Volume XLIV, Issue 10 | November 14, 2013 | www.pepperdine-graphic.com

Why you can't get an internship anymore >> See A7



## 'A king without a

By Ricardo Avila Alvarez

Aaron Lewis was arrested on campus on last Monday for weapons possession on university grounds. A few hours after being released from the Malibu/Lost Hills Sheriff's station at around 7 p.m., Lewis went home. He lay down near some bushes in a nearby park and dozed off.

He was taken into custody Nov. 4 when DPS officers and L.A. County Sheriff's deputies found two knives in his possession. According to California law, carrying a blade longer than 2 1/2 inches at a private university is a felony.



Off-campus meal points pilot program to kick-off in spring

> By FALON OPSAHL Assistant News Editor

For more than a decade, students have been vying for the option of off-campus meal points.

Thanks to the Student Government Association executive board, in collaboration with administration, Dining Services and Housing and Residence Life, students will have the option of signing up for the off-campus meal point pilot program next semester.

"As of right now, we need people to sign up in advance," SGA president Demisse Selassie said. "We're releasing a lot of the information before Thanksgiving break so that people can sit down with their families and discuss this over the dinner table. We need a pool of students who will opt into this in oder for it to get off the ground. If no one signs up, it can be detrimental to potentially implementing and incorporating this."

Selassie said students will receive a link to create an account onto which they or their parents can transfer money, which will automatically be synced to the student ID cards to use at the off-campus locations. Besides a minimum amount and likely a maximum, students can determine exactly how much money they would like to put on



By FALON OPSAHL

and listened to what they had to

»See **SODEXO**, A8

beth Yang and Angel To.



»See POINTS, A4

CONSIDER COMMUNITY AND COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

record 2-0

This is the final issue of the fall semester.

Men's

Since Provost Darryl Tippens announced his retirement administrators have been searching for a qualified individual to fill his position.

SELECT MEMBER OF PROVOST SEARCH COMMITTEE

RECEIVE NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

**INVITE PROMISING** 

BEGIN REVIEW OF APPLICANT FILES IN DECEMBER

NARROW APPLICATION POOL TO THREE OR FOUR IN FEBRUARY OR MARCH

PRESENTIONS

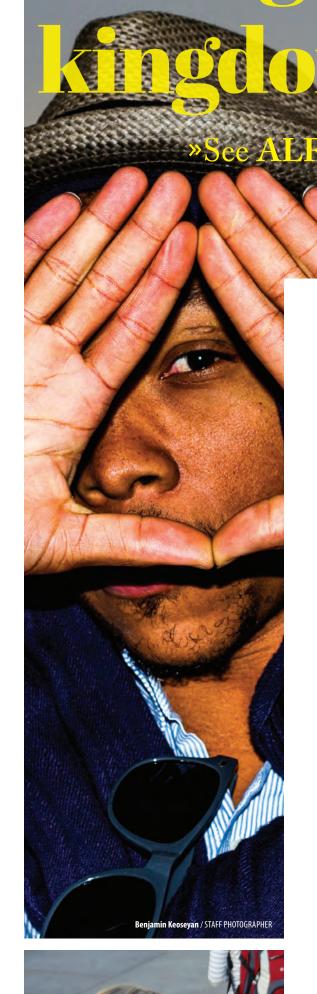
MAKES FINAL DECISION

»See Provost, A4



Hayes / CREATIVE DIRECTOR





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#### @ariaezra4evr

#sunset #pepperdine #noparkingfirelane #ocean #ayographic #malibu



#### @TIFFTIFFDOMINATION

I hate to see you go. But I love to watch you leave. #ayowaves #ayographic



#### @damonsalvatore247

Habitual Wednesday Afternoons #ayowaves #vampirediaries #season5 #healthyeatings

FRIDAY

What: Art for Art's Sake: Selections from the Frederick R. Weisman Art Foundation Festival When:11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Where: Frederick R. Weisman Museum of Art

What: Les Miserables When: 7:30 – 9:30p.m. Where: Smothers Theatre

SATURDAY

Where: LACMA

What: Winter Wonderland Where: Civic Center Parking Lot

**What:** Multiple Visions - The Crazy **When:** 7:30 p.m.

**Monday** 

TUESDAY

PLUG IN



@peppgraphic



The Graphic



@peppgraphic



graphic@pepperdine.edu

WHAT'S TRENDING

11/11/13

Veritas Forum: The most controversial Convo Pepperdine offers...according to the Twitter

world.

@katieeeep

11/13/13

WE WON! @SaucekidSupreme was 1 rebound away from a double

@chrishostetler1

double

About to talk to all the RAs

11/13/13

@pepperdine about faith and technology but I am barely awake ...

with 7 million likes #PepperdineProblems #BeautifulPeople

11/11/13

How do I know

tormai season

is upon us? new

profile pictures

@CraigDetweiler

@Pepp\_Problems



11/4/13 8:48 a.m.

Incidents - Property Damage Non-Criminal

**Location: Lower Tennis Courts - Crest Summary:** There was a report that a pole that holds up a tennis net was accidently knocked over by a Crest member during a match.

11/4/13 2:22 p.m.

Fire/Hazards — Dumpster/Trash Can

**Location: Tyler Campus Center** 

Summary: A staff member reported smoke coming from a cigarette urn. Public Safety officers responded. The cigarette burned itself out prior to the officers' ar11/4/13 9:53 p.m.

Crimes — Trespassing Location: Seaver Drive DPS Booth

Summary: Public Safety officers responded to a report of a person who was previously warned for trespassing on campus attempting to gain access to the university. The individual was taken into custody by the L.A. County Sheriff's Department for trespassing on private property.

11/5/13 4:19 a.m. Crimes — Vandalism

Location: Joslyn Plaza

Summary: There was a report of vandalism involving numerous students who threw paint on other students and prop11/5/13 1:11 p.m.

Incidents — Silent Security Alarm — Motion Detector(s)

Location: Off-Campus Location — Los Angeles

Summary: Public Safety received a report from an off-campus security alarm monitoring station advising an active alarm at a university warehouse. The L.A. County Sheriff's Department responded and performed an area check of the building. It was later determined that the alarm was triggered by a university employee.

11/6/13 1:16 p.m. Incidents — Suspicious Circumstances

Location: Thornton Administration

Summary: A staff member reported re-

ceiving suspicious phone calls on a general university phone line of automated recordings stating that a social security number may be stolen or compromised.

11/10/13 7:22 p.m.

Incidents — Heat and Smoke Alarms Location: Drescher Student Housing Apartments

**Summary:** There was a fire alarm smoke detector activation. There was no fire. Public Safety officers and the L.A. County Fire Department responded and determined the cause to be excessive smoke

from food burning on a stove top.

#### presence of darkness and decay, I assume that's just from the sagging pumpkins in my suite as they succumb to the force of gravity. It's that confusing time

Halloween is over. Knott's Scary Farm is long gone. And although I still sense an eerie

'Twas the

**Christmas** 

month before

**JULIA NAMAN** News Assistant

of year when I have no clue what I should be celebrating. My candy supply from trick-or-treating is down to disheartening Whoppers and Smarties (why do people bother to buy those, anyway?), I've had an unnerving amount of Pumpkin Spice Lattes and there aren't any jolly Thanksgiving songs to blast. Clearly, this is God's way of saying, "It's Christmastime." Right?

Now I know the leaves have not changed color yet (do the leaves even change color in Malibu?), it is warm enough to go surfing and Thanksgiving isn't for a few more weeks, but I guess I just don't care. As far as I am concerned, if the Brock House sees fit to put up twinkle lights and the HAWC is serving Peppermint Mochas, well, Christmastime is here.

There is no harm in celebrating Christmas before Thanksgiving — it's just like eating dessert before din-( ... and then again after dinner). Who wouldn't want that? And who made the rule that Christmas must be confined between Nov. 29 and Dec. 25? There is no date in the Bible of Jesus' birth, so for all we know, the actual Christmas could be in March. So just let me listen to my holiday music and put out my Nativity set already.

I used to be one of those puritanical children who did not believe in Christmas until December. Then I would have one month to cram in tree decorating, cookie baking (to be honest, it's just cookie dough eating), present purchasing, Christmas movie watching, light scouting, candy cane eating, ice skating and the attempt to read the Nativity story at least five times so I wouldn't lose sight of what is really important (and obviously I would never do that). It was madness, and I was never ready to see the season go.

Now that I begin celebrating four weeks ahead of schedule, I couldn't be happier when we start to tear down

There's another round of midterms coming up, finals after that and a looming 10-page paper that is due in the way-too-near future. I guess one could say I am coping with stress by celebrating prematurely, but really (along with my roommates, by default), I'm simply getting a head start on the holiday

I've already made a Christmas music playlist on Spotify and an extensive list of gifts to buy my family members. And if you hear Nat King Cole's Christmas album blasting through campus, there is a large probability that I'm just trying to spread a little pre-Thanksgiving-Christmas cheer. If you don't like dessert before dinner, or if your name happens to be Scrooge, please email me, and I will show you the true joys of the Christmas pre-season. Until then, Merry Christmas, ya filthy animal.

## IP introduces 500-mile summer pilgrimage

By FALON OPSAHL

Assistant News Editor

International Programs has announced a new summer special interest program for 2014: El Camino de Santiago.

El Camino de Santiago, which is another way of referring to "The Way of St. James," is a unique program offered at few other universities, according to Director of Admissions and IP Student Affairs Jeff Hamilton.

Associate Vice President and University Controller Brian Thomason proposed to lead a group of students on the pilgrimage in February after walking El Camino in 2011 with his mom, Cathy, and his dad, Phillip, who is a Spanish professor.

The Thomasons went to Spain every summer from the time Brian Thomason was 8 until he graduated college. He said he wanted to do El Camino because he had been out of college for almost 15 years and was feeling "world-weary."

"I was a bit jaded in my interactions with people, I didn't feel particularly close to God and it felt like a good opportunity to re-center my world," Thomason said.

It's difficult to talk about the pilgrimage, Thomason said, since it's such an individual experience, but it is also difficult to go through El Camino completely unchanged.

"I love interacting with the students," he said. "Twice a week, I get to teach young people, and it's amazing. So now, I'm going to get to watch them experience what I experienced. And that's going to be amazing." The obscurity and the novelty of the program

mean that many students do not know much about it. The following is some information about El Camino de Santiago in general and the International Program specifically, according to Thomason.

#### History of El Camino

Starting in A.D. 722, Muslims and Christians fought over the Iberian Peninsula for about 800 years during the Christian Reconquest of Spain. In the late ninth century, during a border battle that the Christians were losing, the bones of St. James the apostle were discovered in a chapel on the western side of the peninsula. The discovery of the apostle's bones inspired the Christian army, and they defeated the Moors. They pushed them south and established the small Christian kingdoms as a permanent presence in the north. The king of the province — Spain did not exist yet — was so grateful that he built a chapel on top of the old one, and it became a shrine to St. James. A couple hundred years later, the pope heard about this shrine and decided that he would go see it. He walked and wrote about it, which became the basis for the pilgrimage. He said everyone should take this pilgrimage to Santiago, and the Catholic Church would grant indulgences to Catholic pilgrims, just like pilgrimages to Rome or Jerusalem. Thousands of people made the pilgrimage in the Middle Ages, but the popularity of El Camino waned for a few centuries until it was revitalized in the 1900s.

#### Info about the Program

Thomason said he hopes to take 20 to 22 students, though

the exact number of spots left is unknown as students signed contracts this weekend.

The trip is from June 12 to July 28. There are several routes pilgrims can take to reach the chapel, but Thomason said he will take the group on the 500-mile traditional path from the French border to Santiago.

The IP fee is \$3,290 for room and board (flights for summer 2014 IP programs are free), and tuition is \$1,395 per unit. Thomason will teach the required class, SPAN 292 (or 592 for Spanish majors and minors), which is Culture and History of the Camino de Santiago. Chemistry Professor David Green will teach the optional class, NASC 109, Introduction to Astronomy, for the natural science credit.

#### Purpose

El Camino consists of a lot of introspective thought, as it is not just a physical journey but a mental journey as well.

Thomason said pilgrims get away from everything for the weeks of the journey. When he went on El Camino the first time, he said, "All I had to think about was: how far do I have to walk, where am I going to eat and where am I going to sleep, and everything I need is on my back. And there was something very freeing about that."

Thomason said students need to be prepared for that. "I've told the students I've interviewed that if they come back from six weeks in Spain with blisters on their feet and some course credit, then I haven't done my job," Thomason said. "You need to be a different person. That's the point of pilgrimage."

#### Some Things to Expect

1) Interaction: Thomason said the ultimate goal of the program is for students to talk to people from all different backgrounds. He said discovering how many more similarities than differences there are between humans is one of the most moving parts of the pilgrimage.

2) Walking: This is not an average hike. Students will be walking an average of 15 miles a day for six weeks. While Thomason is not requiring the students to train, he is making it clear that it is highly recommended. "It's hard," Thomason said. "But you meet so many wonderful people and have so many great experiences, and I wouldn't trade that for anything."

3) Personal Growth: Thomason said one of the things he looked for in applicants was a desire to go on a spiritual and emotional journey, not just backpack in Europe. "I needed students who were willing to tackle who they were as a person and be willing to examine that and examine their relationship with God and come out on the other side different," he said.

#### The Future of the Program

Thomason said he would love to take students on El Camino again in the future, but the program depends on student interest and feedback. "This is the first time we've done this," he said. "I'm new at it. I'm an accountant by training, not a college professor, so I'm just kind of going with it. If it works out well, then we get to do it again. If not, it was a one shot deal, and it was a lot of fun."

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COURESY OF **Brian Thomas** egin, El Camino de Sau

**ALL WALKS OF LIFE** — The Thomasons prepare to begin El Camino de Santiago with Joan from Portugal (first from left) and veteran Justine (fourth from left). Brian Thomason (middle) will lead a group on the pilgrimage this summer.

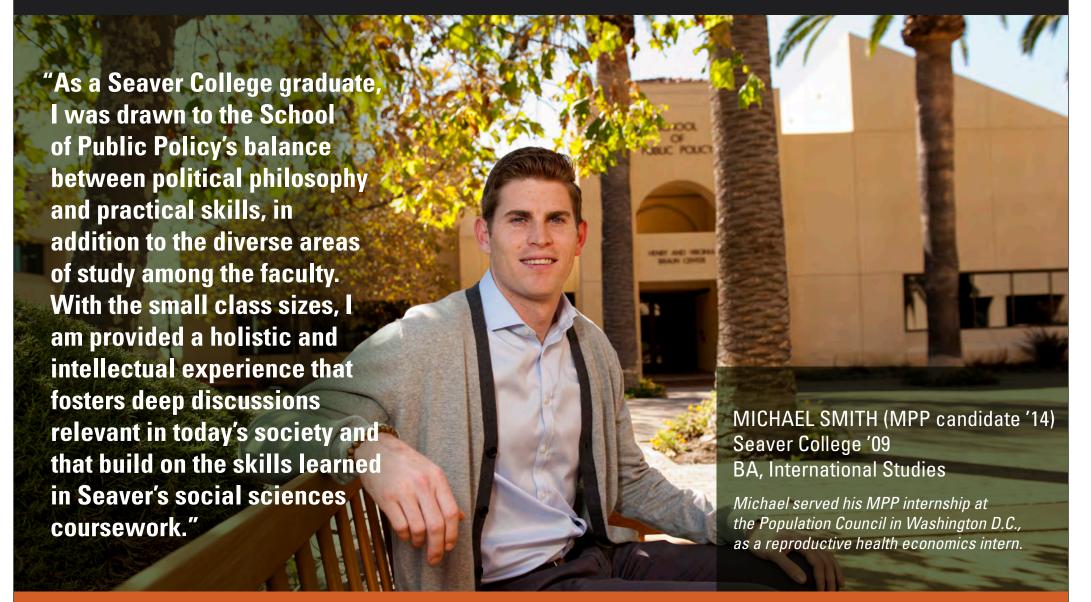


COURESY OF Brian Thomason

**A WAYS TO GO** — This road begins El Camino de Santiago with a view of the mountains pilgrims have to cross. The pilgrimage is 500 miles.

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KICK-OFF — The Student Government Association executive board leads the weekly SGA meetings on Wednesdays. The E-board worked to negotiate an off-campus meal plan pilot program that will be available in spring 2014.

## POINTS: Off-campus meal plan available

their cards for the the off-campus locations. It would be beneficial for parents, too, Selassie said, because it would ensure their children are spending their parents' money on food.

Off Campus Solutions, a sublet of Sodexo, is currently finding vendors. Selassie said OCS gave SGA a list of 60 to 80 local restaurants from which SGA chose their top 10, including favorites like MalibuYo, Chipotle, La Salsa, Ralphs and Lily's. Nothing has yet been finalized, but Selassie said OCS hopes to have one or two vendors by Thanksgiving break and five by January.

SGA has incentivized the program to businesses by passing a resolution that they would purchase the ID card-reading machines for the first five vendors who sign up that agree to give discounts to students using their IDs.

Selassie said SGA has the option of passing a resolution to buy the machines for more businesses if there is a positive feedback. If vendors want to join the program but don't want to give discounts, they have to buy the machines themselves, Selassie said.

"The issue with some of these places is that they're corporations," Selassie said. "We would have to go through the chain of command. But the small Ma and Pop shops will be more likely to sign since the owners or managers make the

final decisions. But we're still going to push for the corporations, and OCS is really good at what they do."

Selassie said SGA has been trying to implement off-campus meal points for years because of student demand, but this year, the E-board started working on it earlier than usual: in May. "We wanted to come up with a plan that was feasible for both Sodexo and Pepperdine and that was also beneficial to the student body."

There were several obstacles to overcome, according to Selassie. While forming the contracts, the parties had to consider legal issues concerning liability if something went wrong. Furthermore, Selassie said SGA didn't want the pro-

gram to damage Sodexo's business and wanted to ensure that it would be beneficial to the students.

"We were able to see all three obstacles and found solutions for them," he said.

Everyone involved has been supportive of SGA's efforts, according to Selassie.

"Dining Services is excited for the Pepperdine University students and community," Dining Services General Manager Randy Penwell wrote in an email. "I ... commend [SGA], in particular Demisse Selassie, for their work and the energy they invested to develop a very complicated process with [OCS] and Pepperdine University, bringing this long stated goal closer to reality for their organization and constituents. Without these three groups working together this would not have been possible."

Selassie said student feedback on SGA surveys and general word-of-mouth has been in favor of off-campus meal points for years. "We don't know what to expect, but we trust in the student body. We're going to market to the best of our ability to get this off the ground, but as long as we get positive feedback, then we expect it to be successful," he said.

Selassie said that SGA is already discussing how the pilot program can be improved by incorporating it into the actual meal plan. "But there are an enormous amount of hurdles," he said, "like financial aid, Pepperdine liability, fluctuating costs, rankings. It's really sensitive."

Sodexo could potentially be another vendor in the future also, Selassie said, so students could use their off-campus meal points on-campus if their points on their regular meal plan run

"It's really important that we get the student body to opt in and for parents to support it. We want to see it incorporated into our meal plans, so it's important that we get this off the ground," Selassie said.

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## PROVOST: Breaking down the hiring process

FROM A1

Pepperdine University President Andrew K. Benton has assembled a 15-person Provost Search Committee to aid him in the search for a new provost to succeed Darryl Tippens.

Pepperdine has partnered with "the national leader in executive searches," Korn/Ferry International, according to an Oct. 29 press release sent by Benton. While the search is in the preliminary stages, the firm is currently receiving nominations and applications. The search is scheduled to come to a close in April 2014.

The provost, who reports directly to the president, serves as the university's chief academic officer and as a senior member of administrative leadership. Tippens announced his retirement via email on Sept. 16, effective at the conclusion of the 2013-14 academic year.

"Doctors [Steven] Lemley and Tippens have been so good for me and my administration. I know that there's a person out there ready, willing and able to open a new chapter and help lead Pepperdine to an even better place," Benton said.

The search committee is comprised of both faculty and administrative representatives from each of Pepperdine's five schools and colleges. Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Gary Hanson and Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Psychology Margaret Weber have been named the committee cochairs.

The search committee is expected to begin reviewing applicant files in December. Applicants who show promise will be invited to meet with the search committee in person or via Skype in January. In-person meetings will be conducted at

sure confidentiality.

has been narrowed down to where we've been in our prior three or four finalists in Feb- 77 years. But I have not closed ruary or March, Benton desires the door; I've just expressed a the university community's input in addition to the search committee's recommendations. In the press release, he wrote: a vehicle will be established "for all to communicate views, hopes and aspirations for the next provost. I hope many voices will be

If all goes as planned, he desires engagement through "Brown Bag Luncheons." Members of the community would be invited to bring their lunch while the finalists make a presentation about who they are. Following the presentation, the audience would have a chance for Q&A with each candidate. This will help Benton and the committee gauge how the finalists handle faculty and administrative interaction. Ultimately, Benton will make the final decision on who will fill the position. This is a decision he does not take lightly.

"In my view, it is a non-delegable decision," he said. "It's not one that I can turn over to a committee or to a group of individuals. It's one that I have to own in my relationship with the Board of Regents."

A full description of the provost position is available online. Pepperdine is seeking "a provost with a bold vision and high energy, committed to excellence and innovation in academia," according to the provost website. Preference will be given to candidates who are active members of the Churches of Christ. Benton said he strongly prefers someone with a Church of Christ background.

"I need someone who really understands the faith heritage of Pepperdine University to

an off-campus location to en- be my closest ally in selecting deans and approving facul-Once the application pool ty and maintaining faith with strong preference ... but I might be surprised by something wonderful," Benton said.

> Applicants from both within the university and from other institutions of higher learning are being considered. While Seaver College recently achieved 50 percent ethnic diversity in their student body, Pepperdine's faculty and administration have not.

> "I'm concerned about a mostly male, mostly white administration," Benton said. Benton said he will be "very disappointed" if minorities or women do not apply for the provost position.

> Benton also foresees a tension between the confidentiality aspect of the process and the desire for community involvement. He believes that there may be some candidates who want to be considered for the position but do not want their names ever disclosed to the public. These individuals may maintain a powerful position either at Pepperdine or another institution and may not want to be viewed as leaving their current position. "It ties our hands in our ability to invest the community in this process ... but we'll have to work through this," Benton said.

> Overall, Benton said he is excited and encouraged to lead the search for the new provost.

> Complete application packets should include a formal letter of interest and a CV. Email applications and nominations to: pepperdine-provost@kornferry.com. For full consideration, applications should be submitted by Dec. 1.

■ whitney.irick@pepperdine.edu

## Burrito Might at Howdy's

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## Club Convocations to honor C.S. Lewis in memoriam

By Julia Naman

News Assistant

Fifty years ago, famed author and theologian C.S. Lewis passed away, leaving behind numerous books, poems and essays that are still widespread and renowned. In his honor, the Center for Faith and Learning created 11 club convos for students, each on a different book that Lewis authored or an idea that he theologically addressed.

"Students are still interested in Lewis, so we thought, let's get some events to help us commemorate Lewis' life," said Professor Gary Selby who organized the Lewis Club Convos. "Lewis is the most important Christian thinker in the 20th century. He's deeply influential, and his arguments still work. Any question relating to the Christian faith, Lewis probably talked about it."

According to Selby, the club convos offered a variety of topics to accommodate more than 150 students. The Center for Faith and Learning even donated the necessary reading materials. "I very much looked forward to our weekly club convo meetings," said Professor Robert Lloyd, who led a group on the analysis of Lewis' book, "The Abolition of Man."

"There was a genuine desire by all the students to learn from Lewis and grapple with his arguments," Lloyd said. "There were disagreements at times among participants, which pushed us into deeper discussions. It was an intellectually growing experience for me, too— I am a professor of international relations and not a trained philosopher. Most of all, I really appreciated the Club

Convo students and their commitment to work together in honesty, curiosity and mutual encouragement to understand the ideas presented by Lewis."

Group discussions were what freshman Rachel Reyes said she enjoyed the most about her club convo on "The Great Divorce."

"I had previously read 'The Great Divorce,' and that's why I enjoyed the Club Convo," Reyes said. "I thought I understood the book beforehand, but in the group I learned a lot more. [Lewis] offers simplistic views on the topic of Christianity that are still applicable and things that we struggle with today. He offers a scholarly perspective, but in layman's terms. He makes it simple and easy to understand."

Though most of the clubs have finished, the interest in Lewis continues. This summer, a group of students will stay in the Pepperdine London house to study works by Lewis before attending the C.S. Lewis Summer Institute at Oxford and Cambridge University.

"We've had an overwhelming positive response, so we're going to try and take as many [students] as the house will hold," said Selby, who will be a faculty member accompanying the students. "I think that's 47. Most of the students who are going have read Narnia, and maybe a couple have read 'The Screwtape Letters.' We'll be reading things that most of them have never read. Part of what I would love for them to get is a deeper acquaintance with Lewis' thought. I also want them to drink up being in Oxford and Cambridge because that will be a once in a lifetime experience."

The C.S. Lewis Summer Institute is a conference that hosts different speakers and artistic events, all centered around Lewis' work, Selby said. While students hear from philosophers around the world, they're also knocking out four units of English 308 or Religion 301.

"I'm obsessed with C.S. Lewis," said freshman Elizabeth Castleberry, who will be attending the summer program. "So it's a great opportunity to learn from some really smart people at Oxford and Cambridge."

Due to the success of the Club Convos, Selby hints that Pepperdine might continue the C.S. Lewis-themed groups, though nothing is set in stone.

"When you launch something like that, you just don't know if there will be a great turnout," Selby said. "But [responses] have been great. Part of what Lewis does is help us understand that our deepest longings are the clues to the purpose for which we are made. He explains that in some ways pleasures we experience are pointers to the nature of God and give us possibilities for imagining what God must be like. What a helpful way of understanding the Christian nature!"

Selby shared that a few years before Lewis' death, he told his lawyer, "Five years after I'm gone, they won't even remember me." Yet nearly 60 years later, Lewis' books still sell by the thousands per year — the Narnia series has sold over 100 million copies. The works of Lewis even made their way into Pepperdine, influencing the lives of students and faculty as they ask the same questions he answered over half a century ago.

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## SEAVER DEAN'S OFFICE REMINDER:

WP/WF Deadline is 5:00pm Wednesday, November 27th

(Wednesday before Thanksgiving)

Please complete any withdrawal requests prior to leaving for Thanksgiving break.



## Graphic PERSPECTIVES

November 14, 2013



Sacha Irick / ART EDITOR

#### STAFF EDITORIAL

## Graphic staff busts media myths and misconceptions

Dear reader,

As the 2013 fall semester of the Graphic wraps up with this issue, our staff decided now would be prime time to debunk some of the myths and misconceptions that we've encountered around campus.

Below are a list of commonly asked questions that we felt compelled to answer.

#### Q: Why do you publicize the university's negative press?

A: As stated in our mission statement, we are a student-run publication and not the university's public relations team. We publish both "good" and "bad" news of the university. Our objective is to report the truth, but of course, not every piece written in the Graphic is the same: We publish reviews, news, opinion, sports and cover events.

#### Q: Does the university finance the newspaper and pay for its operation?

A: The university administration provides funding for our budget that supplements our advertising revenue and covers minor equipment and supplies we use for Student Publications. Other than that, the Graphic does not receive

any additional financing unless we request it for a specific reason. For instance, over the past few years the Inter-Club Council and the administration have helped with the cost of our attendance to the Associated Collegiate Press Convention, the annual college media convention that the Graphic has sent students to for more than 35 years.

Much of our budget, however, comes from our advertising revenue to cover our operations, including printing the paper.

#### Q: Is your reporting influenced by the university's Christian affiliation?

A: Although we respect and understand Pepperdine's Christian faith and mission, our publications are not subject to any censorship or prior review by the university administration. The Graphic follows the general code of ethics in which all other national newspapers ascribe.

#### Q: What is the difference between a news article and an editorial?

A: The main goal of a news article is to inform the reader of the who, what, where, when, why and how of a story. An article should present factual

information about a situation or event in an objective manner, meaning that it should be well-rounded and include a diversity of perspectives.

On the other hand, an editorial such as this one selects a side of an issue and draws an opinion from gathered facts. The key word is "opinion." These pieces are still held to a journalistic standard; however, they are not meant to stand as fact, they're meant to represent the viewpoint of a writer or of our staff. Editorials are clearly separated in the Graphic. They can be found in the Perspectives section, and opinion columns can also be found in other sections. You can easily tell the difference between opinion and news pieces based on whether the text looks like it fits perfectly into a box or if it has a jagged right edge news pieces are always boxy and opinion pieces are not.

#### Q: Can I read the article before publication?

A: Allowing a source to read an article before publication takes away the editorial independence of the reporter. For certain articles, sources may not particularly agree with the way they are portrayed, and that could result

in the writer feeling pressured to alter the story. Those types of alterations would reshape articles into press releases. Articles are only published after a thorough reporting job has been done to tell the complete, credible and accurate story. However, if you are worried about the facts, a reporter could, if they choose, review your quotes with you, but nothing else.

#### Q: Can you stop taking

pictures of everything? A: When staffers take photos of theater performances or car accidents or student arrests, they are doing their job, and they have a constitutional right to do so. When in public, one does not and should not have a reasonable expectation of privacy. While some may be camera shy, a staff photographer is not breaking any laws by snapping pictures of a person or a public event. In journalism, photographs are key assets in helping the reporter deliver the best, most

accurate story possible. Although an article should provide information clearly without having to rely on other mediums, multimedia certainly helps add more depth and clarity to a story.

#### Q: Why is your website out of date?

A: Our website, pepperdine-graphic.com, is undergoing a makeover due to a virus. It is currently being nursed back to health. Bear with us while our site is reconstructed, and past and present content is uploaded — keep checking back. In the meantime, follow us on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook at @peppgraphic for breaking news.

We hope that this editorial helped you better understand why we do what we do. The First Amendment affords us the right to freedom of expression through our freedoms of speech and press. As a student publication, the Graphic exercises these rights for the benefit of students.

If you have any other burning questions that have been left unanswered, we invite you to write a "Letter to the Editor" or simply make the trek up the CCB stairs and drop by the newsroom. We'll leave the light on for you.

Sincerely,

the Graphic staff

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## Face-off

#### Do the new speed bumps on campus help or hurt us?

#### **HURT:**

I hate Pepperdine's new speed bumps. Especially the one at the CCB round-a-bout. My car bottoms-out every single time, even when I slow way down. I pay enough money to go to Pepperdine to not also have to pay to have my car and tires fixed! I understand the need for speed bumps in urging students to slow down, but I think the amount of speed bumps on campus now is unnecessary. The speed bumps have got me feeling in the dumps!

#### Junior

Mary Kate Glenning Denise Baumann Senior



#### **HELP:**

Although the speed bumps on campus can be annoying to drive over, they help lower the speed of cars, which keeps us safe when we cross the street. One time before the speed bumps were added, my mom almost got hit by a car because the driver was going too fast. Since we were trying to cross the street on a hill, it was impossible to see the car before it was too late.

#### **Mission Statement:** The Graphic is an editorially inde-

pendent weekly student newspaper for the greater Pepperdine community. It serves the community with news opinion, contemporary information and a public forum for discussion. The Graphic strengthens students

for purpose, service and leadership by developing their skills in writing, editing and publication production, by providing a vehicle to integrate and implement their liberal arts education, and by developing students' critical thinking through independent editorial

The Graphic participates in Pepperdine's Christian mission and affirmations, especially the pursuit of truth excellence and freedom in a context of public service. Although the Graphic reports about

Pepperdine University and coordinates with curricula in journalism and other disciplines, it is a student and not a University publication. Views expressed are diverse and, of course, do not correspond to all views of any University board, administration, faculty, staff, student or other constituency.

## Join the struggle for an internship



During college, most students begin to think about where they picture themselves working post-graduation. Securing a job opportunity always seems to be possible, especially for those students with the experience of an internship under their belts.

Academics can teach you a lot, but as my favorite saying goes, "Never let school get in the way of your education." Often, we advance the most in life through following our passions and learning through action. Hence, the internship experience can prepare you very well for a desired career choice.

However, new internship regulations may challenge the likelihood of ever holding a position as an intern at your dream company.

"Wait, did you hear that Vogue cut its internship programs?"Junior Lauren Mock asked. "It totally sucks, I was planning to apply."

Vogue, arguably the most prestigious magazine in the world, has been thought of as the ultimate internship opportunity by all fashion journalists.

Internship programs have become a touchy subject for Vogue's magazine publishing giant Conde Nast. The Conde Nast building, which is recognized as one of the nation's largest magazine publishers, announced that it is stripping all internship programs beginning in spring 2014. It has only been four months since two former interns sued Conde Nast. The interns claimed they had been paid less than minimum wage for the summer internships at W Magazine and The New Yorker, according to The New York Times. Due to the lawsuits, the doors have been closed for all those opportunities.

Some people may argue that the point of an internship is not the pay, but for the life-altering



experience. Business empires like Vogue, and other magazines within the Conde Nast building, would probably agree. For many journalists, this cut is detrimental to the hope of ever working for a well-known magazine company out of college.

Some students who are lucky enough to attain an internship in the future may view the enforcement of compensation as a positive, even if they are only paid in lunch. Perhaps new regulations are needed to urge interns to be held accountable for their tasks at work.

"I think that unpaid internships, even if a company allows school credit, but doesn't offer to pay the students, is a scam," junior Ginger Jacobsen said. "Students who aren't offered pay for their time will not work as hard. I know if I had an unpaid internship, it would be hard to motivate myself. I know the learning experience may be beneficial, but if you're working an unpaid internship, the company doesn't respect you enough."

Newly enforced regulations state that under federal law,

every employee in America is entitled to a minimum wage. This now includes interns, unless university credit is being offered as compensation for time and work effort, according to the U.S. Department of

"There are some circumstances under which individuals who participate in (for-profit) private sector internships or training programs may do so without compensation,"The U.S. Department of Labor's website said. "The Supreme Court has held that the term 'suffer or permit to work' cannot be interpreted so as to make a person whose work serves only his or her own interest an employee of another who provides aid or instruction. This may apply to interns who receive training for their own educational benefit."

The organization Intern Justice advocates payment for college students. "If you have been victimized by an unpaid or underpaid internship, contact us to discuss your case with an experienced Wage and Hour Lawyer lawyer today," the Intern Justice website states.

(Email info@internjustice.com for more information if you are a current intern not being paid, because you now deserve some form of compensation.)

However, not all companies provide only minimum wage to interns. Some high-profile internships with NASA and other government-run opportunities are still listed as paying very well.

"I make about eight dollars an hour. It's minimum wage, but honestly, the experience is worth way more," said senior Conrad Nichols, who interns for Fox News LA.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate is especially high among college students and recent graduates. Maybe a lack of internship experience plays a part in this. Don't wait until your last semester of college to search for an opportunity to work in the real world. Start applying now, knowing that your dream opportunity is becoming more and more challenging to attain.

Any interview process is a great learning moment, and depending on what you apply for, you may even be lucky and be offered generous pay. Cuts are on a company-to-company basis, so do your research now, since most applications are closing for spring 2014

Contact the Career Center if you have resume questions. Their help can spruce up your resume and present your cover letter in a more competitively dynamic manner.

The opportunities are still out there, but the problem just seems to be that the openings are much more selective due to cuts. This goes to emphasize the whole idea that sometimes "it's not what you know, it's who you know" in securing a competitive position. It's not always fair, but it's important to learn how to become well-connected.

Regardless of pay or no pay, an internship is a valuable opportunity that can advance students within any career path. Make yourself knowledgeable about opportunities available within your field of work and remember, be diligent.

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#### **Speed bumps** hurt our safety



For those of us who use motorized vehicles, Pepperdine's Malibu campus became far less welcoming over the past several months. The ever-increasing on-campus population has made parking difficult for those of us who live here and a real struggle for those who commute. There is little that can be done immediately to fix that issue, since building new parking areas takes time and money. The completely preventable blight on our streets this year comes in the form of the seemingly-innocuous speed bumps everywhere.

At first glance, most people would support speed bumps. After all, aren't they supposed to slow cars down so that pedestrians are safer and accidents less likely? In reality, their negative effects are likely worse than any benefit they may bring. While the purpose of speed bumps is to force drivers to slow down, some people adopt the tactic of traveling over them at higher speeds just to get it over with. Even for those who slow down, their cars suffer more wear and tear from driving over speed bumps than they would have otherwise. Ideally, drivers should creep over speed bumps at 3 to 5 mph, but the reality is that most people don't do this and will have to pay more money to maintain their car's suspension.

The other side-effect of speed bumps on campus that everyone will experience comes in reducing a car's gas mileage and increasing the amount of pollution. Slowing down to go over a speed bump and then accelerating back to the speed limit first puts greater wear and tear on brake pads and then causes your car to burn more gasoline as you repeatedly accelerate, rather than maintaining a constant speed and lower revolutions per minute (rpm). Even more bizarre, speed bumps have been installed for uphill stretches of road, forcing cars to sacrifice valuable momentum that must be compensated for with more acceleration.

These environmental and financial costs take a bite out of the bank accounts of students, staff and faculty alike, but they all pale in comparison to the way in which speed bumps actually cost lives every year.

The effect of speed bumps, jostling passengers and their belongings, is annoying at best and damaging at worst. For emergency vehicles such as fire engines, which are significantly heavier than the average car and carry thousands of dollars of sensitive equipment vital to saving lives and property, that jostling is a serious problem. In order for emergency vehicles to successfully navigate an area with speed bumps, they must slow to a crawl to avoid damaging any of their equipment or — in the case of an ambulance rushing an injured person to a hospital — their passengers.

Every second counts in the business of saving lives, and the additional minutes that are added on to the time it takes emergency vehicles to respond are a real question of life and death. Even more than the monetary and environmental reasons why speed bumps are bad, the difference they make in allowing emergency vehicles to respond to emergencies should be all the reason anyone needs to remove them.

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## Life lessons 'The Graduate' taught me



I couldn't really tell you what my favorite movie is, but I can say that Dustin Hoffman's first shot to fame, "The Graduate," is pretty high up on my list. Hoffman plays the protagonist, Benjamin Braddock, the bigshot college student who, after being the university track star, ladies' man, award scholar and even the editor of the school paper, graduates and finds himself contemplating his next

Ben comes home only to find out his parents already had his future all planned out for him, and the plot develops as Ben struggles to fight their plans. In the meantime, he has an affair with Mrs. Robinson, the wife of his father's business partner and the mother of Elaine, the girl his parents want him to marry. After cutting things off with Mrs. Robinson because she forbade him to see Elaine, Ben runs off looking for Elaine with only one goal

in mind: to find her and marry

This 1967 box-office hit has left me with some of my most important life lessons. Today, I'm going to tell you the five things "The Graduate" has taught me about life.

Avoiding situations won't solve all your problems, but sometimes it's exactly what you need. Stepping aside for a while without overthinking and just letting life happen lets your life unfold naturally and, more often than not, it ends up presenting you with the answers you so desperately needed. Ben focused so much on his parents expectations that he became distracted from actually thinking through and crafting his own personal expectations.

You have the right to change your path. No, you will not please everybody, but life should not just be the attempt to live up to your success from the past. Things will fall through in life, and it will be OK because there are many paths to success. Ben is pressured to live up to his college achievements and, for precisely this reason, he has a difficult

time diverging toward a path that satisfies him. We all have a different definition of success, and, at least for me, happiness is the key element. Sometimes just knowing what doesn't make us happy is enough —

the rest comes later. We will all meet a Mrs. Robinson in our lives. No, I'm not talking about having a sexual affair with an older woman, but rather about meeting someone who uses you for their personal satisfaction (whatever that may be). It took Ben a while to realize Mrs. Robinson was just using him as an outlet to release the physical frustrations caused by her broken marriage. There is nothing wrong with this; just make sure you recognize it when it happens so you can find a way to take advantage of the situation as well.

Don't commit yourself entirely to an idea that stemmed from an impulse or a chal**lenge**; you'll confuse it for a genuine intent when it's really just a biased reaction. From the beginning of the movie, Ben assumes a rebellious attitude and makes decisions based on

his rejection toward everything he is told to do. He goes out of his way to mistreat Elaine on the first date because his parents forced him to take her out but later decides to pursue her simply because Mrs. Robinson prohibits him from seeing her. Some relationships only work out in our heads — or hearts, for that matter. For Ben, the impossibility of having Elaine and the passion he developed challenging her parents' decision to prohibit him from seeing her blurred his feelings of rebellion until he confused them for love. In the last scene, as the two sit together on the back bench of a community bus after escaping Elaine's wedding, the adrenaline rush simmers down and their smiling faces turn into expressions of regret. They fell in love with the idea of not being able to be in love, and this ideal led them to realize that once they were actually together, their love affair lost its platonic magic — the magic that fueled their relationship.

Everyone has a story, even the evil Mrs. Robinson. This film shows compassion toward the villain; Mrs. Robinson was

forced to leave her aspirations and plans behind when she got pregnant with Elaine during college and had to marry Mr. Robinson. This resulted in a shattered, loveless marriage and the frustration of unaccomplished dreams that haunted Mrs. Robinson for the rest of her life. Even the villains have a story, and we must always be compassionate and keep that in mind.

Having watched the movie for the first time at such a young age, I didn't yet realize that every time I watch "The Graduate," there is something new to learn from the story. Ben's internal conflict is one we can all identify with as students. I must admit I have also found myself confused and worried at times about my life once I graduate college; I'm sure many of you have as well. Hopefully we can all take something from Ben Braddock's life in the meantime, and for those of you who haven't seen this movie yet: watch it. Trust me, you'll be surprised to discover the long list of lessons you'll take from it, like I did.

#### <u>LETTERS TO THE EDITOR</u>

Letters to the Editor must bear the writer's name, signature, class standing, major, address and phone number (except in some circumstances determined appropriate by the Graphic Editorial Board). Letters must be fewer than 300 words and will be edited for syntax, grammar and brevity. Letters can be mailed to student publications or emailed to graphic@pepperdine.edu.

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#### FROM A1

Lewis — or ALFA, as he likes to call himself — is homeless. According to Lewis, ALFA, which is his "godly name," stands for "Aaron Lewis Feeling Alive." He has been living in Malibu for two weeks after sojourning through Venice.

His bank account balance is \$10.53. To feed himself, he has been living off cold cans of soup and recently acquired bread, corn chips and peanut butter and jelly, courtesy of Assistant Professor of Religion Raymond Carr. "For someone that's homeless, those are staples. You don't need to refrigerate it. He needs to have things if stuff gets tough," Carr said.

On the day of his most recent arrest, Lewis said he was on campus to meet Carr to show him some family heirlooms and the 2009 police report in which he was allegedly framed for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon on a police officer.

The heirlooms? The two knives that got him arrested. Lewis said that the larger of the two, whose origin is Ethiopian, has been in his family for many generations. Carr wasn't aware of Lewis' visit. "He didn't go through the proper procedures," Carr said. "He didn't tell me he was coming."

Lewis first met Carr outside the Starbucks in Malibu Colony a few days before the arrest. He was sitting down behind two students who giggled as Carr strolled by.

Lewis, who labels himself as an "everybody guy," said he felt Carr's energy, that he had a "light that beamed." After Lewis introduced himself, Carr gave Lewis his business card. Lewis accepted it since Carr "seemed like the only person around which he could let his guard down."

Carr said they had a very brief conversation but one in which he learned that "both of us came from African-American communities that are somewhat impoverished." After their first encounter, they bumped into each other a couple other times, and Lewis insisted on telling Carr his story.

On the Monday of the arrest, he woke up in the park and came to Pepperdine. He walked up through the hills outside campus and set foot inside the bookstore. After a few minutes, he ate lunch in the Caf and then returned to the bookstore to charge his smartphone, from which he called Carr.

Lewis left him a voicemail: "Ray, man, it's ALFA, the guy from Miami. I'm here on the Pepperdine campus — call me. I'd like to sit down, have an audience and talk to you. I think maybe you're someone I could talk to about something. So call me. I'll talk to you later. Peace. Call me."

Carr would only receive the message after Lewis had been apprehended. Carr said he understands why Lewis broke the law. "The law doesn't allow room for people's [like ALFA's] needs to be met easily," he said. "He's decisive, assertive. When we're being assertive, the rules don't fit our agenda."

Lewis is a homeless man with a smartphone, a watch and respectable clothes. On the day he was arrested, for instance, he wore a red squared flannel shirt, a scarf and hiking boots.

On the day of the arrest, Lewis asked a student where to find Carr and left for Elkins auditorium, where Carr spends much of his time. After a couple unfruitful minutes inside the building, Lewis stepped out to find a Department of Public Safety officer asking him to show his student ID.

Lewis explained the reason for his visit and even showed the officers Carr's business card. As he was leaving the scene with just a warning, he was asked if he had any weapons in his possession. Lewis voluntarily revealed one of his two daggers, both of them inside their sheaths.

Just a few moments later, Lewis was being put into the back of a sheriff's patrol car. "ALFA is very prideful," Carr said, which is why he was surprised to see Lewis crying when

he was being arrested. Carr also said he was surprised that Lewis was homeless. "I didn't know he was homeless

until he was crying in the back of the police car. He thought he had gotten me into trouble. It broke my heart."

Right before his arrest, Lewis asked Carr to pick up his clothes, which he stashed in the park where he sleeps. Carr agreed and went to pick up the bags of clothes, one of which held an aloe plant that Lewis uses as a sun tan lotion.

Lewis was then transported to the Malibu/Lost Hills Sheriff's station. While in custody, Lewis contacted Carr, who showed up at the station and invited him to dinner at Domino's Pizza before dropping him off at his temporary home.

#### THE JOURNEY

"It's about the nature of my own beasts; it's about God," he

Aaron Lewis was born in Lake City, Fla. on April 29, 1981. A few years later, Lewis and his family moved to Liberty City, a neighborhood in Miami known for its high crime rate. According to Onboard Informatics, Liberty City has a crime rate three times higher than the rest of the U.S.

Lewis was in and out of jail since he was 15 years old, with most of his crimes being related to fighting, which he deemed essential. Lewis is 5-foot-9, and with most of his friends measuring in at more than six feet, he had to learn how to fight to survive. During that time, Lewis said he worshiped women, drugs and violence. He was in a dark place.

It was then that Lewis became ALFA. He started to be "enlightened by life and death at the same time." He started seeing friends die from the poor choices they had made. He wanted to be an example for them. He wanted to make himself a light all his friends could

"Slowly but surely I'd found faith," he said. "But I didn't know what kind of faith that really was. I was raised with a sense of being better, being amazing, being a leader no matter what."

The road to become that

when Lewis decided he wanted to be a truck driver. He felt intrigued by the profession and one day decided to leave his family and hitchhike from Miami to Arizona.

Truckers took him from the Sunshine State to the Grand Canyon State where he got his trucking license. From the age of 22 to 25, he drove big rigs another term for a semi-trailer truck — across the country. Lewis said it felt fulfilling. "I saw the United States and realized that there was a world many people don't see," he said. "I fell in love."

The next place that formed part of his love affair with America was California. In 2005, Lewis landed a trucking job in Pomona, Calif. He then moved to Frazier Park, Calif. and got involved in the movie industry with Paskal Lighting. For the next three years, he loaded and unloaded equipment onto movie sets.

Then, in 2009, Lewis lost his job. He didn't join the American Trucking Associations in time to avoid the pitfalls of the U.S. financial crisis. When he flew home to visit his family for his birthday, his entire life changed.

On April 29, Lewis was meeting up with some friends at Las Olas Boulevard, a dining and shopping complex in Ft. Lauderdale. After trying to defuse a verbal altercation between his friend and a patron of one of the businesses, he was attacked from behind.

Lewis' face was smashed into a wall, chipping one of his front teeth, which is still visible today. He responded by striking back at the male figure that attacked him. Turns out it was a policeman. Lewis was taken to prison.

When he read the police report, Lewis said he was appalled. He was being charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon on a police officer, with the report claiming that Lewis had swung a knife at a police officer seven times. Lewis said he never did such a thing.

Lewis faced 10 years in prison. He said he was afraid but was not going to give up without a fight, which is why he took his

case to trial for two years, from 2009 to 2011. The jury found him guilty. "This is when faith changed me," he said. "I was never caught up in any religious figure like Jesus Christ, but the spirituality came."

The judge overhearing his trial granted him a second opportunity due to good attendance to court and sent him to the Broward County Detention Center where he spent seven months and three weeks, from April 15 to Dec. 7. It's unclear why he was released or if he's facing charges at the moment.

When he was released, Lewis had no money. He had spent every cent on his private attorney, claiming if public defenders or "pretenders," as he called them — had taken his case, he would be in jail right now.

Lewis then got on a plane back to California. Ever since then, he has been "on the grind" trying to survive. He got his trucking license suspended because of the criminal charges, so he hasn't been able to get a job.

Lewis arrived in Venice, staying with different people for rent money. About two weeks ago, he moved to Malibu. He is currently living in an undisclosed park, where he stashes his clothes near bushes whenever he needs to leave his "bed."

Lewis feels like a "reincarnated king" and said that to get his kingdom back, he needs to continue to maintain his spirituality. He even compared himself to Moses, the religious leader. "I came from nothing," he said. "I was almost killed. I had a divine intervention."

Lewis said he is showing the prosperity of his spirit without the need to have anything material. "I have earned a divine favor and divine grace to get out of my current situation," he said

Even though he doesn't have a permanent home and struggles financially, Lewis is a prideful man. "I don't want anybody feeling sorry for me. I want people to know they are looking at a king with no kingdom."

Nevertheless, ALFA has hope. "You're going to watch grace, a miracle, and you're going to be part of it."

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IN TOUCH — Juniors give their feedback at the town hall. Responses led to changes in the Caf.

#### SODEXO: Town Hall leads to direct results

FROM A1

"I was very pleased to have the opportunity to meet up with some of the junior class," Penwell wrote in an email. "It provided me/us a chance to meet and greet as well as to hear the suggestions of our clientele on what is going well and what may not be going so well which allows us to respond and make improvements rather quickly if necessary."

The representatives said the students raised several issues, and many of them were fixed quickly.

"A lot of people talked about being health conscious," Yang said. "And students had a lot to say about what they're putting into their bodies. The fact that Randy took time out of his day and came out and helped us so much means a lot."

The two most prominent student concerns, according to the representatives, were healthy options and nutritional information.

"One girl said she wanted to see kale, specifically kale," Rodriguez said. "And now kale is in the salad bar. I saw it there ... within a week."

Rodriguez said when a stu dent asked about nutritional information on Sodexo's website, Penwell had the information online by the next day.

Another student, according to the representatives, asked whether all of the food at the salad bar was organic, which gave Penwell the opportunity to clarify that not all of it is and explain why.

The representatives said Penwell told the juniors that significantly fewer vegetarian options are sold each year than meat options. If more of those options were offered, it would raise prices. Sodexo is trying to balance student demand for options and low prices.

"It's good that the students are more aware, and now maybe we can post something to let students know,"To said.

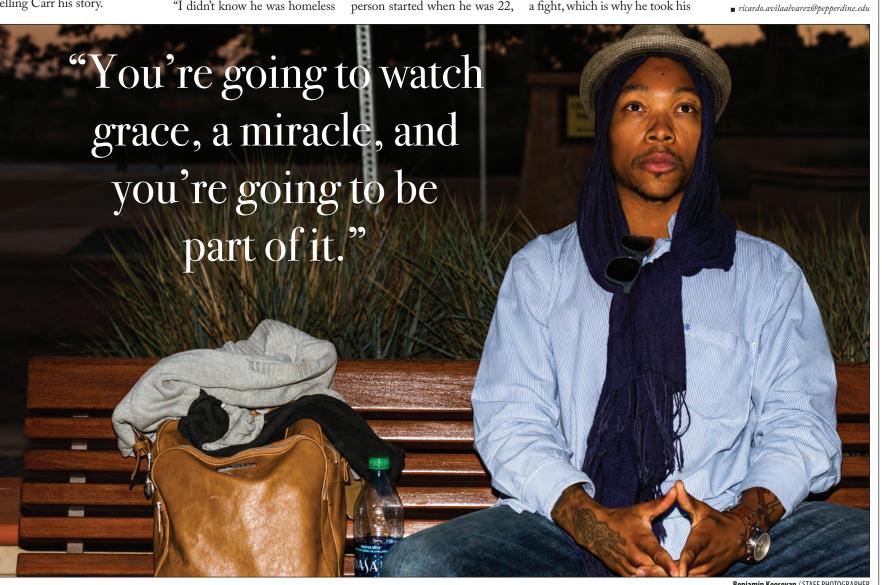
The conversation was successful because the students were cooperative and relaxed, and Penwell was willing to listen and respond to the students' feedback, according to the junior representatives.

"I am very appreciative of the opportunity afforded me to meet with that or any group," Penwell wrote, "and we are fortunate to have the privilege to provide our services for the Pepperdine University commu-

"When he was speaking, Randy was incredibly responsive, very helpful," Yang said. "He was really great to have." She also said students should always feel welcome to approach their SGA representatives and to talk about problems or make

suggestions for solutions.

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# LIFE & ARTS

November 14, 2013



#### TO LOVE ANOTHER PERSON IS TO SEE THE FACE OF GOD

By CAROLINE PITTS

Staff Writer

Imagine turning the pages of a history book, the golden pages breathing dust and the brown spine cracking under the weight of the heavy parchment paper. Now imagine having the words on the paper brought to life before your very eyes.

Smothers Theatre has been transformed into the manifestation of a history book. There is a dusty pallor to the stage as the lights come up on the set. We are taken back to a dark time of Paris' history to examine how a political uprising in a time of corrupt government affects a small group of revolutionaries.

"Les Miserables" examines politically corrupt Paris and the idea of grace as we follow Jean Valjean on his journey for freedom from a corrupt past. Politics, morality,

faith, religion, romance, courage and forgiveness are all themes that unfold as the story progresses.

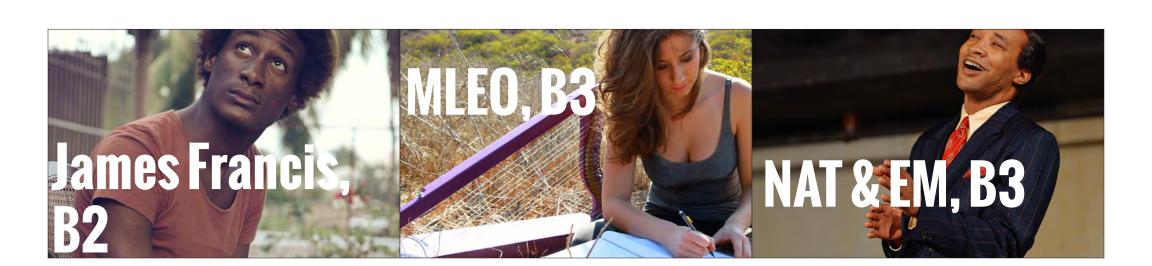
After 28 years of packed performances, "Les Miserables" continues to be a record-breaking musical around the world and has earned even more acclaim with the release of an Academy Award-winning film. Pepperdine was fortunate enough to be one of the first universities to secure the rights to the production. From there, Director Cathy Thomas-Grant undertook the challenge of bringing this world-renowned show to Smothers Theatre.

"The student revolutionaries in 'Les Miserables' are fighting for the rights of those who live on the fringe of society. Physical and spiritual hunger and thirst are

at the heart of this story. Valjean is a man who seeks to heal his bitterness and find peace by becoming a fountain of compassion. 150 years later, Victor Hugo's story is still relevant the world over," Professor Thomas-Grant wrote.

As director, Thomas-Grant has devoted herself full-heartedly to not only the show itself but to the students and cast members who are a part of it. Freshman Matthew San Hose said, "What I learned from Cathy is the importance of being mindful and respectful of others. She is mindful of the fact that there is a life outside of theatre and checks up on how students are doing." Senior Kylee Slee said that "Cathy created a world and it came to life."

»See **LES MIS**, B2





#### Run, Holcomb, run

I ran a 10k this weekend, and it was the worst thing that's ever happened to me.

I ran a 10k for breast cancer on Sunday in Calabasas, and though the cause was wonderful, someone should have told me beforehand you're allowed to donate to charities without having to run six-and-a-half miles afterward. How this loophole slipped past me I don't know, but I won't soon forgive myself.

The first terrible thing about this 10k was that it happened at the same time as the Malibu Half-Marathon, which means nobody cared about what I saw as a life-affirming accomplishment. When I posted a picture to Instagram, it was sandwiched between two photos of half-marathon finishers. If a picture's worth a thousand words, mine got the point across in 30: "I'm so lame and pathetic I just ran a half-half-marathon instead of challenging myself like the photos you'll see above and below this, and now my knees feel like putty."When I got home I waddled into my room with the prudence of an elderly statesmen; my roommate was basically doing sprints in the distance between the kitchen and his room.

He ran the half-marathon earlier, and looked just as healthy as the minute before his race. I had run six miles, and was already googling, "Knee+Sore+Euthanasia."

Another terrible thing about the race was that half of it was uphill. The optimistic reader might say, "but then half of it was downhill," to which I say calm down and just let me have this one. No one told me the simple 10k I thought I was running would turn into the brutal equivalent to climbing Kilimanjaro. Seriously though, Calabasas has the elevation climb of a large mountain.

Other terrible things that happened to me include: a Hunter Hayes song came on twice in the same playlist and really bummed me out, a sweet little girl handed me water at mile three, and I wasn't coordinated enough to maintain a normal pace and also get the water in my mouth, and I drank a Red Bull minutes before the race and had lost feeling in my chest by mile two.

But the most awful thing that happened to me at the 10k on Sunday was that at the very end, as my legs felt like they would break any moment, and I found the last bit of energy inside myself to reach the finish line, some old geezer came sprinting past me in an effort to finish higher on the results board. There must have been 200 people at the finish line cheering us on, and here is this geriatric punk making me look like an idiot. So I sprinted past him and totally beat him, which was awesome and rewarding and not the least bit pathetic on my part. But the greater issue is how embarrassing that could've been for me. I can't even imagine.

I guess it wasn't all bad, though. The sponsors raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for cancer research, and support groups tangibly got together to display the strength of will power and community, and afterwards, I even felt like I had a good time.

I just wish my playlist wouldn't have repeated those Hunter Hayes songs.

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## Rogue Wave BEN HOLCOMB 'Les Mis': I dreamed a dream...

One of the most magical parts of Pepperdine's production of "Les Miserables" is the ability to harness the talent of the actors and actresses to the production value. "Les Miserables" is told primarily in song, but is not heavy on dance. So often it is a challenge to keep the attention of the audience when music is the medium of communication. Some productions depend heavily on technical features to heighten the drama or further the plot. The performance in Smothers depends on the talent of its actors to tell the story and keep the audience informed.

Jean Valjean, played by Senior Deno Nicandros, convinces the audience of his transformation from a thief to a man devoted to internal reform simply through song. The leads are strong in a vocal and acting sense. Rarely can you leave an audience captivated and moved by a lone figure singing about emotional struggle, yet the director is clearly aware of the talent in the cast and uses that to its own benefit.

The cast is composed of 42 players, and there are many more working backstage on costumes, lighting, makeup, set design and sound. Putting on a production of this size and popularity is no easy feat.

Rehearsals generally go from 6 to 10 p.m., with extended hours on the weekends and during tech-week and load in. Freshman Matthew San Hose, who plays the parts of the foreman and Courfeyrac, said that balancing rehearsal and school is doable but not fun: the "hardest part about the rehearsal process is figuring out how to handle yourself outside of the show." Senior Kylee Slee has been in two full operas at Pepperdine. "I'm honored to be a part of the cast of 'Les Mis' since we are one of the first colleges to receive the rights. I think it's a great way to end my Pepperdine career."

The talent at Pepperdine is

showcased incredibly in "Les Mis." From the solos to the group numbers, it is impossible not to feel a part of the story as it unfolds and builds to include more facets and layers. You love to hate Thenardier and his wife, played by junior Tyler Burke and junior Missy Marron, as they finagle their way in and out of the plot, the picture of sleaziness at its finest. Have your heart stolen as you watch Marius, played by sophmore Jon Gibson, and Cossette, played by Sophmore Chloe Jasso, fall in love only to have your heart broken as you watch Eponine, played by senior Marina Moore, make the ultimate sacrifice for what matters to her

The amount of work and heart that has gone into this production is evident. One thing is for sure, the cast and crew have worked days on end to curate a theatre production worthy of your attention.

> Box Office Dates: Nov. 14 to 17 Nov. 21 to 23 Location: Smothers Theatre **Prices:** \$20 for public

\$10 for students

\$16 for faculty

 $\blacksquare \ caroline.pitts@pepperdine.edu \\$ 

## Rising Star of Suriname

By CHIRAG PATEL

Assistant Life & Arts Editor

James Francis is a young rapper, singer and songwriter who is looking to break into an industry as competitive as any other. He has the drive, the raw talent and the backing of a record label, but also the unrefined and at times flawed sound typical of any newcomer to music. Although Francis has been creating music for no more than a few years now (he is still only 16), his music expresses moments of artistic maturity indicative of the potential the teenage artist is capable of.

"The Tour," his first release as a mostly solo act, is an EP that allows Francis to explore the wide range of his talent but seldom delves deep enough to push the limits of the young artists burgeoning skill. The EP lusts after promiscuous women, money and drugs, often nearing an emotional criticism of the subject matter but unfortunately pulling back at the last minute to do no more than flirt with a deeper context. "The Tour" is an album that portrays the more basic indulgences of party-seeking youngsters, with moments of introspection that are the true highlight of the album few and far between.

As a whole, "The Tour" is a fun EP, with 13 tracks well suited for a cruise down PCH or a kickback with friends. Francis has an impressive, if not repetitive, rhyme flow, but his true talent comes through in songs in which the artist sings. His singing style is reminiscent of Frank Ocean, epitomized by slow and rhythmic intonation that nearly perfectly emphasizes the tone of each track. It is during the singing portions of "The Tour" that Francis is able to fully express himself emotionally.

Production on the album is a blend of originally produced sounds and remixes of various songs and beats from other artists across a myriad of genres, including pop, rock-n-roll and EDM. Francis adds his own lyrical take on each beat, creating a reinvention of popular tracks that feels at times familiar but genuinely new. Most of the original production work focuses on simplicity, creating basic beat breaks, which are differentiated by the inclusion of remixed content. The format fits well for what "The Tour" sets out to do: introduce an upcoming artist and showcase his lyrical breadth across a wide musical range.

"The Tour" is a solid introduction for Francis as a young solo artist floating on the cusp of stardom. The album is fun if not fully formed, groovy if not original and altogether more of a mixtape if not an album. It serves to highlight his potential — something he has a lot of — and is a fine preview of what's to come from the talented

Check out James Francis and his music yourself at http://musiqcenter.com.

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## Exclusive with James Francis

The boy who rung wolf

By Maria Prada

Perspectives Assistant

Suriname native Isaiah Leeflang, 16, started his musical career at a very young age. He was hesitant to answer my question about his age at first. He later explained, "I am young, but I never tell people my age because they'll treat me differently, like a 16-yearold, not an artist."

He attributes his stage name, James Francis, to his grandfather whose name is Frank, and James, a character from a story about his favorite animal, the wolf. "Coincidentally, two of my favorite singers are James Fauntleroy and Francis (Frank) Ocean," he said.

The first thing you notice when you talk to him is his extremely mature way of speaking — he also looks like an adult well into his twenties. Surprised to find out his real age after talking with him for a while, I couldn't help but point out his impressive level of maturity. He laughed shyly and said, "I've heard that before, but it's because of the way I grew up. My dad walked out on my mom when she was pregnant, and she raised me with her younger sister, Conchita, who I also

refer to as my 'mom." While

still very young, his aunt moved to Beverly Hills and his mother took up a full time job. "My mom works all day so I basically raised myself — I'm always in my room writing or watching TV; that's actually how I learned to speak English so well," he said in a perfectly clean American

Francis got into the music business at a very young age. When he was 13, he was part of a small group called SET, where he created a song that made it to FunX, one of Holland's most famous public radio stations. That same year, SET was chosen as the opening act for Omarion's concert in Suriname. "Omarion took me and the other two group members of SET to the movies when he found out that we were his opening act," Francis said excitedly.

Early this year, Francis recorded the two songs that brought him to sudden fame. "I recorded 'Coca,' but I wasn't very satisfied with it at the time. After a couple of weeks, I recorded another song, 'Bonnie.' I wasn't very satisfied with that one, either," he said. After laying low with his music for awhile, Francis found the two old tracks on his computer and decided to

upload them to his Sound Cloud account before leaving for a concert in March. Francis dates his sudden launch to fame back to that day.

"While at the concert, people came up to me and said 'Yo, I love your new songs!"" At first, Francis said he had no idea what all these people were talking about; he never expected those two songs to blow up the way they did. "The next day, my Facebook blew up with comments, likes and shares but I was still pretty underground because radio stations wouldn't give 'Bonnie' that much airplay," Francis said.

Just a couple of months later, Francis and his team decided to shoot a video for "Bonnie," whose script he cowrote with Suriname director Sander Comou through MebRecords, his manager's recording company.

"After launching the video, that's when the real fun started," Francis said with a smile. "Bonnie' got 60,000 views in five days in a 500,000 person country — it's the number one video in Suriname still to this day."

After the unexpected success of "Bonnie," Francis' social and academic life changed completely. Francis plans on

staying in school and obtaining a high school diploma when he moves to California from Suriname next year to launch his second album.

As for his social life, Francis says fame has only brought him great things. "I never got attention from girls before "Bonnie." I've always been really shy, so now that girls are coming up to me and showing interest, my lack of 'game' hasn't really been a problem," he said with a laugh. "I don't know, I'm just enjoying everything to max right now."

During the summer, Francis recorded his first EP which he titled "The Tour" and launched on Sept. 28 this year. "Bonnie" and "Coca" are part of the twelve-track album that also features six other artists. He will not sell any of his tracks from "The Tour" because, although he created all the lyrics, he used a collection of other artists' beats and instrumental tracks that he mixed and to which he later added his voice.

"Most of the songs have beats from an old mix tape by one of my favorite groups, Ratatat," said Francis, referring to the experimental electronic group from New York. His EP will be officially available for free download by the end

of the month, but the Graphic got exclusive access to the album before its launch; you can find the link to download "The Tour" on the Graphic's website (pepperdine-graphic.

The young artist plans to go on iTunes next year with a completely new album with all-original tracks. "What I'm doing now [with "The Tour"] is getting people to start knowing my name and music so that, for my second album, I'll be able to expand internationally and hopefully plan a tour," Francis said. He has already recorded the first single for his second album and is currently in the process of pre-producing its music video with his team.

One of Suriname's most popular newspapers, "Dagblad Suriname," recently published an article on the young, upcoming artist. "It would no surprise us if Francis really succeeds; his music and style remind us a bit of Michael Jackson's early days and of Prince, both of which have had a big impact on the music industry," Dagblad wrote.

Hopefully Francis will remember to stop by Malibu for a show when he visits the United States in his upcoming

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## Feel the musical charisma of Audrey Reed

By RICARDO AVILA

Assistant News Editor

Audrey Reed took her iPhone out and opened iTunes. She then entered "MLEO" into the search bar. It was finally there. After everything she had gone through, it was finally there. After all the bullying, all the loneliness, heartbreaks and sacrifices, it was finally there. MLEO's EP was finally available for download on the iTunes store.

Reed started reading sheet music when she was just 3-and-a-half-years-old, a practice that reinforces Phyllis' short description of her daughter's traits: passion, love and perseverance.

"It would make me feel closer to God." This is what a 7-year-old Reed told her mother when she was asked why she wanted to play the harp. The harp would be Reed's second instrument, after learning how to play the piano at the tender age of three. The saxophone, guitar, flute and mandolin would come later.

"If she wanted to do something you wouldn't hear the end of it." From ages five to seven, she pushed her mother to get her into harp lessons. Laurie Buchanan, a famous harpist who gave lessons at the University of Texas at San Antonio, took Reed under her wing.

Audrey has lived in Oklahoma, San Antonio and twice in Sacramento; her father was a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force, which is why the Reeds moved around. Audrey and Giovanna didn't have a lot of toys growing up, and had to rely on their imaginations for entertainment.

They created an imaginary world called the Island of Robair that even had its own currency, language, sections, enemies and a dark spot reserved for the bad guys called "Creepers Corner."

When Audrey was in the sixth grade, her school was hosting a talent show, which first exposed the world to Reed's talent: singing. She per-

formed "Colors of the Wind" from "Pocahontas."

Audrey attended the Sacramento Traditional Jazz Camp. Then came the Sacramento Jazz Jubilee, the Monterey Jazz Festival and the prestigious Downbeat Magazine awards for vocals and tenor saxophone art performance. Reed's band director Josh Murray was instrumental in inspiring her to pursue her dreams. "I am very grateful I was able to learn from him," she said.

Reed was part of the jazz program at Rio Americano High School in Sacramento, in which she played the tenor saxophone. When auditioning for the part, she taught herself how to play the instrument in three days.

Reed is multifaceted. Besides music, her mother always emphasized the importance of being active, something that was reflected when Reed qualified for the Junior Olympics in swimming when she was in the third grade. Besides music, she was involved in both swimming and Olympic weightlifting during her high school athletic career.

Auj, as some of her friends call her, is also a published author. When she was 16, she wrote a children's book called "Mehotep's Melody," a tale about a little boy who turns his bow into a harp and plays for the pharaoh.

Reed also suffers from hypothyroidism, which is a condition in which the thyroid gland does not make enough thyroid hormone. This can lead to fatigue, joint or muscle pain, sadness or depression and weakness. But Reed didn't let the obstacles stand in her way.

After a year of sojourning, she returned to Rio Americano. Reed mentioned that the experience pushed her music to new levels. "It motivated me more because I didn't have a good friend base. I ended up doing a lot of things on my own," she said. After earning her high school diploma in Sacramento, she moved to Malibu.

Reed is an advertising major,



**WRITE AWAY** — Junior Audrey Reed, with her beloved harp, composed lyrics as way of expressing herself. Her love of music inspires her to create rhyming couplets and true artistry with a pen.

and according to her it was in high school when her passion for music started coming alive, something that brings us to the beginnings of MLEO, which is pronounced "Mah-Lee-O."

Reed and her band members, bassist Nick de la O and guitarist Victor San Pedro all went to Rio Americano. After a solo performance at the Malibu Inn, Reed realized she needed a band; she realized she couldn't go on performing by herself. "It was boring and cliche. It wasn't what I was trying to express through my music," she said.

Reed picked up the phone and called De La O and San Pedro, who are now students at Cal State Northridge. Their "passion for music," as Reed mentioned, was what brought them together and made the band come to life. The band, however, didn't have a name.

One day Reed, who mentioned her admiration for ancient civilizations, was bored in class. She started writing band names in her notebook, and came up with four symbols that have been represented throughout history: man, lion, eagle and ox.

Although the inspiration for the name was based on historical content, Reed claims that MLEO doesn't strictly mean man, lion, eagle and ox. "I liked how it didn't have strong associations with it so we could shape our music to that name so when people heard, it would

mean nothing but us."

Drawing inspiration

Drawing inspiration from jazz idols like Ella Fitzgerald, Reed is the songwriter and self-proclaimed manager of the band. She said MLEO has drawn inspiration from many different styles of music, including alternative music, rock, indie and jazz.

A song that exemplifies this stylistic combination is Round Two. One of the more upbeat songs in the EP, it was inspired by a line in James Blake's "Retrogade." "Ignore everybody else, we're alone now," helped Reed come up with a song to explain the concept of following one's ambitions with disregard of what others think of them.

Even though MLEO's EP,

which was released on Oct. 5, only has four songs, Reed labeled the recording process as something that takes up a lot of effort.

After researching several recording studios in Los Angeles, MLEO decided to settle for TrackShack Studios in Sacramento. The band recorded for four days; the first one was dedicated to band performance, the second to vocals and the remaining ones to sound mixing.

When the EP was finalized, the band signed up on CDbaby.com to make their record available on iTunes, Amazon, Spotify and Google Play. CD-baby.com is an online music store specializing in the sale of CDs and music downloads from independent musicians.

Reed went home on the Oct. 4 long weekend at Pepperdine expecting to reconnect with family after more than a month of classes. The next day while standing in her kitchen, Audrey Reed took her iPhone out and opened iTunes.

When iTunes showed MLEO's tracklist, she felt conflicting emotions. "It was a mixture of 'It's about time' and 'I'm not ready for this yet." Reed called De la O and San Pedro to tell them the good news; it was time to celebrate.

MLEO's future? Embracing "motivation and drive," according to De la O. Reed has set her sight on taking MLEO to greater heights. "I don't know about big time, but at least to a point where we can touch people with our music. I really believe it can go somewhere; I really do.

"I can't set my hopes any lower than us being a very successful band. Putting our sights any lower than that would be a mistake."

MLEO is set to record the rest of their album, which will be tentatively named "Sunken City," in December. The release of the full album is scheduled to be around May next year.

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## YouTuber gives advice with Christian focus

By Breanna Grigsby

Life & Arts Editor

Sophomore Liz Chapman is a humble influencer among us. Chapman hosts a YouTube channel called LizziesAnswers, where she goes by her YouTube name Lizzie Reezay. Her channel has had more than 13 million views combined with her more than 150 videos uploaded.

LizziesAnswers was born out of summer boredom when she was a 15-year-old under the influence of her passion for film and editing. Her channel hosts primarily advice videos, in particular relationship advice, and Christian videos.

Her most popular video, titled "13 Signs A Guy Likes You!!!!!!," has more than four million views and her next most popular, "13 Signs a Girl Likes You!," has more than two million. Her relationship advice videos are her most popular and typically average more than 100,000 views per video.

YouTube is a popular pastime for many students, LizziesAnswers has been viewed by more than a few Pepperdine students. Some even chose to attend Pepperdine because of videos that Chapman has uploaded, in which she gives tours of the dorms.

"I was an NSO leader this year and about half of the



Allison Hubbard / ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

FOCUS LENS— Sophomore Liz Chapman sets up her camera, ready to film another episode of LizziesAnswers. Apart from her YouTube image, she aspires to work againt societal injustice and poverty.

freshman who I met knew who I was and had seen my videos,"

Although Chapman sees the number of views her videos get, the experience of being recognized so frequently is an interesting experience. "You don't realize virtually how many people you're actually impacting."

Chapman does not place the value of her work in the

amount of views she receives but rather in the content of her videos and the influence she is able to yield as a result. Her most important passions lie in her faith and working to right societal injustices. The two she is most passionate about are poverty and slavery.

"What I want to do with my life is not related to my YouTube channel, but I want to work for International Justice Mission or some sort of poverty fighting organization and move to another country and help end slavery or poverty," she said.

The policial science major feels that poverty in particular can be ended in her lifetime if people care to actually contribute and fight for its end.

"It's something that we know how to end, and if enough people cared and donated we could end it in our lifetime," she said. "It's really disenchanting to me that people are so negative about the problem and say, 'Oh it's just a drop in the bucket,' or 'Oh, the organization is corrupt,' because there are solutions to all these problems, and if people all bonded together and cared we could end it."

She has begun to focus more on creating Christian videos over the past year and a half, which is in line with her passion for spreading the Gospel.

"I feel like guiding people and inspiring them toward God is the best thing that I can do for them, and so I kind of have a mix of videos about my life and advice videos and Christian videos," she said.

One of the things Chapman finds most rewarding about her channel is the direct impact she is able to have on her viewers.

"It's amazing knowing that there are people who look up to me and feel like they can open up to me about what's hurting them and it's so great because people feel like they can't talk to anyone but they can talk to me," she said.

She gets messages like these from so many of her viewers though she is often unable to respond to them.

Chapman invests hours making sure her videos are of

high quality. She scripts her videos and practices in front of a mirror before getting in front of the camera. Once she has shot her video, which can take her about an hour, she begins the long task of editing.

"Editing can take anywhere from 12 to 50 hours and some videos have even taken like over 100," she said.

Her video, "Draw My Life," was one of these videos which took her hundreds of hours to produce

"I don't consider myself a very visually artistic person, but I tried really hard in the drawings, and it probably took me 50 hours to do the drawings and editing took like probably 100 hours. It was the longest process ever ... and I was proud of it," she said.

Like most Pepperdine students, Chapman is committed to a lot. So, how does the political science/philosophy double major and YouTube force balance all she does?

"I guess what it comes down to is being really organized," she said.

If you are in need of relationship, spiritual or life advice consider turning to LizziesAnswers. She uploads videos every Monday.

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## Up all night to get some ... Korean food

By CORINA MUN

Staff Writer

A little culinary haven exists in the form of a Korean restaurant that never closes. Decently priced and open 24 hours a day, 365 days a week, Keungama is located in the heart of Koreatown in Los Angeles. Though you won't find the typical Korean barbecue here, this establishment is known for its traditional dishes. The most popular choices are soups and stews, which are perfect options for the increasingly cold weather.

After a chilly night out, the idea of warm, late-night Korean-style comfort food sounded more than appealing.

Because we arrived at the restaurant at a late hour, there was only one waitress assisting about five or six tables.

While the initial service was slower than expected, we were quite impressed by her work ethic and stamina. We were given drinks promptly, with the choice of either iced water or hot tea. The side dishes include two different types of kimchi, which is pickled, seasoned and spicy vegetables that compliment nearly every Korean dish — especially the soups that we ordered.

Upon examination of the menus, which are printed on the paper place mats, we all decided on either the sullungtang (a broth made from ox bones and brisket) or the gamjatang (a redder, spicier broth made from pork bones). The sullungtang has a neutral flavor, as hardly any other seasoning is added to the pure broth. However, there are bowls of salt and green

onions at the table with which to season your own soup with so that the proportions are to your liking; some like the plain taste of sullungtang, and others prefer it with salt and pepper.

The gamjatang requires no other added seasoning, as it is already kneaded with flavor. Its slight spiciness is due to the peppers, onions and other vegetables included in its broth. The highlight of this soup is that it also comes with potatoes and huge pieces of pork, making it a much heartier meal than the former.

Despite the hectic circumstances that the waitress was undoubtedly under, we were given refills of our drinks and side dishes regularly. She was also kind enough to accommodate the problematic situation that plagues all college

students that dine at restaurants in groups: the request for separate checks.

The restaurant is also relatively well-kept, well-lit and clean despite the fact that it literally never closes. Keungama is ideal for those midnight munchies during the chilly winter season because you can warm yourself up with some comfort food without worrying about closing time. It is also a good idea to come in groups, as the menu offers several combination options that are easy to share and fun to try among a crowd of friends.

If you are unafraid of new foods, looking to venture into some more authentic Korean cuisines or maybe just sick of the usual Korean barbecue, take no reservation in driving out to K-town and trying

24 HOURTASTY — Gamjatang, a spicy broth made from pork bones, is one of the many traditional Korean delicacies found at Keungama. The K-town restaurant is open for business 24 hours a day

this place out. Keungama is located on 3498 8th St. in Los Angeles.

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## 'Thor' hits the nail in action-packed sequel



By Danielle Accovelli Life & Arts Assistant

With stunning visual effects, pulse-racing action and just the right amount of witty humor, "Thor: The Dark World" looks to be a promising addition to the Marvel family.

"Thor: The Dark World" successfully mixes action, laughs and romance to create a fast-paced adventure movie that is heavy on the one-liners and low on the serious drama.

Chris Hemsworth returns to the scene as the hammer-wielding Norse god Thor, this time to save the world from the dark elf Malekith, played by Christopher Eccleston, of "Dr. Who" fame.

Malekith, who was vanquished centuries ago by the Asgardians, wants to use the Aether to return the universe to darkness during an event called the convergence.

After a long absence from Earth following "The New York Incident" — the phrase coined by Marvel to refer to the alien invasion in "The Avengers" — the towering god finally makes his way back to the planet just in time for

> the convergence. This time, Thor finds himself in London after his astrophysicist girlfriend Jane Foster, played by Natalie Portman, stumbles upon a point where all the realms collide and is

transported into a different world where she is then injected with the Aether.

Thor's return to Jane is both comical and endearing as Jane plays the classic left-inthe-dust girlfriend who just can't seem to stay mad at her hunky superhero boyfriend - her vehement slaps in the face soon turn to passionate kisses in the rain.

However, Jane's role as a smart, strong female — she is, after all, an astrophysicist is severely hindered by her role as a surrogate body for the Aether and her continual pining after Thor as he casually comes and goes out of her life.

Nevertheless, Thor whisks Jane away to his homeland of Asgard in an attempt to rid her of the Aether and delay a war with Malekith. It is in these scenes that director Alan Taylor ("Mad Men," "The Sopranos," "Game of Thrones") showcases his skill with stunning visual effects and imagery of Asgard that creates a world reminiscent of that found in "Lord of the Rings."

The real bulk of the tension and drama in the movie is played out when Thor and his rebellious, throne-thirsty brother Loki, played by Tom Hiddleston, team up to deliver Jane from Asgard and defeat Malekith, preventing an all-out war in Asgard and on

Hiddleston delivers a tremendous perfor mance as Loki, adding an extra layer of tension mixed with dark humor, which gives the otherwise action-packed plot a little extra substance and depth. The on-screen chemistry between Loki and Thor is also undeniable as they easily bicker and banter, but with a sense of hurt and anger caused by the past, creating some of the movie's most dynamic and memorable moments.

When Malekith finally obtains the Aether from Jane's body, he heads to London where all the realms will align perfectly — to bring darkness back into the universe. It is there that he reaches his final confrontation with Thor. However, in this short ending scene, the movie begins to feel rushed and at times can be confusing as it attempts to tie all the sub-plots together in one forceful closing scene.

That is ultimately where one of the major faults of the movie lies — in its multiple sub-plots that undermine its action and forward momentum. As with the previous "Thor" movie, as well as other Marvel productions, the plot is not nearly as exciting as its characters, so having a multitude of these anti-climatic plots really hinders the otherwise successful use of humor and action.

Despite these shortcomings, "Thor: The Dark World" still leaves audiences satisfied with its intense action, humor and romance complimented by a few scenes of true drama, making it yet another success for Marvel.

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## Burst out loud with Pepperdine Improv Troupe

By VANESSA WANG

Staff Writer

Pepperdine's Improv Troupe tickled students' funny bones yet again Friday night. The third PIT show of the year, held in Elkins Auditorium, brought in a nearly full house. As always, the cast members of PIT showcased their improvisation abilities as they churned out line after line of hilarity.

The members, or players, who competed in Friday's improv show include freshman Joel Foster, sophomore Zach Coffman, junior Meghan McDonough and senior Jesse Aston. Actor Brian Jones directed the show while musician Allen Simpson conducted the music. Seeing how successful the previous shows have been, it's not surprising that audience rows filled up

As the lights dimmed, Jones went through all the rules and the grading system with the audience. Jones then invited out the two teams that would be competing against each other, with four players on each side. Making their purpose clear, one of the teams named themselves

the Winners, while the other team named themselves Awkward Family Photos.

Fourteen improv games were played, with a brief intermission in the middle. Notable performances include Idol American and Party Quirks, which earned the loudest cheers from the audience as well as some of the highest points.

In Idol American, each member of the Winners was a singer competing on a reality singing show, and they had to listen to critiques from a panel consisting of Awkward Family Photos members. They then had to rewind and sing the song as if it preceded the critiques. A creative audience member suggested the madeup song "Frolicking Mice" to be the tune for players to perform. The result was a comical mishmash of rap, foreign tongue and the likes.

Party Quirks was a creative twist on the game charades. Audience members assigned roles to three of the members from the Winners as one of the members stood outside the auditorium. The singled-out member then had to come back in and guess what each of his team members

was portraying — all within a party scenario. The guesser got all three of the roles, which were a plumber, a liger and Beyonce. Each player put on an outstanding performance and earned thunderous applause from the audience.

After the show, the Graphic caught up with two PIT members, junior Meghan McDonough and freshman Joel Foster.

1. How long have you been part of PIT?



JOKES ON JOKES — Senior Jesse Aston (right) acts out a scene with fellow PIT players during an evening of laughs in Elkins Auditorium last Friday, Nov. 8. The improv group gave the audience a night full of joy and entertainment.

Joel: "I'm a freshman, so this is my first year." Meghan: "This is my third vear."

#### 2. Do you have any pre-show rituals?

J: "I like to do pre-show karate. And I like to do the Michael Phelps." (flaps arms against side)

M: "As a team, we like to play games. We go around and hug each other before the show because even though we're competing, we're all such a team."

#### 3. Are there any exercises you guys do to prepare for the show?

M: "Yes, we have rehearsal every Sunday night from six to nine. We play a variety of games - scene work, monologues. It's very much grounded in working with emotions and relationships. A lot of it is forming that team trust."

#### 4. Do you ever run out of ideas while you're on the stage?

J: "Yes, all the time. But that's why there are four or more

people up there at a time. When you're out and you're with your teammates, or your teammates have no idea where to go, you step in and go 'well here's my offer; let's go this way."

M: "Even with the other team, when they need help, I'm going to step in. Sometimes you have no idea and you just say something. Those are the best moments, too."

#### 5. Would you rather have five people show up to the show and give standing ovations to every skit, or have a packed auditorium but no one clap?

J: "I would say the five people giving standing ovations. For me, a lot of the scenes are me feeding off of the audience's energy. If the audience is not feeling it, it puts me in a bad mindset."

M: "When you feel like the audience is with you, you're willing to take so many more risks.'

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# Don't mess with the stress

It all begins to pile up. Raising your grades, attending endless meetings, cleaning your room, doing the dishes — your planner fills faster with each passing day. Your list of "to-dos" begins to outweigh your "tasks completed" and suddenly you are cutting back on sleep and increasing your caffeine intake. There are simply too many things to do in the day for a measly 12 hours to contain it all — and that's when stress takes over.

Typically, stress is a good reaction. It motivates you to get out of bed in the morning, prompts you to finish that homework assignment or do your laundry. Stress is a normal response to situations where you might need to "fight or flight," heightening awareness and increasing your alertness. Stress is a crucial element to survival. Like all things in life, however, stress requires balance.

While stress is the body's natural reaction to overwhelming situations, too much stress can be detrimental to every system in your body. It slows down the digestive system, leaving some people without appetites or others without the ability to digest food quickly. Ever noticed that whenever you are stressed, you tend to get sick more easily? That's because your immune system is put on the back burner when your body is in fight or flight mode. Many people complain of catching colds while they are stressed. Stress also increases your heart rate and blood pressure, which can lead to long-term damage if you are constantly living under stress.

Chronic stress can also reduce the amount of oxygen your heart receives by interfering with your breathing patterns, causing you to take more shallow breaths than deep, long breaths. Another symptom of stress is the ease with which you can become more irritable, self-conscious, lonely and unable to concentrate.

But there are ways to overcome these overwhelming feelings, and the first step begins with taking big breaths, opening your lungs and allowing your diaphragm to relax. The second step is catching up on sleep: take a weekend (if you can) or just one night to let your body rest without any kind of alarm set for the morning. A good night's sleep is crucial for many reasons, but maintaining stress levels is a big one. Another good way to combat high stress levels is through consistent exercise. By working out your body, you can lower cortisol levels (a hormone that signals stress) and increase the release of endorphins.

Stress can come in a variety of situations, creeping up slowly and silently into our daily lives, especially for the over-committed Pepperdine student. If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, start to fix the problem by taking deep breaths and focusing your mind on the big picture and what brings you joy — being home for Christmas with your family or simply snuggling with your dog. Don't let stress bring you down this finals season.

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## Play provides identity for generation

By Breanna Grigsby

Life & Arts Editor

Ever imagined a romance between Emily Dickinson and Nat King Cole? If you haven't, 2006 alumna Julie Taiwo Oni has and has written and co-produced a play called "nat & EM" that tells an imagined love story between the two.

This one-act black box style play explores an interracial love story in an unconventional yet powerfully moving manner. The play has just three characters — Nat King Cole, Emily Dickinson and a transcriber. The only dialogue that Cole uses comes from the lyrics of his song "Mona Lisa," and the only dialogue that Dickinson uses comes from her poem "Narrow Fallow in the Grass."

Actors Christopher Hampton (Nat), Emma Green (Em), and Melissa Donaher (Scribe), master the stage and convey a story of love against time and the world. Hampton delivered soulful vocals, which sounded eerily like Cole himself. Green played the innocent Dickinson, skillfully pouring the emotion of the moment through her lines and movements. Donaher developed her character throughout the play, masterfully bringing the audience into the story. The chemistry of all the actors was evident through their interaction together.

Oni, who is the daughter of a Nigerian father and German-American mother, also has a twin sister, 2006 alumna Jessica Ngo, who is an English professor at Pepperdine.

"The first time I saw 'nat & EM,' there were some unanswered questions, but with this production, everything comes together so well. I think she has started thinking a lot more about the needs and wants of the audience, which all of the best writers always do," Ngo wrote in an email.

This play is well worth the travel to Downtown Los Angeles. It shows at the intimate Company of Angels at the Alexandria located at 501 S. Spring St., 3rd Floor. Performances will go through Nov. 24 and only happen Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 7 p.m. Julie Taiwo

Oni sat down with the Graphic at Malibu Yo to discuss her play "nat & EM."

What was your motivation in developing the plot of this play based on the experiences that you might have had at Pepperdine or elsewhere?

There's a lot of Pepperdine in that play (laugh). One line in particular that I took really thinking of Pepperdine is the line where, one of the monologues, she talks about the segregated cafeteria. I wasn't sure if it still was like that. I graduated in 2006. To build up the drama in the play it seems a little bit more dramatic, but I definitely am inspired by situations that I've had just since I've been in L.A. as a lot of the ideas that I've come to have about race have come from the dramatic or very significant difference between being here and being in my hometown Bakersfield ... For anybody coming to college or coming to a new city, you have that kind of same situation, so I feel like hopefully that's something that people can understand from the play even if they're not mixed race is the idea of feeling like where do I fit in in society?

How did you choose the characters for your play?

Suzan-Lori Parks is one of my idols, and she plays so much with language. I just decided I need to try something crazy with language like she does. I don't even know how it came to me, but I should have a play where all their language comes from a particular piece of literature. Somewhere along the way I just thought OK one of these people just has to be Nat King Cole. He's one my dad's favorite singers. I grew up listening to him, and his image is just so interesting, and I would love to see him on stage. So I thought of that, and I remember I called my dad and I was like dad I'm doing a play that is going to have Nat King Cole. Which song of his should I focus on? He was like oh of course "Mona Lisa." And so I just went with it. And I actually don't remember how I chose Emily Dickinson. With Dickinson, I have a musician now. I want to choose a poet, but I couldn't figure out



**UNCONVENTIONAL LOVE** — Nat and Em share an intimate moment during the preview performance on Nov. 7. The interacial couple set the scene showing that love knows no bounds.

exactly who I wanted. I was just reading through different poets that I was interested in at the time. I came across her poetry, and it just felt right because there's just something so unique about her. She's so eccentric and just so odd and just so unusual. What we know about her isolation throughout her life. I'm just so fascinated — I always remember hearing the description that she was alive during the time of the Civil War and she wrote about the grass and flowers and bees and flies and she wasn't writing about the political situation that was happening at that time or the social situation. I'm just interested in the isolation that she represents and how her kind of innocence is so unique and so beautiful.

How would you define yourself as a playwright?

People say my plays are complex, but I think they're very simple — it's a love story. That's it. I like to base my stories on a simple plot with detailed characterization. I

like to be able to focus on the characters so that we know very well in detail, through the style of their language and through their movements. We can understand them without needing to have a story that's too complex.

I tend to deal with themes like cultural miscommunications — has to do with my background — I like putting two people together who seem like they could never understand each other and then finding a way to make that happen.

Subconsciously, I feel like I'm always doing that kind of story. It's probably just my idea that it doesn't matter if the person looks different from you or is from somewhere else, we all have something in common. That's kind of the goal for me.

I like to make the audience feel like they are a part of the story that's happening.

So that's why I put in those monologues. Even though it's

every time I could feel a song

wrong, I love a good Disney

soundtrack, but does one really

have to sing in every scene, es-

pecially when the line is about

salad dishes? Is that necessary?

I found the compositions to

be pretty generic and cheesy,

unlike Disney's usually out-

However, the quality that

standing scores.

coming on. Don't get me

»See **NAT&EM**, B6

## Legislature passes

model law

JACKLYN

Life & Arts Assitant

According the New York Post, a new law protecting underage models was signed on Monday night by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo. The new regulations regarding underage models and young performers create a more structured environment for them. Some of the new regulations include the requirement of having a nurse with pediatric background available at all times, models can't work earlier than 5 a.m. and no later than 10 p.m. later on school nights and the child's parent or guardian must set up a trust fund in which employers will directly contribute at least 15 percent gross earning.

While this all sounds like a step in the right direction, my 11 years of experience in the fashion and film industry proves otherwise. Due to these stricter regulations, underage models will lie about their age and will basically do anything to be on the catwalk. They will go to go-sees with forged birth certificates to land the job. This is an industry that is successful because it's exclusivity. Once you're in, you're in.

I do applaud the governor of New York for passing the bill because it is a great idea, but it will not be as successful as people are hoping. Due to the hectic nature of planning and running a runway show, there is no real way for an employer to provide a detailed schedule to give the parent of the young beauties, as per new regulation.

Runway shows are chaotic behind the scenes. Everyone is running around like a very chic chicken with its head cut off. Steamers are fogging up the models' make-up causing an almost castrophic scene. How in all this mayhem is a designer supposed to clear off a seamstress's table so a tall 13-year-old can do her algebra homework? Plus, most of these kids are homeschooled, so this regulation is kind of pointless. A designer or modeling company won't hire a model if she can't work Wednesday afternoons because she needs to do her biology labs.

The idea behind this law is good on paper. There should be stricter regulations for not only children, but also adults, in the fashion and film industry. Mainly, these industries cater to the crazy and unstable so rules are always a good thing. Unfortunately and fortunately, it is the mentally unstable that make these billion dollar industries. Success will only be achieved if there are people specifically appointed to each fashion house or designer to ensure these regulations are followed.

Until there are HR departments whose main job is to run an office smoothly for the fashion empire, underage models and designers will be working around the very loose structure of supervision of child labor laws. But there is hope. There will some designers who make it their mission to hire above the legal age. We can only sit and wait until spring Fashion Week in February.

## Frozen to bring mixed chills

By Julia Naman

News Assistant

Disney's new movie
"Frozen" will be released this
Thanksgiving, and — despite
the title — no one should give
it the cold shoulder.

Inspired by the beautiful scenery of Norway, "Frozen" is about spunky Princess Anna (voice of Kristin Bell) after her sister Queen Elsa (Idina Menzel) sets her icy powers loose on the kingdom of Arendelle, making it eternally winter. A gruff mountaineer and — get ready for irony — local ice-salesman Kristoff (Jonathan Groff) accompanies Anna on her voyage to return summer to the kingdom.

This movie, an adaptation of Hans Christian Anderson's fairytale, "The Snow Queen," had an interesting and unique plot. I found it had a similar setting as C.S. Lewis' "Narnia," though, merely because there's a castle made out of ice, an ice queen, and, you know, it happens to be perpetually winter. It's a Disney movie, after all, so don't expect a rational explanation for the supernatural. Just accept the fact that everything will always work out when

there's a princess and prince charming — well, as long as Disney is involved at least.

That being said, Disney continues to change up the pace with it's princesses. A few years back the adventurous Merida in "Brave" was the first to pass up a prince charming. And, come Nov. 27, the Disney audience will meet the new heroine, Princess Anna (the second red-headed princess in a row, might I add).

Anna isn't the typical
"woodland creatures do my
dishes" princess. While Snow
White and Cinderella woke
up glistening with perfection,
Anna wakes up with bedhead and a puddle of drool.
She's gauche. She's quirky.
She's clumsy. And she's totally
relatable.

Although I appreciate
Disney making the new princesses closer to actual women
rather than the demigodesses
who we've seen in the past, I
couldn't help but notice the
similarities between Anna and
Disney's "Tangled" princess,
Rapunzel. They both have the
wide blue eyes, the fair skin,
the straight teeth, the tiny
noses. Personality wise, I enjoy
the new princesses more than



the original ones (note Sleeping Beauty's perfect signing and Belle's giving spirit — it's almost gross how flawless they are). However, I just hope Disney doesn't get stuck in this rut. Enough with the perfect white girls already.

I've grown up on Disney movies, so I completely condone breaking into songs from "Mulan" and "Tangled" whenever the occasion arises. However, I wasn't impressed with the music in "Frozen." I hold the belief that one should have at least one song stuck in your head after watching a Disney movie, but even now I can't recall any of the tunes from "Frozen." I caught myself groaning in the movie

"Frozen" lacked in music was definitely made up for in visuals. At first the animation seemed questionably blurry, until I realized the theater forgot to pass out the 3D glasses. Then I was sold. Even if the movie had no plot (which it did), I could probably spend the full hour and a half just gazing at the snowflakes that

equally as impressed.

Overall, there's an adorable (if not dynamic) love story, probably the best animation I've ever seen, and — by far the most important quality — cute, furry animals. As far as I'm concerned, Disney's "Frozen" is pretty chill.

fluttered before my eyes. The

8-year-old next to me was

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## Radio resurrected through podcasts

By EDITH LAGOS

Staff Writer

Midterms are over and the fall slump is hitting everyone hard. Thanksgiving break starts on Nov. 27th and before we know it winter break will be upon us. During this dull monotony of awaiting one seasonal break after another, the lethargy is thick enough to cut with a knife, but what can be done? Well, for starters, nothing rustles up energy like getting into a new thing, be it a new book, television series or movie franchise. However, the crux of the issue is that you still have things to do; you have to be in motion. So why not start listening to a new podcast instead?

"Welcome to Night Vale" has been hitting the podcast charts with its bi-monthly episodes (with updates the

1st and 15th of every month) for almost a year and a half now, but only recently has it amassed a huge cult following online thanks to its anniversary episode, "One Year Later." And depending on when you check, WTNV is No. 1 or 2 on the list of most downloaded podcast, always in competition with "This American Life."

"What is 'Welcome to Night Vale,'though?" you might ask. Well, it is a fictional community radio show in which the delightful host Cecil (played by Cecil Baldwin) reports on the daily happenings of Night Vale with his sweet, melodic voice that will lull you to sleep under the right circumstances.

Night Vale isn't just your normal little town, however. Co-creator of the show Joseph Fink has described the town as a place where all conspiracy

theories are true. Another description that is apt is to imagine if the setting of "Courage the Cowardly Dog" had its own radio show with some Lovecraftian horror mixed in. Thats how strange things can get in Night Vale.

From the malevolent Glow Cloud that joined the PTA at the local school and the Man in the Tan Jacket and Deer-Skinned Suitcase, to Old Woman Josie and her Angels (one of which is black, if that sweetens the deal), to perfect, brilliant, beautiful Carlos the Scientist (who holds quite a special place in Cecil's heart), there is really no shortage of delightful characters. Also, there's a five-headed dragon who had to serve time for insurance fraud, and let's not forget the Faceless Old Woman Who Lives In Your House.

A seeming mishmash of

zany events with no correlation from episode to episode, a story arch does begin to unfold for the listeners. Not only that, but characters are never really explicitly described, so your imagination is the limit in envisioning the characters and any plot pieces left intentionally black for us to fill in.

This show has become so popular they have even just finished wrapping up a slew of live shows for the year in both the East Coast (where they're set up) and the West Coast. I had the good fortune of watching one of these shows when it came to The Largo in LA and, I have to say, there is nothing like it. There are plans in the works for more live shows next year, so if you begin to listen now, and enjoy what you hear, you can watch actual performances of the



If you're still not convinced, at least check out their Twitter @NightValeRadio for some bite sized examples of the subtle genius of this podcast. Their Twitter is actually a great supplement to the show, as they do update that daily, which is helpful when the 15 days between each new update starts feeling like an eternity.

So if you cannot seem to kick the fall sloth off your back, put on some headphones and let the gears of your imagination take over for a while. I guarantee you your ears will be loving The Weather.

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## Nat & EM: Production opens conversation



FROM B5

kind of isolating to see nat & EM and the way that they talk I like having the scribe that kind of brings you in and actually talked to you and says okay this is what's going on.

Why is it important for Pepperdine students to come and see your play and hear the message that your play is conveying?

Part of the message that I'm trying to show in the play is that I feel there isn't a lot of conversation anymore about

being mixed just because it is everywhere. And I know just from being at Pepperdine that there are a lot of people who are mixed. I know that it's something that a lot of people are like "oh yeah it's not that big of a deal," but when I think back to my parents, I think that a lot of people have forgotten about the struggle with the beginning of that. When they got married in the mid-70s, it was really not something that was done.

So many people are a mixture of so many things and it's something that's important to celebrate and say this is the

beginning of how that was. Look at how beautiful and how interesting this is.

We've really been trying to target a lot of students because I want them to be aware of what things were like previously and also just have conversations about what does that mean. It's important to talk about identity, which is another thing that during my time at Pepperdine I was afraid to discuss. So I'm hoping this will open up and inspire conversations about what is my background and why is that significant and how does that influence

the person that I am now or the person that I want to be. I think that college is a time where you're trying to understand your identity so I think that it's an important moment to experience a story that really forces you to think about "how does my identity and my racial connection and my background influence what's happening with me right now?"



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#### Celebrate female progression in Hollywood

By PAOLA RAMOS

Staff Writer

For centuries, women were expected to wed, have children, tend to the household and care for their husbands. In the past tew decades, though, women have been redefining their roles in society through various

Women are much more likely to receive a college education now than they were 30 years ago. Many more women have careers now, as well. It is not as unusual to see a woman with a job and a family.

In fact, it seems as if society even expects women to work. This would have been a crazy and impossible concept for someone to grasp in the early 1900s. And although there are still people, and even entire cultures, who do not consider women equal to men, women have undoubtedly come a long way from their conventional roles as housewives.

However, the path to success was not an easy one to travel. Many dedicated and ambitious women had to work very diligently to gain the respect they deserved. These women pursued many different careers and thus proved that women could be just as accomplished as men, if not more.

One group of women who fought ardently for a respectable spot in their chosen line of work are those women working in the entertainment industry. Although many women are powerful leaders in various ways in this industry, there are still many hardships that women face.

"What an honor to host the dynamic women who have directed 'Homeland' and 'Brave,' written the 'Twilight Saga,' produced 'The Great Gatsby,'

and presided over Motown," said Professor Craig Detweiler, director of Pepperdine's Center for Entertainment, Media and Culture who will be a panelist at the lecture.

The Center for Entertainment, Media and Culture, along with the Pepperdine School of Law's Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, will be co-sponsoring a conference, Women in Hollywood: 100 Years of Negotiating the System from Nov. 15 to Nov. 16. This conference will focus on women's roles in the entertainment industry and how they have influenced it.

"There are so many statistics documenting all kinds of gender bias in the industry. The conference is designed to go beyond valid complaints into tangible actions for the future. The Straus Institute is so skilled in the art of negotiation. We hope our Women in Hollywood offers strategies that open doors to better contracts, opportunities, and career paths for the next wave of women leading the entertainment industry," Detweiler wrote.

The conference will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday morning and end at 5 p.m. Saturday

The Pepperdine University website states some of the goals of this conference, one of which is to "underline and draw lessons from the lives of women who successfully 'negotiated the system,' or strove to improve opportunities for themselves and others."They will speak about successful women such as actresses Mary Pickford, Bette Davis and Olivia de Havilland and journalist/author Frances Marion.

Another goal of the Women in Hollywood conference is to "provide critical guidance for

women in managing conflicts and relationships in their careers and personal lives." In addition, according the the Pepperdine University website, the program will "help identify sources of resistance to greater opportunities for women and set a collective action agenda aimed at altering the landscape for the next wave of women in the entertainment industry."

A great issue women face in all career fields is how to find balance in their lives. Most women do not simply want a career or a family; rather, they want both.

In general, men did not have to worry about their families when they were dedicating time to their careers because, they knew that was their wives' turf. Now that many couples share responsibilities, though, it is difficult for a woman to find a good way to manage her time at work with her time at home.

Unfortunately, despite the many attempts to turn this situation around and provide more opportunities for women in the entertainment industry, there have not been many improvements. For this reason the Women in Hollywood: 100 Years of Negotiating the System conference puts an emphasis on the challenges that women face in the entertainment industry, both as a group and as individuals.

The conference will be a great resource for women who want to get great tips as to how to do well in this industry, especially because there will be many experienced professionals in attendance. Panelists include directors, producers, screenwriters, authors, a CEO and a few Pepperdine professors.

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## Home for the Holidays

TEGGNOGYLLYRCQ HZKBXLJRLGZHYW ABLACKFRIDAYRK NNTBKYBDQRSVMR KELEVARTLAZRJ SWTLLTXIMPLNTN YWMALETSYLXVY ENNPBSRPLGLEB RBORJBOQYRETM NCTLKBWTFLWNL

Thanksgiving Christmas **New Year** Black Friday Travel

Charlie Brown Turkey Sleep Football Eggnog

# Horoscopes

By Edith Lagos

#### Virgo



Invest in dry shampoo. On second thought, just shower.

#### Libra



VapoRub is your best friend this cold and sinus infection season.

#### Scorpio



This is the last horoscope you're getting from us for a while, so make it count.

#### **Sagittarius**



Yes, ARTPOP is as stunning and exceptional as you expected it to be.

#### Capricorn



Your stars will align and you'll find \$20, which will actually end up being fake; don't worry, though, the cashier will believe you when you say you found it and not call the cops.

#### **Aquarius**



Rip off the head of your cherished childhood toy and stop living in the past.

#### **Pisces**



Everyone knows you're just wearing that cap because your hair looked weird today. Stop drawing attention to yourself.

Wouldn't it be great

if System of a Down

released a new album

soon?

#### **Aries**



I wouldn't if I were

Sending good vibes,

not that you need it,

rock star.

#### Nov. 17

7:30 p.m.

Nov. 15

10 a.m.

Celebration Chapel

Amphitheatre

Genesis Gospel Choir Concert

Elkins

#### Nov. 19

Nov. 18

10:10 a.m. Spanish Chapel

Stauffer Chapel

#### 6 p.m.

SCAN YOUR WAY IN

Convocation Schedule

Italian Chapel

CIAO Room

SAC

#### 9 a.m.

French Chapel

CIAO Room

5 p.m.

Michael Zakian: Superheroes &

Scripture

Weisman Museum

#### Nov. 20

10 a.m.

Wednesday Chapel with

Rudy Castro

Firestone Fieldhouse

#### 3 p.m.

Shelle Welty: The Religion of

Thinness

PC 188

#### Nov. 21

10 a.m.

German Chapel

SAC

CIAO Room

#### Cancer

**Taurus** 



Your car will be towed, which will eventually lead to a funny story of how you met your spouse.

Gemini



You've been a space-case for the past week, and it's beginning to interfere with your schoolwork. Have you considered

medication?



DOING WORK — Starting Orange Team pitcher junior Aaron Brown throws 6.1 dominate innings of work to clinch game three of the Orange and Blue World Series on Nov. 9. He limited his opponents to three hits and one run en route toward his team's 5-2 victory.

#### **Standings:**

Women's Soccer:

1. Portland 2. Santa Clara

3. BYU 4. San Diego

5. Cal

5. Pepperdine

3. Saint Mary's 4. LMU 5. Gonzaga

WCC

2. BYU

Women's Volleyball:

1. San Diego

5. Stanford

Golfweek Women's Golf: Men's Water Polo:

1. Pacific 1. UCLA T1. Stanford 2. Southern California 3. UCLA 3. Duke T3. USC 4. Washington

#### **Highlights:**

- For the first time since the WCC began sponsoring women's soccer in 1992, three teams, BYU, Portland and Santa Clara will share the conference title.

- Pepperdine's Jesse Aston ranks no. 1 on the WCC's Men's Cross Country All-Academic Team.

## Orange Lions win 'World Series'

Backed by pitcher sophomore Jackson McClelland and infielder freshman Nick Costello's strong contributions, the Orange Lions best their teammates-turned-rivals

By Melissa Hurtado

Sports Assistant

The annual Orange and Blue World Series split the 38-man baseball roster into two squads this weekend.

In one dugout, the Orange Lions were captained by senior Corey Miller and his assistant freshman Ben Rodriguez. Across the diamond, senior Matt Maurer, assisted by freshman Aaron Burnett, took the helm for the Blue Moose.

How did the teams fare without their coaches?

Maurer comments that there were "very optimistic showings from guys we didn't expect. Quite a few freshman

played really well ... [It's] good limiting his opponents to two when we can have freshman step up."

Blue Moose assistant coach, Burnett added his perspective on the three games:

"Everything we do works up to the series; what we learn [is] incorporate[d] into the game, the coaches let us go out there and play baseball [to] capstone ... the fall. There was definitely competition, and everyone contributed,"

However, Maurer and Burnett's collective efforts managing the Blue Moose fell short.

On Nov. 8, sophomore Jackson McClelland blanked his teammates-turned-rivals; he surrendered no runs while hits over six innings pitched. Sophomore Evan Dunn followed suit by completing two innings of scoreless relief, and sophomore Ivan Dilda pitched a perfect ninth.

As all good baseball players know, it takes more than pitching to win games. For the Orange Lions, freshmen Michael Perri and Nick Costello provided all the offense needed to secure the victory for the night. The 1-0 walk-off that ensued came as a result of Perri's run scoring two-out double in the ninth inning.

The next game proved to be a day of atonement for the Blue Team, as it unleashed a massive

offensive attack.

Junior Bryan Langlois began the first frame with an RBI double, and Burnett singled him home to tack on another run. Maurer's line-up continued to pump out the runs as they extended the lead to 4-0 in the fourth inning thanks to RBI's from freshmen Cole Maltese and Mitchell Gallagher.

A four-run sixth inning charge, featuring a two-run triple from sophomore Hutton Moyer lit the scoreboard ablaze and pushed the game far out of their opponent's reach.

Freshman George Alamillo pitched the final three innings en route towards preserving the 9-0 shutout over the Lions

With the series tied 1-1, and the classic being played best of three, Sunday's game was the deciding matchup between the two squads to wrap up the "World Series."

Thankfully for the Lions, their starting pitcher, junior Aaron Brown, succeeded in holding the Blue team down. He allowed one earned run, gave up three hits and struck out six over 6.1 innings pitched. His performance secured Team Orange's 5-2 victory, and the series win.

For his six innings pitched, the Redlands East Valley High Alumni McClelland was named the Series' Most Outstanding

Pitcher, while a hefty .364 batting average led to freshman Nick Costello being named the Most Outstanding Player.

Next, the Pepperdine crew travels to Taiwan to compete in the Formosa Cup from Nov.

"Taiwan [will be the] experience of a lifetime. We're going to go and represent America with some of the best collegiate teams," Maurer said. "[It] doesn't affect our season, but we're definitely excited. It's an amazing opportunity as far as the collegiate league [goes] and [we] want to make the best of

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#### Team snags wins

By ALENNI NEMITZ

Staff Writer

The Waves made a strong defensive showing in their five-set bout with Saint Mary's on Thursday, defeating the Gaels 3-2.

"We jumped on them early," freshman Jillian Bergeson said. "We kept them from gaining momentum."

The team found success again Saturday against Pacific, sweeping the Tigers.

The win is bittersweet with only one home game left this season on Saturday at 1 p.m. against PCH rivals, LMU.

"I am sad, especially because I love playing with Kelley Larsen and Kellie Woolever," sophomore Taylor Racich said. "They are so sweet and have always been great role models for the younger girls on the team."



**BLOCK IT** — Junior Samantha Cash and sophomore Becca Strehlow jump to block a tip by Pacfic. The Waves won 3-0.

#### Hall of Fame coach retires from indoor, transitions to beach only

By Alysha Tsuji Sports Editor

After a 31-year stint as head coaching indoor women's volleyball — including 11 WCC titles and 20 NCAA Tournament appearances — Nina Matthies announced her decision to step down from her position this week. Saturday, Nov. 16, will mark her last time coaching in Firestone Fieldhouse.

"At this point in time, I've decided to back off a little bit and see how long that goes and what I need to do next," Matthies said.

The university will go through a national search for a new indoor women's volleyball coach, as is standard procedure. Matthies will continue to coach the 2012 title winning sand volleyball team.

"I'm happy I got to play with her," junior Katie Messing said. "To be able to catch her last three years is really special. I've learned a lot from her."

Pepperdine hired Matthies

in 1983 as only the third person to fill the spot. Since then, Volleyball Magazine has named her as one of the "Most Influential People in the First 100 Years of Volleyball," and she is the WCC's all-time winningest

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## DIVAS: Senior swimmers in a league of their own

FROM B10

keep my passion alive for this sport. Spending time with them as well as pushing each other to our greatest potential is awesome, and of course cheering

Pepperdine purely for spiritual and academic reasons. After high school, the swimmer was convinced she had seen her last competitive swimming days, but halfway through her freshman year in college, Corbin

I chose Pepperdine because I wanted to swim in college, but I didn't want it to take over my whole college experience. Pepperdine has allowed me to enjoy both.

- SENIOR STEPHANIE ERTL

each other on. The team environment is unified and striving to build a better bond as well as preparing for our season."

Teammate Corbin came to

found her way back into the pool. She took a break to travel to Buenos Aires, then came back and competed for her third year with the Waves.

Although swimming is a commitment, Corbin is dedicated to her team and sport as a means of keeping her focused and motivated. She notes that the swimmers have learned how to master the "natural" look between practice, school and social life:

"In season, we don't even think about make-up because we are always in and out of the water: morning practices, weights in the afternoon and optional practices in the evening. Sometimes I think, 'Why even bother showering?"

Ertl is the final senior to make up the roster, and certainly represents the depth of talent in the swim team through her passion and talent. She is a

top swimmer and diver for the Waves, finishing 11th on the 3-meter and 14th in 1-meter in the WCC Championships. Rodionoff believes Ertl's potential is far from fulfilled.

"She is already very close to her season best scores for last year. In her time at Pepperdine, she has done personal best times in the fly, 500, 1000 and 1650 free. She qualified, for the second year in a row, for LA County Lifeguards," Rodionoff said. "She is looking for a great senior year."

Ertl's bloodline is mingled with chlorine — her father competed in the Olympic Trials in 1976. She committed to becoming a Wave because she desired to be a part of building

"I chose Pepperdine because I knew I wanted to swim in college, but I didn't want it to take over my whole college experience," Ertl said. "Pepperdine has allowed me to enjoy both. I came the year after the team was almost cut.

"My greatest accomplishment here has been being able to rebuild the swim program and watch it grow. My freshman year we barely had enough girls to compete and now we have over 20 girls."

For these four seniors, the pool is more than a lounge spot — it is a second home. The four bring leadership in their final year and look forward to beating past personal records under

Rodionoff's diligent coaching.

No matter where they go after their collegiate swimming careers, Maguire, Bernard, Corbin and Ertl found a way of life in the deep end. Ertl believes this tight-knit team keeps joy at the heart of their sport.

"Our team is competitive and we love to race; however, we never forget the most important part and that is being able to have fun," Ertl said. "Swimming here makes you realize how much you actually love the sport and why you started swimming in the first

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SWEET SUCCESS – Men's basketball is 2-0 for the season after winning their season opener at home against San Diego Christian 81-61 on Saturday. Sophomore Stacy Davis scored a career high 24 points and seven of 12 Waves that played in the game were freshmen. The Waves second game against UC Riverside ended in favor of the Waves 69-66. The Highlanders made desperate efforts in the second half, but those were thwarted by senior guard Nikolas Skouen's 4-for-4 from the line in the final seconds.

## Underdogs begin to climb

Women's basketball gains a competitive edge with a new head coach and freshman talent, sparking a solid start

By WEN CHEN

Assistant Sports Editor

The history of Pepperdine has been marked with waves of success, from George Pepperdine's success at business to the Waves' success on and off the courts. While the team's mascot and name identify with the ocean perhaps a better metaphor might be the peaks and valleys of the rolling landscape that surrounds the Malibu campus.

Last season the women's basketball team was evidently going through a valley rather than a peak, but has emerged from the ravine aiming for the precarious precipice of victory.

With Head Coach Ryan Weisenberg at the helm it's a different team from the one that finished 5-23 last season, with real hopes of making a difference on the courts this season. The Waves came crashing onto the courts with their non-conference season opener against Seattle on Wednesday, Nov. 6, proving themselves a force to be reckoned with.

"[Coming off a record like last year,] no one has really given us a chance to do well this season... but we've taken

that as motivation and they [the team] knows that what we're doing is going to put them in a position be successful on and off the courts and that's a formula for success," Weisenberg said.

The Waves competed well against the Redhawks in the first half and were up by three at the break but really showed their potential with a 20-8 run in the second-half that gave the Redhawks no chance at redemption. The team proved to be much more competitive this year on the offense with five players in the double digits and shooting 60 percent from the floor.

The 84 point game was higher than any offensive output all last season.

Their defensive prowess was no meager effort as they grabbed 46 rebounds.

"The biggest key was wining the first one and being confident ... I thought we played really well and the first game was a confidence builder against a team ranked really high," Weisenberg said.

With pre-season predictions ranking Pepperdine last in the WCC, the young team has plenty to prove after the

dismal ending of last season. But the bleak prediction, rather than disheartening the team, only seems to have galled them a firm determination to prove themselves on the court, as demonstrated against Seattle.

Despite the second loss, the Waves exemplified that same determination versus UCLA on Monday.

"To walk into Pauley Pavilion and make them work for a win ... we're disappointed we lost but the effort was very good so we're excited about that," Weisenberg said.

The Waves came as close as two points away late in the game, but the Bruins proved too experienced a team to be rattled by the force of the Waves. The Waves ultimately lost at the free throw line and the game ended 82-78.

The Waves next face UC Irvine on Thursday.

Weisenberg is confident that if the team performs the way they are capable offensively and control the boards defensively the team will be in a good position to bring their record to 2-1.

"I've never said wins and losses, but I can guarantee



**COURTESY OF Brandon Choe, Daily Bruin** 

MANNING UP — Juniors Erica Chandler and Tessa Emerson double team a Bruin on a shot attempt. Chandler and Emerson combined for 13 points.

that we will compete every game ... there will never be a time when you come and leave where you can say 'they quit,'

that's never going to happen with this team," Weisenberg said.

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**ALYSHA** 

#### Money makes the **NBA** stop

For the 2013-14 NBA season, the salary cap (aka the max that teams are allowed to pay their players) is set at a whopping \$58,679,000, according to basketball-reference.com.

Los Angeles Laker Kobe Bryant wins first for hitting the highest team cap at \$30,453,805. Kobe has not played a single game, and no one is quite sure when or if he will play this season — that's his salary. And the team owners cash in three or four times as much.

In short, the majority of people involved in the NBA are filthy rich.

Now, outsiders are beginning to capitalize on the wealth. Those outsiders are advertisers.

We are all accustomed to seeing the names of companies branded across international soccer jerseys to the point where they're basically unnoticeable.

To paste ads in place of team names of professional basketball teams seems like a sin, yet the money-grabbers have already begun their takeover of the WNBA. It started in 2008 when McDonalds scored a deal with the WNBA to place its logo on jerseys.

Today, a dominating amount of women's teams boast a logo instead of a team name. The NBA has flirted with the idea for years, each year saying that it will become a reality the next year. Thus far, they've successfully fended it off.

However, sooner or later greediness might prevail — NBA teams might soon sell their souls. I really hope they

The pure aesthetic of the branding is hideous. The jerseys are already headed down the path of despair (see: Phoenix Suns, New Orleans Pelicans, sleeved jerseys), there's no need to push it. Long gone are the days of the classic pinstripes, crazy fonts and prominent team logos. Instead the fresh trend is to be "clean" (see: Brooklyn Nets).

Advertising would make everything worse design-wise.

Sadly, there have been changes made, though. This year the league approved limited advertising on courts. As reported by ESPN, corporations are allowed to "own" a piece of the court on the sideline between the baselines and the coaches' box. The profits are spread around teams, including a portion added to player salaries.

There is no problem with a flat decal being pasted on the sideline, but I still don't support the notion. Advertising has ruined the game of basketball for a while with the entire commercial timeout deal.

In my eyes, the game has been reduced to a stand still. Fastbreak dashes are a signature of the game, and players are faster now than ever. Halting that would be such a shame.

The amount of whistles blown this season and preseason has been outrageous, namely the "delay of game" calls. Games stretch on for days and corporations' advertising profits skyrocket.

The cycle is sick and it must stop, or at least slow down. Otherwise the heart of the

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## ASK A WAVE

What's your dream job?



"A lawyer for the

SENIOR

**T**RACK

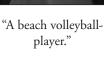


"A trainer on 'The Biggest Loser"



"A Sonic waiter."





own my own practice."

TRISTON BROWN **J**UNIOR **T**RACK

"A clinical psychologist and



KYLE SUPPES SOPHOMORE **V**OLLEYBALL

RAKSHAY THAKKAR SOPHOMORE **T**ENNIS

"Owning a real estate

firm."

sport is at risk.



COURTESY OF Kelsey Maguire

# In the deep end with swim team seniors

Four swim team seniors reflect on their successful seasons at Pepperdine

By STASIA DEMICK

Sports Assistant

t's like the Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants: swim team edition. Four girls: Ally Bernard, Mae Corbin, Stephanie Ertl and Kelsey Maguire lead the swim team as seniors in their last season. Each swimmer comes from a different background and is drawn to the sport and team by various experiences and reasons. However, the spirit of the sport and their love for the water keeps each girl afloat.

Maguire is geographically on the opposite end of the country from her home state of New York. Regardless, she has found her clique in the shallows and depths of the pool.

"You may know swim team as the 'Pepper-divas," Maguire said. "I am very blessed to have this close group of ladies as my friends. Hanging with the divas and soaking in the hot tub after challenging practices keeps my passion alive for the sport."

Maguire swims the IM and competed in the 50, 100 and 500 freestyle at the PCSC Championships last season. She believes her greatest accomplishment is watching her times drop at the swim team's last conference meet of the season.

Besides managing swim, she is a Scholar-Athlete in her fourth season for the Waves. Maguire, an aspiring 'mermaid,' can leave the pool but won't go far, explaining one of the biggest challenges that the swim team enabled her to accomplish to "participate in many open water swimming events. My proudest accomplishment was completing a run-swim from Zuma Beach to Paradise Cove last summer. It was approximately a four mile run and a 1.5 mile swim. The hardest part was dodging the sharks."

Bernard hails from Porterville, Calif., and enters her second season with the Waves after transferring from Cuesta

College. Head Coach Nick Rodionoff remarked on her consistent improvement since joining Pepperdine's team as a top competitor.

"Ally swam all her personal best times last year in every stroke that she swam," he said. "She is, even in early season, already within one to two seconds of those personal best times this year. She is a natural leader, a very hard worker and we're looking forward to a great year for her."

Bernard says she transferred from Cuesta College to attend and compete for Pepperdine because the people and environment resonate more with her own character. As a DI athlete, she depends on swimming and her team to keep her motivated.

"I love swimming because there are days harder than others, and it's a great stress reliever as well as atmosphere for me to be in," Bernard said. "My teammates

»See **DIVAS**, B8

#### **SCOREBOARD**

Men's Basketball Score Record: UC Riverside Nov. 13 W, 69-66 Women's Soccer Record: Score Loyola Marymount **Men's Water Polo** Score Record: Women's Basketball Score Record: L, 82-78 1-1 Women's Volleyball Score W, 3-0 Record:



#### **NEXT UP...**

#### Thursday, November 14

Women's Basketball vs. UC Irvine

#### Friday, November 15

Cross Country at NCAA West Regional

#### Saturday, November 16

Men's Basketball at Central Michigan

#### Saturday, November 16

Men's Water Polo vs. UCLA at 11 a.m. Women's Volleyball vs. Loyola Marymount at 1 p.m.

Men's Volleyball vs. BYU at 3 p.m.

#### **Wednesday, November 17**

Men's Basketball vs. South Dakota St. at 5 p.m.