

THE PIONEER

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Coronavirus: To Panic or Not To Panic?



Executive Dean of Students Michael Berthel sent out an email to students, families and staff on Monday, Jan. 27, informing everyone of recent news and information about the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV). pg 2

Remembering the Life and Legacy of Kobe Bryant



Legends are not invincible is a realization that stuck students across campus when basketball star Kobe Bryant was killed in a helicopter crash on January 26. Kobe Bryant was considered an inspiration and a leader. pg 6

Student Theatre Artists Announce Spring Season



"Alice in Wonderland," "Murder Mysteries," and the campus' gardens all have something in common this semester. They're each a part of ESTA'S spring 2020 season. pg 8

Women's Rugby Holds Tryouts



The women's rugby team is looking for new team members. Head Coach Colleen Doherty will hold informational meetings that will provide details about tryout dates. pg 14

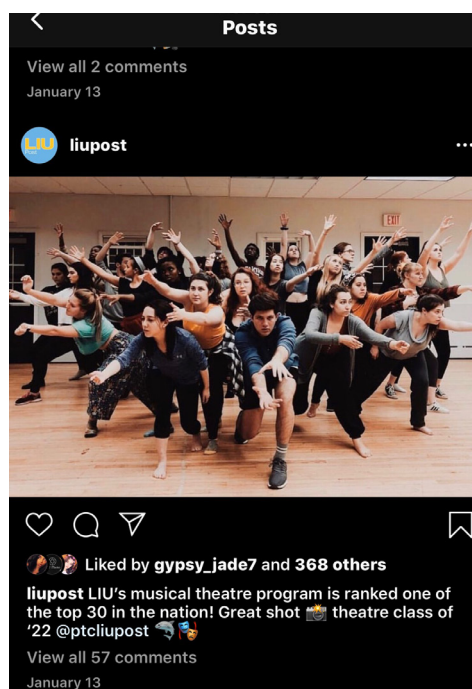
Theatre Students Turn to Social Media for Change

BY EMMA ROBINSON
STAFF WRITER

While Post Theatre Company consists of approximately 180 students, their rehearsal and class facilities are comprised of renovated horse stables that cannot sustain the growing program.

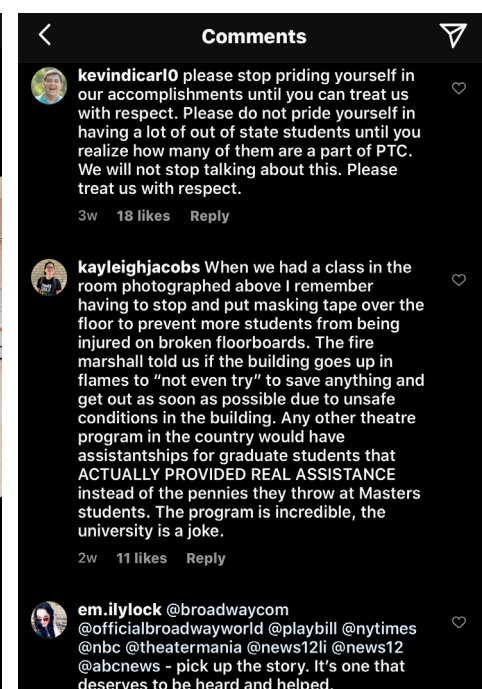
David Hugo, director of the musical theatre program, attended a budget and finance meeting in New York City over winter break. "I was there as part of the faculty senate and was introduced by President Cline to Joseph Schaffer so that he and I could make a future meeting to talk about making a plan to fix the facility in the future," Hugo said.

Maria Porter, the director of the acting program, and Hugo awaited a phone call from Schaffer to schedule a meeting on campus. When Schaffer called, he asked Hugo why Post's theatre students were commenting about the conditions of their facilities on Instagram.



Screenshots of theatre student comments on an @liupost Instagram post

Many of the comments emphasized the lack of space in the theatre, film and dance building, where there are only four rooms for the students to use for both their classes and



LEAH HOLT

production rehearsals.

Hugo checked Instagram and looked at student comments on Cline's post of congratulations to the company for ranking top 30 in the

continued on page 4

Ice Hockey Freshman Named to Sweden National Team



Paula Bergström playing for the LIU ATHLETICS Sharks

BY ELISE PERSON
STAFF WRITER

Paula Bergström, women's ice hockey freshman defender, was recently named to the Swedish National Team. The team will play in the Euro Hockey Tour playoffs in Sweden from Wednesday, Feb. 5 to Saturday Feb. 8.

The Euro Hockey Tour is a tournament that prepares teams for the IIHF World Women's championship, which will take place in Canada from the end of March into mid-April.

Bergström is from Köpmanholmen, Sweden and has been playing in the Swedish National program since playing in the junior league. She has also played as a back-up for the Swedish National Team in past years.

In an interview with LIU Athletics, Bergström said, "I am super excited to play for the national team. Since the tournament will be in Sweden, I am looking forward to playing back at home."

Currently, Bergström is a key member of the Sharks ice hockey team. She leads the team with 11

assists, is third on the team with 24 blocked shots, and has scored four goals so far this season.

Rob Morgan, head coach of the women's ice hockey team, is very excited for Bergström and he is also very confident in her abilities.

"Paula has been put in situations to play against every opponent's best players. She's faced the best of Wisconsin, UCONN, Yale, and teams within our conference," Morgan said. "She's grown her game, as well as her confidence."

In the tournament, Team Sweden will play against Russia and the Czech Republic. These games will determine what place Team Sweden will finish in the tournament.

To follow the tournament, fans can stream it live on svensk hockey.tv.

Chipmunk Trail Loses Trademark Trees



SOPHIA STRAUSS



ASHLEY BOWDEN

Since trees have been cleared, the campus' iconic arched pathway can be clearly seen along the Chipmunk Trail

A worker carrying a cut tree at the Chipmunk Trail

BY SOPHIA STRAUSS

STAFF WRITER

Students returning to campus from winter recess have recognized a significant change in the campus' scenery. Several trees were cut down along the Chipmunk Trail, a pathway formerly known for its lush forestry and abundance of little animals.

But Chipmunk Trail isn't the only place affected by the recent deforestation. Areas surrounding the Winnick House and Brick Rose Arbor arches have also suffered loss of trees.

While some are unaffected by the change in scenery, others have found the change to be quite upsetting. Elissa Roose, a sophomore international relations major, had a lot to say about the trees and how she felt about their

vanishing. "I'm not a fan of it. Not only did it take away from the whole aesthetic of Chipmunk Trail, but it puts nothing but negative effects on the environment," she said.

Roose also mentioned that the trees offered more to campus than just beauty. "I know there were a lot of signs that pointed out what kind of trees there were and there was a lot of education behind it too," she said.

To some students, the trees were nothing more than a part of their daily commute; however, the bareness left behind has sparked up a lot of conversation because not only will the students miss the trees, but the surrounding nature and wildlife will suffer as well. This was apparent to junior speech pathology major, Caitlin Rodriguez, who was quick to put the animals before herself. "I'm upset with the

tree cutting because it affects all of the animals living in those woods," she said. "They don't know anything different than those trees and now they're gone." It is unclear what the future of the now empty space will be. The Pioneer reached out to Roy Fergus, Director of Facilities Services who did not respond in time for comment.

Even if the trees weren't part of student life before, the lack of forestry now surrounding the trail has resonated with most of the students on campus. Mary Harrell, sophomore musical theatre major, said she didn't think much of the trees before they were cut down. "They were just scenery, and I'm sorry to say that because I miss their presence," she said.

Coronavirus: To Panic or Not To Panic?

BY JILLIAN MEHTA

ASST. ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Executive Dean of Students Michael Berthel sent out an email to students, families and staff on Monday, Jan. 27, informing everyone of recent news and information about the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV). The email included preventative measures and resources for students who may have recently traveled to Wuhan, China.

As of Feb. 2, 304 deadly cases of the Coronavirus have been reported in Wuhan, China where the illness originated. Eleven confirmed cases have been reported in the United States as of Feb. 3, but none have been reported in New York. However, a recent scare occurred in Nassau County.

One of the ten suspected cases in New York state involved a person who was "passing through" Nassau County, Newsday reported on Jan. 28. That individual tested

negative for the virus. Health officials in both Nassau and Suffolk counties said there are no suspected Coronavirus cases in either county.

Katelyn Wagner, a freshman psychology major, was worried when she heard about a scare hitting too close to home. "This was really scary to me, as I have family that live in Nassau, as well as my boyfriend. We also live in Nassau so I feared it would hit the campus and spread like crazy," she said.

Berthel's email addressed student concerns and informed the community of preventive measures and symptoms such as fever, cough and shortness of breath. Student responses to the email were mixed.

"I feel like the email was unnecessary and was giving students a reason to make them panic," said Margaret Levin, a junior musical theatre major.

While the email had potential to make some panic, it helped Wagner understand the severity of the situation. "It's important



JANE MONTALTO

continued on page 5

Events this Week

Wednesday, Feb. 5

- Phi Delta Theta Interest Meeting | 4:30 p.m.
Go to Hillwood Commons to learn about the newest fraternity on campus
- Yoga Evening Class | 5:30 p.m.
Students can stop by Pratt’s multipurpose room to participate in group fitness Yoga with Edna.

Thursday, Feb. 6

- Casino Night | 5:00 p.m.
Do you enjoy playing games and winning prizes? Join your classmates in Hillwood Commons for Casino Night. All proceeds benefit Relay for Life.
- Zumba | 6:30 p.m.
Join this dance class with high energy and great music. Class meets in Pratt’s multipurpose room.

Friday, Feb. 7

- Kickboxing | 2 p.m.
Join classmates in Pratt’s multipurpose room for cardio kickboxing, a great way to burn calories.
- Democratic Debate Watch Party | 7 p.m.
Join your classmates in Hillwood’s Fish Bowl to watch the Democratic candidates debate.

Saturday, Feb. 8

- Sunday Campus Mass | 12:45 p.m.
Stop by the Interfaith Center with opportunities for confession and praise, worship beforehand, and social connecting after.

Sunday, Feb. 9

- 92nd Academy Awards | 6:30 p.m.
And the Academy goes to...? Stop by the End Zone to find out.

Monday, Feb. 10

- Total Body Workout | 12:30 p.m.
Stop by Pratt’s multipurpose room for a total body group fitness class.
- Yoga Evening Class | 5:30 p.m.
Go to Pratt’s multipurpose room to participate in group fitness Yoga with Edna.

Tuesday, Feb. 11

- PTV Meeting | 12:30 p.m.
Students can join PTV in Humanities 214 for their first meeting of the spring 2020 semester for the opportunity to work on shows or create one themselves.
- Yoga | 12:30 p.m.
Come to Pratt’s multipurpose room to participate in group fitness Yoga with Angela.
- Circuit Training | 5:30 p.m.
Join Jeff in Pratt’s multipurpose room for a full body challenge and conditioning.
- State of the Union Watch Party | 9 p.m.
Join us to watch the State of the Union address in the Hillwood Commons fishbowl.

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Theatre Students Turn to Social Media for Change

continued from page 1

nation by Onstage Blog.

Over 50 people, many of whom are part of the theatre company, commented under the post, and even reposted it, claiming that Cline does not support the theatre program.

Cline's post was deleted later, but the @liupost Instagram account still has a post recognizing the company's achievement.

The comments under the post primarily consisted of statements claiming that the facilities are too small and unsafe, and that the administration is doing nothing to resolve the issue.

"I was shocked because of the way people were speaking so personally and looking negatively at our department," Kamerann Burney, a freshman musical theatre major, said. "I don't want comments to negatively affect our department."

Hugo addressed the situation with his students at the beginning of this semester.

"He thanked us for our honesty and our opinion and for being brave and speaking out because that's what artists do, push boundaries," Burney said.

"They [the theatre staff] were very proud of us and they said, 'just in the future, if we do something like that to be as positive as we can,'" she said. What we didn't know is that change is happening. We were frustrated over information we didn't have."

Hugo believes that the theatre students were wary because plans for the development of the program have and will continue to take time. He also urged his students to refrain from restoring to social media until they have made the efforts to meet with senior administration about their concerns.

"I think that the school is making the necessary moves to give us [the theatre company] the space we need," Hugo said. Hugo had no comment on the specific changes the theatre program will receive next year because plans are still being developed.

"Our commitment to the musical theatre program is steadfast," Cline said. "The university has supported the program by increasing scholarship funding, supporting faculty travel for national recruitment and securing a multi-million dollar gift to renovate Krasnoff Theater, which is currently used as a venue by the musi-

cal theatre program."

Further plans for the program facilities will be addressed in the 2020 master plan. The release date for this plan is still in flux.

Ed Weis, the vice president of academic affairs, held a meeting with some of the theatre students to discuss their concerns and help find solutions.

"This can serve as a teachable moment for us all that direct dialogue is the most effective way to address issues," Weis said.

When the renovations and space are ready for the program, Hugo knows the department will enjoy the changes. Until then, the program will continue to use the facilities as they have before, with more in-person communication rather than on social media.

"Patience and being positive is really important so we can keep growing and keep producing working talent," Hugo said.

Although the theatre company underwent a miscommunication with the faculty over the administration's support for the program, students are hopeful that developments will be made to accommodate one of the largest programs on campus.

Students to Explore the Land of Fire and Ice



COURTESY OF BRIAN SWEENEY

Students in Iceland in 2017 with Professor Brian Sweeney



COURTESY OF BRIAN SWEENEY

Students can visit new locations around the world

BY JADE BURNS

STAFF WRITER

Fourteen students will have the opportunity to study abroad in Reykjavik, Iceland on May 21 for 10 days to complete a case study on Nordic societies with Brian Sweeney, associate professor of sociology.

Iceland is named the "Land of Fire and Ice" because it's one of the hottest travel destinations in the world, while also consisting of breathtaking features such as mountains, geysers, glaciers and waterfalls.

The course is formally called Global Cultures: Iceland - The Social Foundations of Happiness and can be taken as the three credit course SOC 35 - Sociology/Anthropology SOC 35, which is cross-listed as Honors SOC 360 and Political Science POL 10.

Iceland consistently ranks among the happiest nations in the world, and as of 2020 is fourth on the World Population Review's ranking. The trip's purpose is to explore the social foundations of well being in Nordic culture.

The students' mission is to figure out if Icelanders are as some people expect them to be: emotionally one with themselves.

During the trip, students will attend lectures and workshops with Icelandic social scientists who are experts on areas related to the Nordic society's high levels of life expectancy, social cohesion, and political freedom and equality, according to Sweeney.

Students will also get free time to walk in completely safe areas to search and explore museums, historical sights and tours that will lead them behind waterfalls and up steep hills.

"We'll learn about government and politics, healthcare, the environment and education in Iceland," Sweeney said. "We'll even learn, for example, why Icelandic team sports consistently do well internationally, 'punching above their weight,' and outperforming teams from much larger countries."

The entirety of the trip will be in daylight, including the nights. The sun sets around 11 p.m. and rises around 3:45 a.m. In Iceland, the

sun never drops far enough below the horizon for the sky to get dark. "Even at 1 a.m., it's pretty bright; similar to an overcast day on Long Island," Sweeney said.

Iceland is beautiful and weird, according to Sweeney. As soon as you leave the airport, the landscape is unlike anything seen elsewhere. "It's like you've landed on the moon or another world. It does not disappoint," he said.

Students pay for three credits of tuition with a 10 percent discount to study abroad, which is about \$3,000. They are also responsible to pay anywhere from \$550 to \$750 for airfare, as well as a travel fee of about \$1,300, which includes all transportation, hotels, tours and museums.

Students interested in this event can visit the course website at <https://liuiceland.weebly.com/>, which offers a detailed explanation for each component of the trip. Those who have questions or interest can email Sweeney at brian.sweeney@liu.edu or call him at (516) 229-2456.

Coronavirus: To Panic or Not To Panic?

continued from page 2

that everyone knows the symptoms and prevention of the virus. A college campus is also a place where germs spread like crazy so it is important to address it," she said.

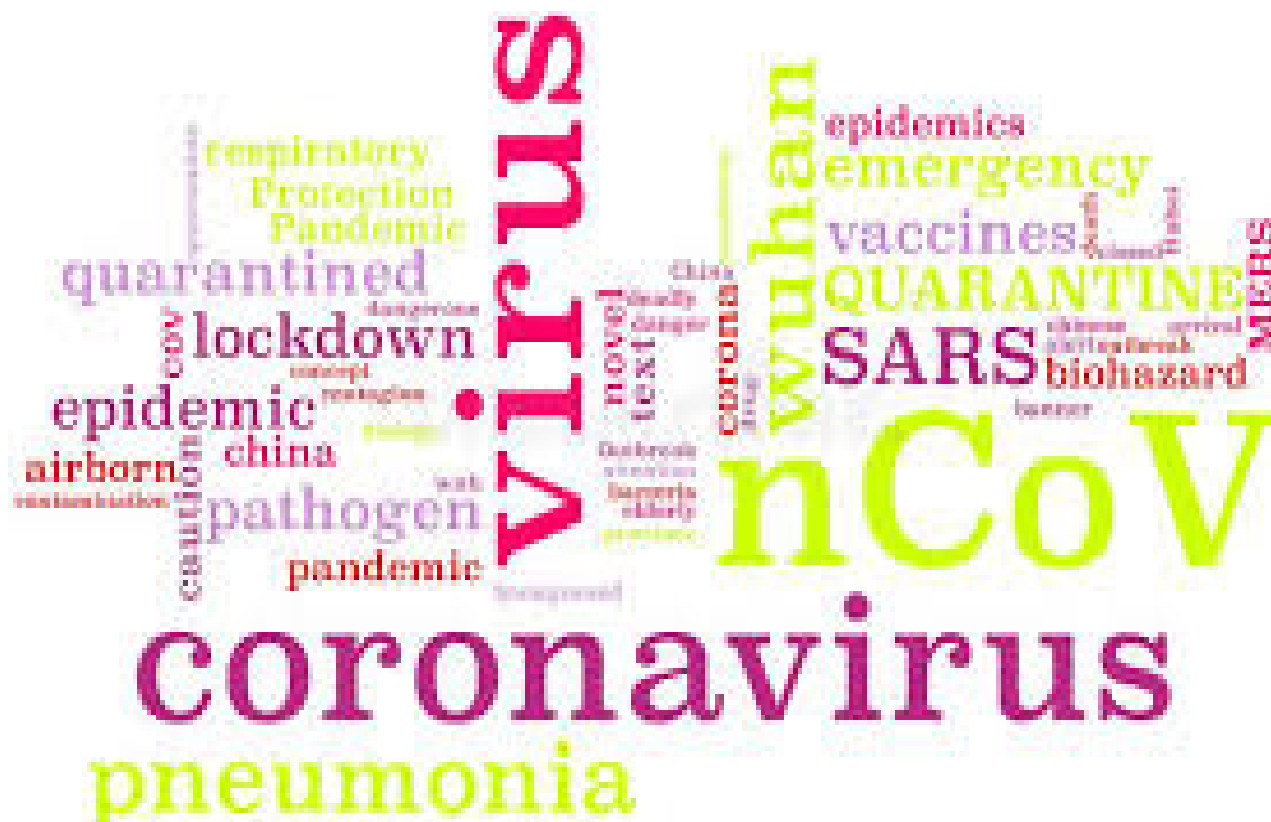
Faculty also felt the email was needed. Jamie Ross, professor of the business of fashion merchandising and sustainability, said the notice was very proactive. "Again, I don't think that we can just think that's not going to impact us here and that we [should] take all precautionary measures as much as possible," she said.

The Coronavirus has also raised concerns of racism and xenophobia because of its place of origin. Awareness toward the matter was raised through hashtags and posts on social media, including the hashtag, #JeNeSuisPasUnVirus, which is French and translates to "I am not a virus."

"I am disgusted at the prejudice that has been going on as aftermath," Levin said. "This isn't a time for countries to be xenophobic toward the Chinese. I'm more concerned about the overt racism going on right now. It is very unlikely that I, a 20-year-old in the United States, will get it," she said.

The University of California Berkeley recently posted a picture listing xenophobia as a "normal" reaction to the news of Coronavirus. When thinking about the university's email, Levin said, "I wish the university had said something about the xenophobia and racism that is occurring because of the coronavirus."

In addition to impacting our health and global compassion, the Coronavirus is also likely to affect the global economy. Accord-



ing to Ross, Americans shouldn't assume that because they're in the United States, the virus isn't going to impact them. "We need to think of China, and in terms of not only being their partners as people, but also in terms of business ramifications," she said.

"Pretty much all their businesses are shut down, many businesses, many factories. People are quarantined. They are home and this would be a key time of year in terms of sales, because

it is the Chinese New Year."

Berthel's email assured students and staff that the school is in contact with the appropriate officials. They will continue to keep the campus community updated and will continue to follow any recommendations issued.

Anyone wishing to contribute and make a donation to those suffering in China can do so by visiting <https://give2asia.org/donate-china-coronavirus-fund/>.

Billie Eilish Breaks Record at Grammys

BY CHANEL LUBSEY

STAFF WRITER

The 62nd Grammy Awards, held at the Staples Center in downtown Los Angeles on Jan. 27, inspired many who watched, as singer, songwriter and performer Billie Eilish took home a record-breaking number of awards.

The annual show has celebrated talented musicians since 1959, ranking the year's top artists in 30 fields (Pop, Gospel, Jazz, etc.) and 84 distinct award categories across those fields, including musical theater, spoken word, latin, R&B, and the most popular category, the general field.

There are four categories which make up the general field division: record of the year, album of the year, song of the year, and best new artist. Until recently only one artist, Christopher Cross, has won all four of these Grammys in one night back in 1981.

At the 2020 Grammy Awards show, Billie Eilish made history and walked away with five Grammys, including every Grammy in the general field and best pop vocal album. Eilish is the only woman to win all

four categories in a single night, and the youngest person to win album of the year for her album "When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?," beating the previous placeholder, Taylor Swift, by two years.

Sofia Coppola, a sophomore film major, thinks Eilish's success is amazing. "To be eighteen, a young woman, and to have won five Grammys shows that anything is possible as long as you put your heart into something," she said.

Eilish's recent accomplishment has been an inspiration and a positive leading example to aspiring students. Her large influence on younger generations has led some to look up to Eilish as a musical icon of their times.

"I think Billie Eilish represents the beginning of a generation that are personally aware of their emotions and able to convey them in such a way so as to be understood," Tyanna Middleton, a freshman music major, said.

With this historical moment in music, students expect nothing more than to continue the wave of breaking boundaries. "I am beyond proud that she has done what she has and cannot wait to see what she'll do in the future," Middleton said.



Introducing the Bowling Club



Nick Bruner bowling

COURTESY OF NICK BRUNNER



Michael Mele bowling

COURTESY OF NICK BRUNNER

BY THOMAS OKIN
STAFF WRITER

The Bowling Club is the newest addition to the many clubs and activities on campus. It sets itself apart from the Division I Bowling Team because it offers a fun way for students to enjoy the sport without the stress of competition.

"We are mostly for fun," Michael Mele, sophomore accounting major and president of the club, said. "We're also going to try to do some tournaments, but the big thing is our weekly meetings. That will just be for fun, if you want to come and learn, anyone will teach you."

The NCAA does not recognize mens bowling as a sport, so any male bowling teams need to be recognized by the United States Bowling

Congress in order to participate in tournaments. This limitation is what originally inspired the creation of the club.

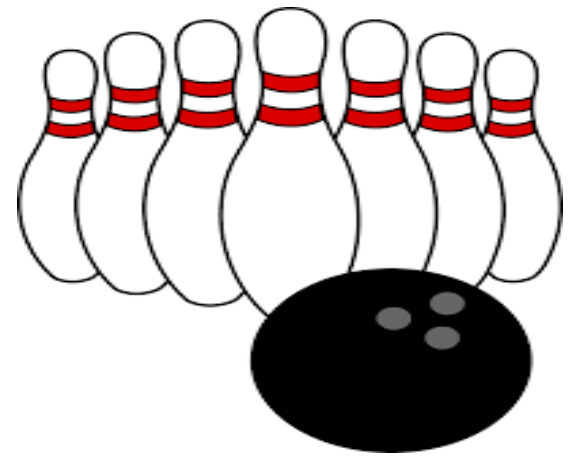
"When I came here there was no bowling team or anything like that for the boys," Mele said. "We know that there is one for girls, so we founded it with the intention of giving boys a place to show their skills."

The club hopes to become an officially recognized team in the future, but will remain a recreational activity in the meantime.

The Bowling Club is not exclusive to male students. Anyone is welcome to join regardless of gender or skill level.

The club meets every Friday at 2.p.m. at Levittown Lanes. Students can contact Michael

Mele at Michael.mele@my.liu.edu or follow the club on Instagram @liubowlingclub for more information.



Students Offered a Chance to Walk the Runway

BY DYLAN VALIC
FEATURES EDITOR

The Fashion Network will host its third annual fashion show on Thursday, April 23, at 8 p.m. in the Fish Bowl.

The theme for this year's show is New York City streetwear. Models will wear casual clothing such as hoodies and jeans as they walk the runway, showing off their style with a New York flare.

This year's show will differ greatly from previous years as it will feature designs made by students from Post and other universities. In the past most of the clothes for the show were donated from local boutiques. The Student Body Boutique will also contribute clothes for the event.

Members of the Fashion Network are attempting to get all kinds of students to model in and attend the show. In the past, students who modeled in the show were mostly female according to Hema Chimpidi, junior fashion merchandising major and president

of the Fashion Network. Since streetwear is a unisex, theme she hopes that more male students will be able to model this year.

Admission to the event will cost \$5 for students, and \$10 for non-students. This year 15 percent of proceeds will be donated to Delivering Good, a nonprofit organization that

gives items such as books, clothing and toys to children in need.

If any students are interested in designing clothes or modeling for the event they can contact the Fashion Network at Post-fashion-network@my.liu.edu.

LIU FASHION NETWORK'S ANNUAL FASHION SHOW!

MALES & FEMALES NEEDED

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APR 23 8PM

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL US AT POST-FASHIONNETWORK@MY.LIU.EDU

Remembering the Life and Legacy of Kobe Bryant

BY CHANEL LUBSEY
STAFF WRITER

Editor's Note: Jason Glickman is a staff writer for the Pioneer.

Legends are not invincible is a realization that stuck students across campus when basketball star Kobe Bryant was killed in a helicopter crash on January 26. Kobe Bryant was considered an inspiration and a leader.

After being drafted in 1996 by the Charlotte Hornets, he was immediately traded to the Los Angeles Lakers where he remained for his 20-season career. Bryant accumulated eight awards throughout his career and was an 18-time All-Star athlete. He holds the second most points ever scored in a single game, 81 points playing for the Lakers versus the Raptors in 2006, and he holds the fourth spot for most points scored over a career.

He appeared in the NBA finals seven times, and of those seven appearances, he won five championships. Out of the five finals, Bryant was awarded finals MVP twice. He also was a 15-time member of the All-NBA team, and a 12-time member of the All-Defensive team. In 2008 he won the NBA Most Valuable Player Award. All of these accolades have cemented Kobe Bryant as one of the best athletes to numerous fans.

Bryant passed away with his 13-year-old daughter, Gianna, and seven other people while travelling to a charity basketball game.

The event swept the nation in disbelief, and has left people heartbroken, including students.

James Waldof, a junior broadcasting major, was one of those affected by Bryant's death. "[Kobe] is one of the biggest legends that I've grown up to know, and to know he passed away in such a tragic way, in a helicopter crash, and to know that his daughter was with him is absolutely awful," he said. "When I heard about it, I got so upset that I cried for like two hours. I couldn't get over it, for him to go out like that is bad because he was just starting his family, he retired a year or two ago. It's just awful."

Bryant's death has touched several students, even those who aren't basketball fans. "It's still a human life, regardless of whether or not you're a basketball fan, he was still a really big guy in the industry," Jason Glickman, a junior broadcasting major, said. "Even as a sports fan, not necessarily a basketball fan, this is one of the biggest surprising deaths, at least in my lifetime."

Within the campus community, faculty members have felt his death to be near and dear to them



JANE MONTALTO

as well. Deirdre Moore, the former head women's basketball coach, was especially mourning the loss of Bryant. "When I came out of traffic I had 65 text messages about Kobe Bryant passing away," she said. The messages came from former students, even going as far back as the class of 2012. "The emotions were just very strong. I didn't want to believe it," she said.

"Every time I see [a tribute] I have to fight back tears," Moore said. "He meant that much to so many people, to see that kind of effect on so many people, it puts sport into a different category. People feel like they have lost someone they knew, even if they might not have known him."

Moore took Bryant's death as a reminder of our own mortality.

"It just let's you know you're not invincible. You should spend time with the people that matter most. You should keep the little things little," she said. "Sometimes we let things escalate and build up and we're so upset, and life ends and it wasn't really that important; It's just a part of life." Moore hopes that Bryant knew how adored he was before he passed away.

The death of Kobe Bryant and his daughter Gianna have touched the hearts of many. As Ayinde Johnson, a freshman journalism major, said, "Heroes come and go, but legends are forever."

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Emerging Student Theatre Artists Announce Spring Season



COURTESY OF ANNA GWALTNEY

Members of the ESTA Executive Board

BY LEAH HOLT

STAFF WRITER

“Alice in Wonderland,” “Murder Mysteries,” and the campus’ gardens all have something in common this semester. They’re each a part of the Emerging Student Theatre Artists’ (ESTA) spring 2020 season. ESTA is the student-run theatre organization on campus where students propose, direct, choreograph, and star in their own productions every semester.

“We take submissions from people in the club. Once all the submissions are in, we then meet as a board. We read through their

submissions and we have to see if it’s right for our club. We then decide as a board what’s going to be best for the season and try to schedule it out,” Anna Gwaltney, senior musical theatre major and president of ESTA, said. This detailed selection process is what shapes each unique season of student-produced shows with a variety of plays, musicals and student-written pieces. ESTA also consists of an improvisation troupe within the club called “No Control.”

“I love that we get to provide a place for people outside of the work that they do within the department,” Kevin DiCarlo, freshman musical theatre major, said. “Even people who aren’t in the department get to create, express

themselves, and try things they don’t normally get to do.”

DiCarlo said that participating in ESTA productions has changed his life. He starred in the fall 2019 musical “25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.” He’ll be directing the musical “Alice,” staged in the Rifle Range Theatre on Saturday, Feb. 29 at 2 p.m. and Sunday, March 1 at 8 p.m.

Any student is welcome to join ESTA. Gwaltney described the 2020 season as “bold.” Their upcoming performance of “Murder Mystery” directed by Steele Whitney and Jules Rivera will take place on Saturday, Feb. 15 at 8 p.m. in the Great Hall. The 24-hour play festival is an event where a group of playwrights, directors and actors work together for 24 hours to write, stage and perform plays. It will take place on the Little Theatre Mainstage on Monday, Feb. 17. The first No Control Show of the season will be on Friday, Feb. 14 in the Hillwood Commons Cinema, a time has yet to be announced as of Sunday, Feb. 2. “The Space we Take,” directed by Kylie Brown will take place on Feb. 22 at 9 p.m., and the Secret Garden will take place in the campus outdoor garden at noon on April 25 with a rain date for the following day.

For more information, students can check out the club’s Instagram @esta.liupost

Album Review: “Music to be Murdered By”

BY JASON GLICKMAN

STAFF WRITER

Guess who’s back, back again? Eminem dropped his 11th studio album, “Music to Be Murdered By” on Friday, Jan. 17. He released the album without warning; it seemingly came out of nowhere, similar to how he released “Kamikaze” back in 2018.

Even though the album attracted instant attention on social media, some dismissed it since it came out at the same time as the late Mac Miller’s album “Circles.” Others dismissed it because his music’s style has changed.

Some students didn’t finish listening to the album or even start listening to it at all. “Listening to Eminem in 2020? Couldn’t be me,” Jada Harrison, a junior broadcasting major, said.

The album features multiple younger artists, such as the late Juice WRLD, Ed Sheeran, Anderson .Paak, Don Toliver, and Young M.A. While the younger artists delivered flashy verses and catchy hooks, Eminem supplied a flurry of lyricism and double entendres to complement.

Of course, it wouldn’t be an Eminem album without controversy. He brought up the Manchester bombing at the Ariana

Grande concert that happened back in 2017. The mention came on the second track of the album, “Unaccommodating,” which served as an intro to the hard-hitting “Darkness” five songs later.

However, some students appreciate the controversy. Freshman nutrition major Adriana Ciminelli loves that Eminem says what he thinks. “It’s so raw and honest,” she said. “He doesn’t sugar coat anything at all and just says it how it is.”

One of the most impactful of the songs on the album was “Darkness,” where Eminem wrote from the perspective of the Las Vegas shooter from 2017 while drawing parallels to his younger, drug-addicted self. At the beginning of the song, Eminem uses lyrics such as, “If I pop any caps, it better be off of vodka, that’s a lot of shots, huh?” That could refer to either his younger self abusing alcohol, or to the shooter.

As with all music, some like the album, some dislike it. Overall, Eminem has done better in the past, but this album is still significantly better than 2017’s “Revival” or 2018’s “Kamikaze.” If a student has some time to kill and wants to listen to some new music, they can put on some headphones, and listen to some “Music to Be Murdered By.”



Photographers Welcome Students back to SAL Gallery



ASHLEY BOWDEN

"Where Flowers Can't Grow" by James Brennan

BY TORI MONTELEONE & ASHLEY BOWDEN

STAFF WRITER, CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Members of the Photography Club are celebrating their artwork via a gallery showcase, titled "Resurgence," on display in the SAL Gallery located in the B. Davis Schwartz Library from Jan. 28 until Feb. 9. The Photography Club is not exclusive to photography majors, and to this effect, the gallery features pieces from students of all years and across all majors, and is open for all to attend.

Students in the club are excited to have their work featured in a public forum. This is the first event hosted by the Photography Club in the spring 2020 semester after a fall 2019 semester filled with events, so club members are eager to show their work off to the public.

A variety of topics are covered in the photos lining the walls. Some photographers have chosen to focus their art on the natural world, while others snapped pictures of friends and some even took self portraits. Each photogra-

pher has a set of three pictures on display, each one connected to each other to convey their meaning.

For freshman art therapy major, Kelcey Dilling, this is her first time showcasing her work in a formal gallery setting. "My series is called the 'Self Reflection' series, it basically is about somebody reflecting on something that made them a different person, and spending the time by themselves to really grow from the experience they've had in the past," she said.



ASHLEY BOWDEN

Photo by Mikey Ahearne

This is also a first time experience for freshman photography major, Stephanie Varone. "Since the topic was resurgence and regrowth, I did a couple different models and had them view themselves how they wanted to be perceived, and also a more natural side of them," Varone said. In some photos, the model is wearing makeup, and in contrast, the same model is portrayed without makeup and with their natural hair. "[It shows] their natural beauty in a way, and how they're going to grow this year."

James Brennan, freshman art therapy major, created a collection called "Where Flowers can't grow." "It was my final project for last semester, and I thought it connected with the theme of growth, because the concentration

was connecting flowers and people and growing in places that they're not really meant to thrive," they said.

There is also a significant individual connection artists have with the work they create. Brennan's personal experiences led to the inspiration of their collection. "It kept going through my head of flowers bursting out something or growing in concrete, I thought that was really pretty," Brennan said. "I've been through a lot, and the idea of flowers being able to thrive in those places kind of inspired me to thrive in places I was struggling in."

The artists went through their own processes for creating their individual series. "I took [photos of] my friend Katie back home in Massachusetts, and I decided that I wanted to incorporate flowers and snow and have a white background, and take her places in Massachusetts that are important to me," Dilling said.

Varone went through several different ideas before arriving at this one. She considered the concept of growth and how to portray it in winter. "How can I show not just nature, but how someone themselves can grow during the year," she said.

She also took this opportunity to practice a method of editing photos so that different layers could be added. "In one picture there's three of the same person, so I was able to edit them all together to show the different sides of them but all in one picture," Varone said.

Brennan is a special effects artist, so they worked with makeup, latex and craft materials to achieve the final image of flowers growing from a human arm. After attaching fake flowers to their own arm, they edited the photos with photoshop to adjust the lighting.

"Resurgence" is the first of many events from the Photography Club in the spring 2020 semester and is free to attend.



ASHLEY BOWDEN

A collection of photos by Michael DeChristo



ASHLEY BOWDEN

A photo by Jane Montalto

Shanghai String Quartet Works With Students

BY JILLIAN MEHTA

ASST ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Professional music artists, The Shanghai String Quartet, will perform for students at a music department convocation on campus, and personally work with the students to help develop their skills.

Laura Bogen, a junior music major, has worked with the group before and is looking forward to their visit to campus. “The Shanghai are a highly world renowned classical ensemble quartet who are famous worldwide for their exceptional skill, musicality and their cohesiveness,” she said. “They are an incredible ensemble to experience and to work with.” She got the chance to work with the Quartet in spring 2019 and back in high school. “They came and they listened to our string ensemble play, and they gave us tips.”

The Quartet has performed professionally since 1983, and provides students with a sounding board and tips in furthering their music careers. “I actually performed two pieces for them and it was great because I got feedback.” Sarah Bogen, first-year music performance masters student, said. “They’re always surprising and they always interpret the music so beautifully that you just get lost in it,” Sarah said.

The Quartet has had a long relationship with the Tilles Center and has worked with



COURTESY OF THE SHANGHAI STRING QUARTET

and performed for students and faculty at the university for over 10 years. “It’s a wonderful opportunity for our students to have interactions with them,” Maureen Hynes, director of orchestral and string studies, said.

The group is a great example of a role model for aspiring performers, according to Bogen. “As music students who want to pursue this in their lives, it’s good to see people who are in this field and are successful in it, and who love what they do,” she said.

“[They are] inspiring because every time I hear them I just want to go home and practice for six hours.” Bogen said. “The only word I can say is ‘incredible’ because they just pay so

much attention to every little detail that most people wouldn’t notice.”

The convocation will take place on Monday, Feb. 10 at 12:30 p.m. in the Krasnoff Theater, and all students are welcome to attend. Students can anticipate another performance from the Quartet at the Tilles Center on Sunday, March 22.

Hynes encouraged all students to attend. “By all means come, because they are great performers. What they bring will be a wonderful introduction, and I think watching any live performance is inspiring to people,” she said.

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The Baseball Team Prepares For Season Start



ANDREW SCARPACI

The baseball team practicing



ANDREW SCARPACI

The baseball team practicing

BY ANDREW SCARPACI

ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

The baseball team is ready to kick off their inaugural season, with their first game being played in Spartanburg, SC on Friday, Feb. 14 against the Spartans of University of South Carolina Upstate.

Head Coach Dan Pirillo, former head coach for Brooklyn Blackbirds, will lead the team together with pitching coach Tom Carty, who worked under Pirillo for The Blackbirds, and hitting coach Mike Gaffney who is the former head coach of the Pioneers. The Sharks have a balance of experienced and new players on the roster which consists of 15 players from Brooklyn, seven players from Post, eight freshmen, and five transfer athletes.

Despite being newly branded Sharks, Coach Pirillo states his expectations are the same as always. "Our expectations every year are to go out and compete in the conference, [and] get back to a NCAA regional," he said.

All players, whether from Brooklyn, Post, transfer students or freshmen, will all come together for the common goal to win according to Pirillo. "Baseball unites people and that's something our team has embraced from day one," he said. "It didn't matter what gear or what team they were on, they all got a chance to play between the lines and compete together as a baseball team and stay together through the fall."

Coach Pirillo is most excited about all the competitive teams they will play during their non conference matchups, and all the new

rivalries they will create. "We get to play Army, St. John's, new local matchups such as Stony Brook and Hofstra, and the addition of Merrimack to the conference," he said.

Coach Carty has a similar take on the team's expectations. "Getting to the NEC tournament is first off. Opportunities to play in the NCAA is the ultimate goal, but we have to secure a top 4 spot in [the] NEC," Carty said. He also said he is very excited to see his three senior pitchers in action this season, and hope they step up in their final year of collegiate play. "Patrick Clyne, Jackson Svete, and Rob Griswold are three senior pitchers who have been in big moments in their career, and as sophomores were pitchers who got big outs in the NCAA tournament," he said.

Coach Gaffney is ready to take his winning history and tradition from Division II to Division I. He said one challenge this year is "seeing better competition on a more consistent basis", but also thinks the blending of the three groups will give them a great opportunity to compete and win at the Division I level.

Ryan Neuweiler, a redshirt sophomore sports management major, who is excited to get back on the field and compete in the NEC hoping to experience a winning season like he did his freshman year when The Blackbirds won the conference. He remembers the chemistry the team had that year and the feeling of "running out after the final out on the mound for the dog pile in celebration."

Nick De Salvo, a junior sports management major who played for The Blackbirds before

the merger, hopes the players' experiences of winning will be to their advantage. "We got to win the conference my freshman year and Post won the conference last year, so everyone has that winning mentality and I hope it transfers to this year," he said.

Cooper Shearon, Davyn Adamsheck and Cade Biddle are all junior sports management majors who transferred to LIU this past fall. They all believe the team can be on the top of the conference as long as they stick together and work hard. "We can do a lot of damage," Shearon said.



ANDREW SCARPACI

The baseball team practicing

Sharks Defend their Tank Against Post University



ANTHONY CAVARETTA

The Sharks huddle during a game



ANTHONY CAVARETTA

The women's ice hockey team played Post University on Friday, Feb. 1

BY ANTHONY CAVARETTA

STAFF WRITER

The women's ice hockey team won their final regular home game of the inaugural season with a score of 7-1 against Post University on Friday, Feb. 1. The Sharks dominated the entire contest, outshooting the Eagles of Post University 67 to 39, with 45 to 24 of those shots being on goal.

The blue and gold took a lead midway through the first period and never looked back after freshman Renee Hoffmann scored her 11th goal of the season, assisted by her sister Julia Hoffmann and Carrigan Umpherville.

The Sharks scored two more goals before the end of the first period, as freshman Matilda af

Bjur and Grace Dima both scored to give The Sharks a 3-0 advantage. The lead stretched to 4-0 early in the second period when Umpherville scored on a feed from behind the net by Renee Hoffmann.

Post University answered in the second period as their Sadie Storm ripped a shot in power-play. The Sharks answered with back to back goals from freshman Alva Johnson, Abby Latorella and Umpherville. Umpherville thereby scored her team-leading 12th goal of the year.

Freshman Saige McKay netted her third goal of the year to close out the game. Freshman goalkeeper, Mia McLeod stopped 23 shots on the day.

The win places the women's ice hockey team at fourth place in the New England Women's

Hockey Alliance standings and they will host the number five seed Saint Michael's College in the first round of the playoffs. With the season winding down, the team looks to enter the playoffs strong, but it will require great teamwork and them paying attention to the details. "The team needs to stay bonded and focus on the little things to have success in the playoffs," forward Megan Bouver said.

The Sharks will close out the regular season with four road contests over the next two weeks, beginning with a two-game set in Winchendon, Massachusetts against Franklin Pierce University. The first game will be played on Friday, Feb. 7 at 7 p.m. at Jason Ritchie Arena.

Women's Rugby Team Holds Tryouts



IDA YNNER LAGERQVIST

Rugby players in action working on their teamwork

BY ELISE PERSON

STAFF WRITER

The women's rugby team is looking for new team members. Head Coach Colleen Doherty will hold informational meetings in the on Tuesday, Feb. 11 at 5.30 p.m. and Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 12.30 p.m. The meetings will provide details about tryout dates, as well as introduce both new and experienced athletes to the game of rugby.

The reason for tryouts is to "increase numbers and round out the roster with crossover athletes," Doherty said.

Tryouts will be geared towards prior athletes, including former high school athletes or collegiate athletes. However, anyone is welcome to try out; there is no experience necessary.

"We want all people thinking about coming to the informational sessions," Doherty said. "We have several members on the team who never played rugby before college, but often did a variety of sports in high school."

Doherty encourages out-of-season athletes or fall senior athletes who are finished with their season to come to one of the informational meetings.

Any further questions about tryouts can be emailed to Doherty at Colleen.Doherty@liu.edu.

Women's Soccer Prepares for Spring Season



Upcoming Schedule

Men's Basketball

Thursday, Feb. 6 @ 7 p.m.
vs Mount St. Mary's
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Women's Basketball

Saturday, Feb. 8 @ 2 p.m.
vs Merrimack College
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Women's Lacrosse

Saturday, Feb. 8 @ 12 p.m.
vs Rutgers University
Piscataway, N.J.

Men's Lacrosse

Saturday, Feb. 8 @ 1 p.m.
vs Siena College
Loudonville, N.Y.

Bowling

Friday, Feb. 7 – Sunday, Feb. 9
Baker Classic
Sinking Spring, Pa.

Men's and Women's Track & Field

Friday, Feb. 7
at Ualbany Winter Classic
Staten Island, N.Y.

Softball

Friday, Feb. 7 @ 11.15 a.m.
vs University of Connecticut
Fort Myers, Fla.

Ice Hockey

Friday, Feb. 7 @ 7 p.m.
vs Franklin Pierce University
Winchendon, Mass.

Tennis

Friday, Feb. 7 @ 9.15 p.m.
at Hofstra University
Hempstead, N.Y.

Fencing

Saturday, Feb. 8
at New York University
FDU Invitational
Teaneck, N.J.

Water Polo

Saturday, Feb. 8 – Sunday,
Feb. 9
at Bison Invite
Lewisburg, Pa.

Equestrian

Sunday, Feb. 9
at Pratt Institute
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Women's Lacrosse Looks Forward To New Season



The women's lacrosse team

BY TIANA ONO

STAFF WRITER

The women's lacrosse team currently puts together the final pieces to prepare for, what they hope will be, a successful season.

The 2020 spring season will be the first time the team competes in the Division I North Eastern Conference as the Sharks, and for some of the players, it will be their first time competing as Division I athletes.

Sophomore attacker Emma Cantwell, who played for the Pioneers last year, said she is excited to take on the new competition that awaits at the Division I level. "The team is ready and [we] can't wait to prove that we are a team that will be tough to beat," Cantwell said.

Maddy Schaefer, a sophomore attacker and midfielder, agrees. "I am excited to face the challenge of stronger opponents and stronger competition in a new conference," she said.

Kelly Hughes, a sophomore defender,

also looks forward to the new season and to be able to bond with her new teammates and create program history. "I honestly feel so blessed to be part of the new LIU family and I hope to impact the way the program is going to be run for years to come," she said. "I am looking forward to bonding with all of my teammates as we become stronger as one program," Schaefer added.

The Sharks started their training in the fall where practices "involved more conditioning of the body" according to Cantwell. Now when the team is in season, the practices are more focused on "team development and play execution," she said. "Fall training was less intense, but our goal to prepare for the season remained the same," Schaefer added.

The women's lacrosse team will play nine games total before conference play begins. Their first conference game is on Friday, March 27, at 4 p.m. at the Bethpage Federal Credit Union Stadium in Brookville where The Sharks will face Mount St. Mary's.

Game Results

Ice Hockey

Friday, Jan. 31
vs Post University
Win 7-1

Saturday, Feb. 1
vs Post University
Win 7-1

Wrestling

Friday, Jan. 31
vs Columbia University
Loss 3-45

Swimming

Saturday, Feb. 1
vs Central Connecticut State
University
Loss 129-133

Fencing

Saturday, Feb. 1
at Yale University
Loss 2-25

Water Polo

Saturday - Sunday, Feb. 1 -
Feb. 2
at Brown University
Bruno Classic
1 Win & 3 Losses

Men's Basketball

Saturday, Feb. 1
vs Merrimack College
Loss 59-70

Women's Basketball

Saturday, Feb. 1
vs Merrimack College
Win 68-60

