced with classes, homework and most likely, a little more stress. Pessimism and otherwise obvious disdain for textbooks aside, this academic year was promised to be a return to what we were yearning for — going “back to normal.”

While I think it's safe to say that most of us don't want to remember the absolute turmoil and weirdness last year's socially-distanced and mainly online format served us, let's take a short trip down memory lane. We stared at our computer screens, got really good at answering emails and saw that, despite the fact that, yes, sitting in class in a dorm room in slippers can be pretty nice, there's nothing like in-person learning and actually attending events on campus.

The phrase “back to normal” itself almost seems as if it's a cliché at this point. It's hard to remember a time where COVID wasn't interrupting our education, ability to meet people on campus and every other aspect of our school lives. I was one of the lucky students who can say I had a COVID-free college year but even I was cautiously elated when I heard that this year was meant to be as “back to normal,” pre-COVID setup as possible.

Of course, once school started, it became clear that we still are abiding by quite a few COVID-19 norms that would have had freshman year me thinking we were living in a dystopia. Indoor mask-wearing, contact-free food pickup and even the constant reminder to submit your vaccination status is necessary but it's not exactly “normal.”

Truth be told, I'm more than okay not having complete normalcy back, considering that it seems that the school, and its students, are embracing the mostly in-person, nearly full capacity campus life. The first week I moved in, I was hit with a sense of nostalgia, thinking back to my sophomore year, when I actually saw other people on campus and felt that I was going to a university and not some semi-abandoned establishment.

I never thought I would say it, but I'm actually hap-

py — yes, I'm aware of my strong word choice — that finding a table in a dining hall is nearly impossible. Finally seeing other students in groups on campus, walking across campus to go to a class every single week and never wondering how stable my Wi-Fi needs to be to talk to my professor is a breath of fresh air. But as normal as it seems, I'm not sure if we'll ever call these pre-COVID practices normal again.

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines normal as “conforming to a type, standard or regular pattern” or “characterized by that which is considered usual, typical or routine.” However, after a year of learning virtually and dealing with COVID-related stress and uncertainty, I'm not sure if I'll ever feel as if walking around unmasked will ever feel “routine” or “typical.”

This year, we all have gained a new perspective, and hopefully, a new appreciation for the freedom of not talking about a global pandemic every two seconds. This year, I'm barely ever in my dorm room and I love it. But I'll never forget the days in which I left my section only to grab food and eat it by myself, because everyone else was tethered to their laptop in a class.

Last academic year definitely gave us a lot to think about. In just the first couple of weeks of school, I've met more people who decided to transfer schools or change their major because feeling isolated in your education can make you finally think about what you really want to do.

The next time I hear someone say that we're trying to get back to normal, or as close to it as possible, I'll know that really, the pre-COVID things will never really feel normal again. We just lived through a pandemic and extremely rocky school year; uncertainty is normal. This year, we're finally seeing things we missed come back — but this time, we'll cherish them because we know all too well how everything can change overnight.

'Shang-Chi' is a wonderful addition to the MCU

LAUREN HARRIS
TEMPO EDITOR

On Sept. 3, the long awaited "Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings" was released for Marvel fans to enjoy in theaters. Some might be worried about having to leave their house to go see this but others may be surprised to find out that this movie makes the trip to the theater worth it. Just when audiences, including me, were becoming tired of Marvel, they reel you back in with a good movie.

Shang-Chi, played by Simu Liu, is seemingly a lazy slacker with nothing going for him besides working as a valet in San Francisco and avoiding adulthood with his best friend Katy (Awkwafina). But as prominent as this zero to hero theme is in other Marvel movies, it also means that Shang has a dark past.

Shang must overcome his demons and ultimately face the person he's scared of the most:



IMDb

"Shang-Chi" becomes Marvel's newest addition to the MCU.

his father. Throughout the movie, Shang battles with himself and taps into the potential he never knew he had. This movie was extremely well-written and composed in such an interesting way and I'm glad I spent money on a ticket.

The film is directed by Destin Daniel Cretton, known for his past work on "Just Mercy"

and "The Glass Castle." As a Japanese-American, Cretton emphasizes culture and family within the action-packed film. There is more to Marvel's latest story than mindless fighting and the use of weapons of mass destruction.

"Shang-Chi" is deep and more meaningful than a lot of movies in theaters right now.

The film deals with serious topics, such as trauma, PTSD and the grieving process. The superheroes aren't perfect in this film, but come with their own baggage as well, which is refreshing and realistic to see.

The movie is a nod to the kung fu style of cinema, reminiscent of movies from the 70s, such as "Enter the Dragon."

Film producers do a good job at naturally incorporating this style into the film without it feeling corny or forced. A special shoutout must go to stunt coordinators Andy Cheng and Brad Allen for putting together many of the fight scenes in the film.

To call each fight scene a battle is an understatement. Each fight scene was a dance that flowed together smoothly and seamlessly. I was mesmerized with how epic and intense each fight was and was even more impressed by the CGI use of nature to signify the use of magic. The fight between Shang-Chi's parents was so beautiful that I found myself wanting to play it over and over again.

"Shang-Chi" is the movie to see right now, whether you're a heavy Marvel fan or not. If you enjoy a little adventure or if the urge to resist movie theaters has become too great, I'd recommend this film as your best bet.

There's more to 'The Kissing Booth 3' than meets the eye

LAUREN HARRIS
TEMPO EDITOR

Just as the school year begins, the popular teen franchise, "The Kissing Booth" comes to an end with its final installment. "The Kissing Booth 3" features the star-studded cast of Joey King, Jacob Elordi and Molly Ringwald in which their fun summer quickly turns into one of betrayal, heartbreak and hard decisions.

In this movie alone, Elle (Joey King) is torn between two colleges and two relationships. She must pick between her past friendship with her best friend, Lee (Joel Courtney) and her future relationship with Noah (Jacob Elordi) but this hard decision doesn't come without consequences, not without hurting the very people she loves.

Not only does Elle have a lot on her mind, she has a lot on her plate too. While working a summer job and babysitting her little brother, Elle must also help sell her childhood home and come to terms with starting a new chapter in her life. As a result, there ends up being more to this film



IMDb

Elle, played by Joey King, has to choose between her friendships and relationship in "The Kissing Booth 3"

than what initially meets the eye.

Discussion about this movie has widely been based around if this film is better than the first. The final installment bit off more than it could chew when it started to juggle too many plotlines at the same time;

this is when things started to go wrong.

This movie seemed cute, funny and relatable to me at first, so I originally thought other college students would love it. But my optimism didn't last long. The film became a bit too playful and teetered the

line of immaturity.

At times, certain scenes and effects became childish and I even questioned the TV-14 rating. I wondered why I, a college student, was watching this movie that seemed more appropriate for pre-teens despite the screenwriter's intentions.

The film was cringey cinematic chaos, but producers did manage to sprinkle in a few life lessons here and there, so for that I give them credit. One thing that was enjoyable was the progression of the story from the first movie to the third. Elle's character progression from the meek, nerdy and kinda bratty girl to the popular, well-liked and mature young woman heading off to college is refreshing and realistic to see.

After watching the crazy antics and central conflicts of the film, I realized that the characters aren't supposed to be likable but their purpose is to make viewers think about their own dilemmas and difficult decisions. Elle is indecisive, she has no idea what she wants to do, but don't we all go through that sometimes?

Besides the sometimes bad CGI and even worse acting and screenplay, I would consider this movie to be a treasure with some hidden easter eggs throughout. You just have to be patient enough to sit through the movie and find them.

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Marc Rebillet kicks off 2021 nationwide 'Third Dose' tour

LUIS CHAVEZ
PHOTO JOURNALIST

The entertainment industry took one of the hardest hits during the peak of the pandemic during 2020. Venues across the country were forced to shut their doors and artists reluctantly had to cancel tours and festival appearances. That is, all artists except for Marc Rebillet. Dallas native Marc Rebillet took it upon himself to put together a socially-distanced drive-in tour where fans were encouraged to come and enjoy live music while respecting current CDC guidelines. These drive-in shows garnered so much attention that Erykah Badu made an appearance during Rebillet's Dallas show.

The magic that allows Rebillet to be able to sell out both drive-in venues and traditional concert halls is the premise behind his music. Every single set he performs is improvised on the spot, with no plan or set put together beforehand. In the hands of a lesser musician, this method would quickly fall apart, but in Rebillet's hands, certified hits are conjured up each night.



LUIS CHAVEZ / PHOTO JOURNALIST

Marc Rebillet glances at the crowd as they cheer him on during his first song.

Now that vaccines are widely available and music venues have started booking acts again, Rebillet has embarked on his 2021 tour, "The Third Dose Tour." Keeping in line with his tour from the year prior, every guest is required to be fully vaccinated or provide a recent negative covid test result. As per Rebillet's usual style, robes are

the only encouraged attire at the shows.

As the tour moved up north, Rebillet and his crew stopped at The Pabst Theater in Milwaukee. The energy was palpable as robe-clad fans lined up outside, eager to get their Rebillet on. Once the lights turned down, the opening act, Immortal Girlfriend, stepped on stage and

quite literally crushed their set. Producing 80s inspired synth melodies mixed with underground linkin park-esque vocals, Immortal Girlfriend got the crowd in the right mood for Rebillet's set. Right as they wrapped up their set, one of the duo got pumped up and smashed his keyboard to pieces and handed them to the crowd.

The audience begins cheering as the lights dim one more time, which can only mean one thing: it's time for Rebillet. He suddenly rushes onto stage and jumps in the middle as the crowd goes crazy and cheers "Loop Daddy!" What followed can really only be described as an hour and a half of unadulterated funk. Marc managed to come up with song after song from the top of his head, only taking breaks to spray the crowd with champagne and get some assistance with taking his robe off from lucky people in the front row. Every song Rebillet created was done using his MIDI keyboard and a loop machine where he has the ability to stack chord progressions and vocal harmonies that result in pure auditory bliss.

Having had the opportunity to see Rebillet live three times now, it is clear that every single show is an entirely different experience. The energy that each city brings contributes immensely to the performance that Rebillet gives but, rest assured, everyone leaves thoroughly excited every single night.



Campus Life

Art reception and gallery talk showcases alumna's environment-inspired pieces

KATELYN LEANO
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

On Sept. 9, an art reception and gallery featured the work of Lewis alumna Larissa Barnat in an exhibition titled, "Disappear Here." This arts and ideas event, which took place in the Brent and Jean Wadsworth Family Reception Room and Gallery, included an informal talk along with a Q&A session for those who attended.

The art exhibition was on display from Aug. 30 Sept. 17, and showcased Barnat's art pieces. Barnat graduated from Lewis in 2018 with majors in graphic design and painting. She then went on to graduate school at Northern Illinois University, where she was a graduate assistant in painting and drawing and taught a class 2D Foundations.

"For painters like Larissa, an M.F.A. is a terminal degree, which means it is the highest degree obtained," said Natalie Swain, director of the art gallery. "While at Lewis, Larissa was a prolific painter and was already working at [a] Graduate level."

Many of Barnat's art pieces that she made for this solo show related to environmental issues. Barnat's inspiration shined through in her work, but also brought awareness to various topics, including



KATELYN LEANO / CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Art Department Chair Mark Swain asks Lewis alumna Larissa Barnat various questions about her artwork at the Gallery Talk.

sustainability and plastic pollution. Through the disappearance and destruction of the environment and personal loss, her paintings give the viewer a sense of dread and beauty.

"Coral reefs play an essential role for local communities and the world by contributing to local economies through tourism and sustaining ecosystems where people can fish," said Barnat.

While her paintings illustrated the destruction of the

environment, her paintings also depict the loss of ocean life and vital resources.

"I have been evolving my work away from formal concerns and working towards a deeper relationship to systems, processes and phenomena related to social concerns," said Barnat. "Regarding sustainability and the harm humans have on the environment, I think about water from the ocean's ruin and how there is a constant theme of a liquidity style in my paintings."

Barnat has observed how far we are removed from nature, and portrays this idea in her artwork by incorporating the pull of density and buoyancy with death and decay themes.

"Larissa's work is [very] provocative," said Swain. "It allows the viewer to question the subject and what they are seeing."

In terms of the many different color palettes she used to create these paintings, her bright color choices, like yellow and pink, may look vibrant, but they are also depressing at the same time. With the concern of events and future trends, she creates these bright and depressing pieces because the bold colors express a futuristic presence with a sense of hopelessness.

"In the issue of identity, the disappearance of the figure becomes captivated into its surroundings, becoming unidentifiable and anonymous," said Barnat. "From the impression of movement, color vibrations, swelling and warping, I show my interest in weather patterns that began to inform my art."

The concept of art is important in the Lewis community because a solo show to an artist is like a novel to a writer or a tour to a musician.

"It's the presentation of a major body of work by a single person and often represents over a thousand hours

of work," said Swain. "Artists use their show record to build their CV and increase the chances of a more robust professional opportunity."

An artist's CV is a record of their professional experiences and artistic achievements that is used to apply for juried exhibitions, grants, awards, gallery shows, commissions and residency programs.

According to Barnat, the role of color has evolved in her work for the past several years and when she uses acrylic or oil paint for her pieces, the colors come out looking more saturated as well as having a combination of bright colors with muted variations to them.

"After thinking about my paintings I created, I realized that using only bright colors tends to tune each other out but adding a darker muted color makes the saturated paint stand out more," said Barnat. "I have recently been using more blacks, violets and dark greens to add more to my paintings."

While Barnat's creations may not be on display throughout the remainder of September, the art gallery will soon feature their "As We See It" exhibition from the Chicago Society of Artists starting Oct. 1.

Habitat for Humanity partners with Will County, enhances local communities

KATELYN LEANO
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

On Sept. 10, Habitat for Humanity held its first informational meeting for current members, as well as new members who are interested in volunteer work. It was held in the Langert Family Dining Room, located in the James Gaffney Student Center.

Senior early childhood and special education major Kaitlyn Szymkiewicz, along with senior elementary and special education major Amy Tracy, are both currently the co-presidents of the Habitat for Humanity chapter.

"I think that volunteering has helped me personally... that's why I kind of wanted to step into this role as a co-president because I wanted other people to feel the same way as I do," said Szymkiewicz.

This new chapter started last semester, in partnership

with the Will County Habitat for Humanity organization, working together to schedule all of the events.

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit organization that improves living conditions for low-income families. As a well-known nonprofit organization, they believe that affordable housing plays an important role in maintaining strong and stable communities.

Since it's still a new chapter, the co-presidents' goals and objectives include scheduling more building days, as well as trying to get more people involved in order to help the community.

"This is kind of like our trial run for just figuring out what works and what we can do better next time, and then go forward and make a difference in the community," said Szymkiewicz.

Habitat for Humanity emphasizes the importance for



LEWIS UNIVERSITY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Senior aviation administration major Aaron Hea was one of many students on the 2019 Habitat for Humanity trip

students to get involved within the community. Through this volunteer work, they have the opportunity to grow as people, make a difference in their communities and create lifelong memories with the people around them.

"One thing that I kind of want to do in the future is work with the university ministry because I feel like Habitat for Humanity would be a good organization to work with the ministry..." said Szymkiewicz. "I feel like Habitat for Humanity would just be a good organization to work for the ministry and then the ministry can hopefully promote us and then we can get a lot more people involved."

Habitat for Humanity held their first event at a building site in Elwood on Sept. 18. The chapter aims to connect with others in the Habitat for Humanity network, as well as volunteers in the Will County communities.

sports



SEPTEMBER SPORTS RECAP [9/1 - 9/15]

<p>Volleyball</p> <p>9/3 vs. Eckerd 3-0</p> <p>9/3 @ Flagler 3-1</p> <p>9/4 vs. Belmont Abbey 3-0</p> <p>9/4 vs. Valdosta State 3-1</p> <p>9/10 vs. Wayne State 0-3</p> <p>9/10 vs. Western Washington 3-0</p> <p>9/11 vs. Regis 1-3</p> <p>9/11 vs. Central Missouri 2-3</p>	<p>Score:</p>	<p>Cross Country</p> <p>9/3 @ Vic Godfrey Open 3rd place</p>	<p>Score:</p>	<p>Soccer</p> <p>9/2 vs. Tiffin 2-1</p> <p>9/4 @ Purdue Northwest 3-1</p> <p>9/12 vs. Lindenwood 3-0</p>	<p>Score:</p>
		<p>Golf</p> <p>9/12-9/13 @ Screamin' Eagle Invitational</p> <p>Score: 1st place</p>			
					<p>Women's</p>
<p>Soccer</p> <p>9/2 vs. Purdue Northwest 3-2</p> <p>9/5 vs. Parkside 3-3</p> <p>9/9 vs. Northern Michigan 2-0</p> <p>9/12 vs. Lindenwood 4-1</p>	<p>Score:</p>	<p>Golf</p> <p>9/13-9/14 @ Battle of Glenmoor</p> <p>Score: 5th place</p>		<p>Cross Country</p> <p>9/3 @ Vic Godfrey Open 1st place</p>	<p>Score:</p>
					<p>Men's</p>

Track and field alumnus Isaac Jean-Paul wins bronze at Paralympics

MOLLY ST. CLAIR
CONTRIBUTOR

As track and field members race into their fall season, the story of alumnus and former track and field athlete Isaac Jean-Paul offers an extra boost of encouragement to his alma mater as he celebrates his win at the Paralympics in Tokyo, Japan. This marks the first time the alumnus has competed in the Paralympics, earning a bronze medal and bringing much pride to the Lewis community, his hometown and especially his former coach.

In 2015, Jean-Paul, a five-time All-American, won a national championship at the NCAA Division II Indoor Championships. Six years later, on Sept. 3, Jean-Paul pushed his abilities even further in Tokyo. Competing in the 2020 Paralympics, Jean-Paul brought home a bronze



ANTHONY BEIMAL

INSPIRED BY PHOTO FROM U.S. PARALYMPICS TRACK & FIELD

medal in the T13 long jump for the U.S.

The 28-year-old Evanston, Illinois native represented his country and Lewis on the world stage. In his final attempt, he jumped 6.93 meters securing his place on the podium. On top of securing a bronze medal in the long jump, Jean-Paul also compet-

ed in other events, finishing fourth in the T13 100-meter dash.

As a young child, Jean-Paul was diagnosed with juvenile retinoschisis. Despite his personal challenges, nothing has stopped the athlete from pursuing his dreams, not even a visual impairment that restricts his central and periph-

eral vision.

As someone who played basketball as a child and through high school, Jean-Paul was always an athlete. Jean-Paul's career in track and field originated in one defining moment in high school. Jean-Paul made a bet that he could beat his classmate, the fastest student on the track team, and the rest is history.

Now, Jean-Paul represents his country and, according to his former coach, Dana Schwarting, he has become "an ambassador for the whole Para community."

Schwarting coached Jean-Paul for two and a half years, and said he still follows along with the track and field team at Lewis as a "proud alum."

Schwarting spoke highly of Jean-Paul, saying, "There are no limits to his ability, just different paths he has to take to get to where he wants to be." Jean-Paul works to be an in-

spiration for every athlete, especially those with disabilities. His Instagram bio reads, "I hope this inspires you" and his motto is "no excuses." Schwarting said he's never had any.

The team USA member maintained his determined attitude and proved his coach's words to be spot on. Not even the COVID-19 pandemic could keep him from attending the Paralympics.

As the track and field season prepares current students for successful careers in their sport, Jean-Paul will continue to inspire Lewis athletes. While uncertainty surrounded the possibility of a safe 2020 Tokyo Olympics, Jean-Paul was ready to compete in the Paris 2024 Games; there is a good chance we haven't seen the last of him.

Women's soccer defeats Purdue Northwest in Indiana game

DANI NAVARRETE
SPORTS REPORTER

On Sept. 4, the women's soccer team defeated Purdue Northwest 3-2 at Pepsi Field, in Hammond, Indiana. The Flyers are now 2-0 in their season while the Pride drops to 0-1-1. This Flyer win was also the 100th career victory for head coach Chris Koenig.

The Flyers started off leading the game with graduate student forward Cali Havelka-Vanderplow scoring first during the eighth minute, with an assist by senior forward Cameron Sengstoff. This also marks Havelka-Vanderplow's second goal of the season.

Four minutes later, the Pride scored to tie the game, but it did not take long for the Flyers to get back on top. At minute 22:58, Sengstoff scored her first season goal assisted by junior midfielder Alex Dennis, followed by graduate student midfielder Maddie Levins scoring the third goal with an assist from Havelka-Vanderplow at 25:02.

The Pride scored at 29:57, but the Flyers remained strong for the rest of the first and all of the second frame as they finished with an advantage in



LUIS CHAVEZ / PHOTO JOURNALIST

Sophomore Midfielder Elisa Aguilar And Forward Junior Marcela Rosales Take Some Time After Practice To Do Extra Shots.

shots (14-10), shots on goal (8-4) and corner kicks (12-5).

The Flyers started playing scrimmage games in mid-August but this was their second official game and first away game of the regular season. "I knew it would be a physical game but we were coming off a win which is always a con-

fidence boost," said Havelka-Vanderplow. "Points on the road are very important."

Havelka-Vanderplow also shared that not everyone on the team knew about coach Koenig's 100th win, but she was one of the few. However, she did not want that to add pressure to the game, so she

kept it to herself and tried not to think about it. "We just went out to play the game and made that celebratory moment way more special," said Havelka-Vanderplow.

Koenig was not aware about the fact that this game was going to be his 100th career win either. "There are a lot of things

to focus on as we prepare for a game, that definitely wasn't one of them," said Koenig. Yet, he appreciated the effort of the group and alumni who have played under him that helped him achieve this attainment. "They are the ones that play the game, do the work and should get the credit. I've just been extremely blessed to go on this journey with them."

Havelka-Vanderplow graduated in the spring but is playing the additional eligibility year granted by the NCAA due to COVID. "My individual goals this season are to just enjoy the game and each moment I spend with my teammates," said Havelka-Vanderplow. "I'm definitely trying to just embody the present moment each day, since it flies by and this is my true last go around."

The team is looking forward to making it to conference play and winning a championship in the long term. In the short term, they want to take each day as it goes, focus on the experience throughout the season and enjoy the journey.

The Flyers continue with season play against the University of Indianapolis on Sept. 24 at the Key Stadium in Indianapolis, Indiana.



LUIS CHAVEZ / PHOTO JOURNALIST

The Flyers Believe That Their Team Culture Of Emphasizing Unity Both On And Off The Field Will Contribute To A Successful Season.