Vol. 99, No. 6 Nov. 13, 2024

#### Cardinal View welcomes future students

Rayna Christy UP contributor

The Welcome Center will host Cardinal View, Nov. 16. The biannual recruitment event offers prospective students the opportunity to learn about Lamar University's campus, organizations, and colleges.

"Cardinal View is our largest recruitment event," Angela Fanette, Welcome Center director, said. "We have it twice a year, one in the fall semester, one in the spring. Historically, the fall semester is a larger event. People are still thinking of where they're going to be by spring."

Fanette said there are multiple parts of Cardinal View to help prospective students learn about Lamar.

"They can expect, by attending Cardinal View, to be able to learn about all of our degree programs and majors, to meet with faculty and staff from across campus, to see campus resources and community resources from the area, and to let them get to know Beaumont and our area a little bit better," Fanette said.

"They will have an opportunity to meet with admissions staff and talk about those requirements, possibly bring some of those documents necessary and submit those if they need to. They can apply for Lamar University on site."

Attendees will receive a free ticket to the football game at 3 p.m., and

See **VIEW,** page 4



**UP photo by Rayna Christy** 

Welcome Center director Angela Fanette, right, and Carlee Smith, associate director of new student programs, fold shirts for Cardinal View.



Lamar University's new College of Business Dean Joby John.

UP photo by Kami Greene

### **Business Dean Joby John looks to future**

Kami Greene UP staff writer

"Standing on business," a term that describes someone committed to their responsibilities and values, fits Joby John like a tailored suit.

John is truly a jack of all trades. From attending three different churches, teaching adult bible study, learning how to read music, playing bass guitar, becoming a pilot, taking drawing lessons, teaching business on all continents, and being on the board of advisors for a business school in France, John has accomplished various quests. Not to mention also being a dean for two universities, of course.

The new dean of the College of Business at Lamar University, John takes pride in his position.

"It must not be taken lightly," he said. "It has to be taken very seriously, because that's the job and responsibility that has been entrusted to me by the president, on behalf of the community, on behalf of Lamar, on behalf of all of you students, on behalf of the faculty and staff. I value that a lot."

John earned his bachelor's degree in pharmacy and gained business experience in pharmaceutical marketing after earning his MBA.

"I worked for Pfizer," John said.

"And then, after a while, I worked in a couple of other companies in India and came to Oklahoma State University for my PhD in marketing. Then I went and taught in Boston for 22 years at Bentley University."

At Bentley, John was a faculty member for 14 years, spending the last eight years as department chair. After becoming dean of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette College of Business for eight years, John took a sabbatical before returning to teach marketing.

COVID-19 changed to the way technology is used, John said, which drew him back into a dean position.

"I had not wanted to go anywhere beyond three to four hours out of Lafayette," John said. "Lamar happened to be looking for a dean last year. And so I decided, this is a kind of school I would like to apply to."

John said that he did not want to step into another dean's role unless

See **DEAN**, page 2



# Lecture explores history of area's LGBTQ+ Community

Maddie Sims UP editor

The LGBTQ+ community has always existed, but only in recent years has it become accepted as an important part of society.

The Center for History and Culture of Southeast Texas presented "Love in Lavender," Nov. 7, in the Dishman Art Museum. Cassandre Broussard, LU history lecturer, shared her findings documenting the history of the community in Southeast Texas, along with her newest website, "Love in Lavender."

"Queer history is something that is still growing as a field," she said. "Finding information is scarce, especially in the state of Texas where the law against homosexuality was around until 2003. There was nothing on this region, and there was

See **LAVENDER**, page 4

### LU's Cardinal Lights to turn on, Nov. 19

**Press Release** 

Lamar University's fourth annual Cardinal Lights will take place Nov. 19 at the Wayne A. Reaud Building from 6-8 p.m., with a fireworks show at 6:30 p.m.

Activities will include elf-training inflatables, a Santa's Workshop and an ice-skating rink with hot cocoa and holiday cookies. President Jaime Taylor will kick off the celebration by

turning on the lights with the fireworks show immediately after.

Thousands of lights will be on display wrapped around trees and various buildings around Jimmy Simmons Boulevard, Jim Gilligan Way and the Rolfe Christopher Drive entrance to campus. They will be up throughout the month of December, bleeding into the new year.

For information, visit lamar.edu/cardinallights.



Workers install Cardinal Lights on the Reaud Building, Nov. 4.

UP photo by Maddie Sims

Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2024 University Press

#### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"A smile is the universal welcome."

- Max Eastman

#### NOTICE

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#### **DEAN** from page 1

he felt there was something significant that he could do to improve student life through impactful initiatives.

"One of the things I would like to do is to manage this new technology-based delivery like online courses and hybrid courses — reach students who are non-traditional age students as well," he said. "The way you live, the way you work, the way you play, today's generation is a very different generation than 10 years ago. So, universities that adapt to those kinds of changes are going to do better."

John said universities need to focus on how student's needs have changed, including people who have already left university and started working.

"So, it's also reaching nontraditional age students who might want to come back for a graduate degree, but they can't come back full-time," he said. "You have to figure out a way to construct a degree that will meet their lifestyle and work style. That means executive education, that means professional education. It means hybrid deliverv. It means online courses. It means different ways of teaching, and that's what impactful initiatives mean."

John said that it is impor-

tant for Lamar to cater to the area's markets, such as refineries, oil and gas companies, and the energy sector, and to create programs that are unique to Southeast Texas.

"If we can get our programs to cater to that market, I think we've found a way to distinguish ourselves," John said. "One of the things we are looking at is an energy management program for all levels from undergraduate all the way to doctoral level."

Offering a minor or concentration in energy business is also in John's future plans.

The opportunity to lead an academic community into the future is serious responsibility, John said.

"(A) whole generation coming up, five to 10 years, will be impacted by what I can do with the community,"

John said he spent his first 100 days in the position observing the community and culture. He has met with various administration members as well as leaders in the community, the mayor's office, the Chamber of Commerce,

donors, and prominent alumni of the college.

"You can't lead a community unless you know the community in total," he said.

John said Lamar is a place that values its legacy, a place where people get along with one another, and a place students are proud of.

"Universities that

adapt...are going

to do better."

Joby John

"They're comfortable with what we offer here and who we are as an institution." he said. "That's like a very comfortable home."

For more on the College of Business, visit lamar.edu/business.

### JNIVERSITY PRESS

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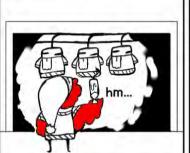
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# Mechanical Mayhem

#### Robotic **Cardinals** club hosts high school tourney

Carlos Viloria **UP photo editor** 

Lamar University's Robotic Cardinals student organization, along with the College of Engineering, held its second High Stakes Vex Robotic tournament for high schoolers, Oct. 31, in the Science and Technology Building.

The high school students designed and built robots throughout the semester for the tournament. The goal of the game is to score points by placing rings on stakes, placing mobile goals in positive/negative corners, and climbing a ladder.

Each round lasts two minutes and the robots navigate the course via pre-programmed instructions to score bonus points. There is also a drivercontrolled period, where the students get to manually control the robot.

The league consisted of three high school teams from Memorial High School, Buna High School and the Texas Academy for Leadership in the Humanities at Lamar University. The teams competed for a chance to qualify for a spot in VEX regionals.

Bobby Barton, one of the coordinators for the event, said he was pleased with how the league turned out.

"It's going awesome," he said. "It's really exciting to see us being able to provide an opportunity for these students in our local high schools to compete. They get to come here for four weekdays, play some matches, then go home, and at the end of November we'll be hosting a really big tournament, so it's great.

Jordan Vazquez, Memorial High School senior, said he felt good about his team's performance.

"I do think we could have



**UP photo by Carlos Viloria** 

TALH students Gabriel Kirkwood, left, and Ovez Bheraiya work on their bot before a Vex Robotic Tournament match, Oct. 31, in the Science and Technology Building.

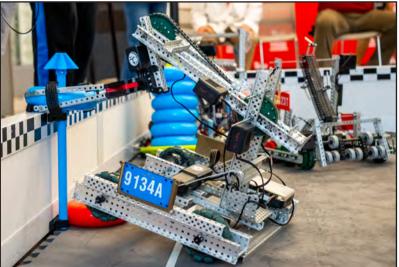
done better in certain aspects," he said. "But we have made a lot of progress, and we've learned a lot when it comes to rules and how to play the game. There's a lot of improvement needed for our team, but we've

been doing so good so far." Gabriel Kirkwood, TAHL junior, said he enjoyed the event.

"The staff here and the volunteers here at Lamar put on a really great event," he said. "I

love it. Everybody's great. For sure, we have some hiccups that we gotta fix moving forward, but overall, we're taking the hits and moving forward. I'm really proud of the team and how far we've come so far."





The Big Dippers' bot, far left, holds a ring to score against the blue team, Oct.31, during the Vex Robotic Tournament in the Science and Technology Building. Buna High School's bot, scores a point by placing a ring on a stake, left, on a wall stake.

UP photos by

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Speed Interviewing
1 pm - 3 pm | SSC Cypress 125/127

FRI 11/15 Lunch with the VP 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm | SSC Conf. Room 230

SAT 11/16 CAB Tailgate Party
11 am - 2 pm | Plummer Lawn

TUE 11/19 LUHub Feedback Session
12:45 pm - 1:45 pm | SSC Org. Workroom 260

**Student Org. Recruitment Techniques** 4 pm - 5 pm | SSC Org. Workroom 260

Student Government Assoc. Open Meeting 6 pm - 8 pm | SSC Neches 120

WED 11/20

**Gratitude Awareness Table** 12 pm - 2 pm | SSC Atrium

Student Org. Flight Plans - Planning Session 4 pm - 6 pm | Science Auditorium

THU 11/21 Winter Wellness Table 12 pm - 1 pm | SSC Atrium

**LUHub Feedback Session** 12:45 pm - 1:45 pm | SSC Org. Workroom 260

SAT 11/23 Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Day 1 pm - 4 pm | Dining Hall

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#### LAVENDER from page 1

nowhere to tell the story of people like me or my friends. Our presence in the historic record needs to be here, we need to be represented."

Broussard said she uses the term, "queer history," because the word "queer" used as a derogatory slur and is now reclaimed by some members of the community.

"I use it because 'gay' doesn't really include everyone," she said. "The word gay generally means loving someone the same gender and that excludes our bisexual, pansexual, and other members of our community. It doesn't always include all of our transgender members of our community either, so I use that umbrella term."

Broussard said during her research she ended up with nearly 100 pages of notes over the LGBTQ+ community in the region.

"They were much more present than I realized," she said. "Some of it was editorials and comment sections with people writing back and forth at one another. There was more support than anticipated, being a smaller area, but some of it was not quite as fun to read about.

"In 1979, in Houston, there were (queer) landmarks that were being targeted by arsonists. This was not something that was just happening in Texas, it was also happening in Louisiana."

Broussard said there were also attacks that targeted and killed members of the queer community.

"The thing about these killings is that for decades there was a murder defense used called gay panic," she said. "Gay panic is based on the theory that some men are prone to an uncontrollable violent reaction in the proposition of fighting. It was used as a defense to make it OK."

In May of 2023, Broussard said she decided to create a website, loveinlavender.com, where LGBTQ+ people can share personal experiences to help them feel less isolated.

"There are a lot of kids who grow up and they realize that they are either gender nonconforming or they have any sort of sexual orientation outside of the heteronormative category," she said. "They may not be at a home where they're accepted, or they may be in a location, a city, a school where they're not accepted."



Cassandre Broussard, inset, presented "Love in Lavender" at the Dishman Art Museum, Nov.7.

Broussard said the website is a resource where people can find out they are not alone.

"You can hear people telling their stories, and one of them may sound exactly like yours," she said. "Here's someone who gets you, you can relate to, and they're talking about their experience, the horrors, and how they got through it. That can be extremely powerful to have an outlet. That was a big part of

it, especially considering current circumstances in the elec-

Broussard chose the word "lavender" because the color has been used as a derogatory term for gay men and is another phrase the community later adopted.

The website has a feature where people can anonymously share their stories, with an email form asking a participant what they want

and do not want to submit.

"It's a way to allow people who feel comfortable sharing, but are not comfortable enough for their name, face and identity being attached to it," she said. "When it comes to the email I am the only person who has access to it. I am not ever going to betray anything that is said with complete trust."

For information, visit loveinlavender.com.

#### ${f VIEW}$ from page 1

their guests may purchase a ticket for \$5. They are also invited to attend tailgate.

"We have 105 registered groups, organizations, academic departments and campus resources, and so a number of our organizations will be participating in the student organization fair," Fanette said. "I also feel like a number

as well will be available over at tailgating. That's the good thing about linking up with a football game, is that those organizations that are highly involved on campus, you get to see them in action as well."

Student members of LU Crew will conduct campus

"For LU Crew, Cardinal

View is the opportunity to connect with students on a larger scale," Annette Castillo, Hamshire junior and LU Crew member, said. "We give campus tours all throughout the event that are offered in both English and Spanish to further connect with students and their families. LU Crew is readily available to answer any

question a prospective student may have about the event or the university."

Castillo has been involved with LU Crew since June 2023.

"One of my favorite parts of Cardinal View is the Academic Showcase," she said. "This part of the event really focuses on all the different departments

that are offered at Lamar University. This is a wonderful thing for students who are unsure of what path to take in college."

Students interested in volunteering for Cardinal View should contact Fanette at afanette@lamar.edu, or by contacting their academic department.

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# Gauguin's World

### MFAH retrospective showcases artist's legacy

lush landscape with rolling hills hangs in an ornate frame. If one steps too close, one feels as though they might get sucked in. The grass looks almost like a flowing tide, the viewer can feel the warm summer breeze from just one glance. This painting, "Landscape," is one

painting of a

Paul Gauguin.
The Museum of Fine Arts,
Houston presents "Gauguin
in the World" through Feb.
16. The exhibition features
more than 150 of the French
artist's works.

of the earliest paintings by

Through the different rooms, it feels like we are stepping into a photo album of Gauguin's creations, each one significant and important. Gauguin's art career began when he started to

paint as a sideline to his stockbroker career around

A standout piece from this era is "Clovis Sleeping," depicting Gauguin's five-year-old son. All kinds of animals fly above his sleeping form, a visual metaphor of the boy "flying" off into his dreams.

However, Gauguin was a traveler at heart. Not wanting to stay rooted to one place he left the bustling city of Paris for the "artist colony" in Pont-Aven in Brittany. Here his style began to change from his early Impressionist influences toward bold colors and subjective forms of expression.

Gauguin worked with Emile Bernard to create Synthetism, focusing on memorizing the environment around the painter rather than trying to paint based on a real impression of the world.



Paul Gauguin's "Bather Fan," top, "Clovis Sleepng," above, and "Three Tahitians" are part of "Gauguin in the World," on display at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston through Feb. 16, 2025.

Gauguin's "Children Wrestling" illustrates the tussle and play between two boys. The painting seems to want to move with them as their bodies move close to a cliff near a waterfall. It gives us a

feeling of suspense. Gauguin places the boys on a large dominating swath of green as opposed to the fine features of Impressionistic grass.

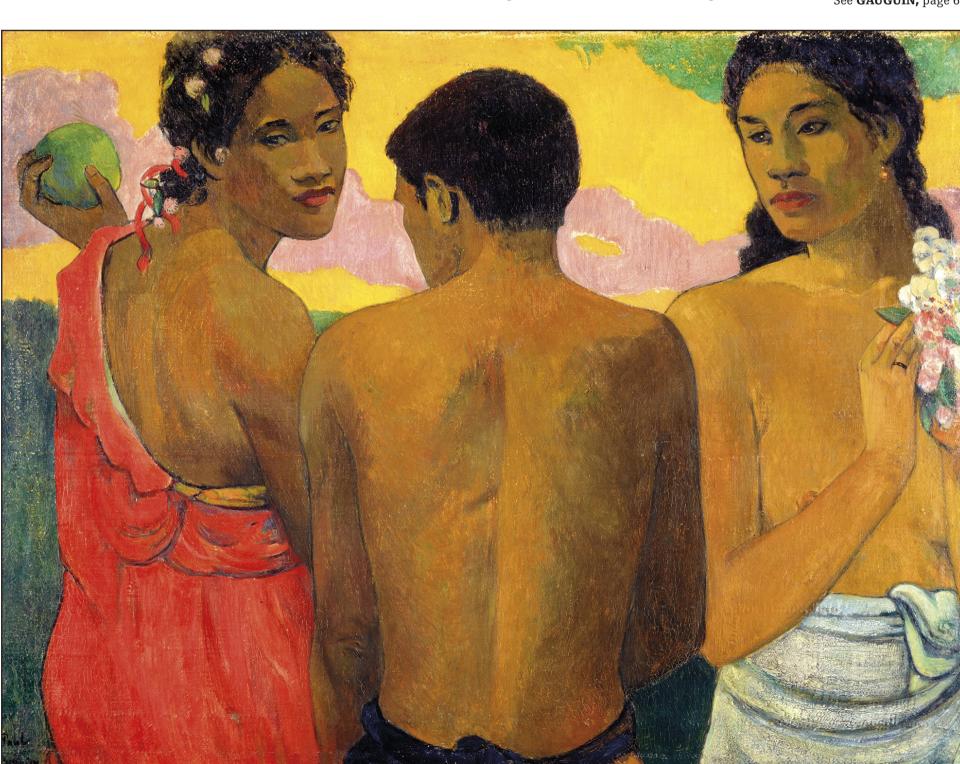
Around this time, Gauguin met Vincent Van Gogh and

lived with him for two months. However, disputes set them on different paths and Gauguin moved back to Paris.

However, it was not only painting in which Gauguin chose to express himself. He spent his time making prints from zinc plates, as suggested by Van Gogh's brother. He also carved wood and made pottery, sometimes calling them, "My Monstrosities."

"Bather Fan" is a small, curved watercolor from 1887-88 is inspired by popularization of Japanese culture in Paris. The composition of sea on one side and land on the other is a mesmerizing view. The colors are not as saturated as in his Synthetism pieces but are brighter than his Impressionistic landscapes. The lies somewhere in the middle.

See **GAUGUIN,** page 6



#### GAUGUIN from page 5

In 1891, Gauguin left his family and traveled to Tahiti, where he stayed until 1893. This was a bold move. Gauguin was captivated by the Tahitian people and was vocal in his distaste for the culture erasure caused by colonization. In "Tahitian Women," one woman faces us and wears a missionary-style dress, while the other, wears a traditional Tahitian pareu, sits with her back to the viewer. Women turning away from the gaze of the viewer became a common motif in Gauguin's works, symbolizing a way of life being hidden away by colonization.

In "Three Tahitians," the viewer feels as though they've stumbled across an intimate conversation. The woman on the left turns as if to reprimand the intruder.

Gauguin returned to Paris with a collection of paintings to sell but sold few.

In 1899, Gauguin left Paris for the last time, moving back to Tahiti. In 1901, he moved to the remote Marquesas Islands, where he lived until his death in 1903. The paintings and prints he created at the end of his life were a return to his roots of still-life and Impressionistic images.

The oil on canvas "Bouquet of Flowers" depicts a pot of blooming flora with reds, purples, pinks and blues. The vibrant colors of the flowers are reminiscent of Gauguin's Synthetist stylings.

In "Still Life with Hope," Gauguin makes an obvious nod to Van Gogh's "Sunflowers," as well as other objects that reference his past friendships. It feels as though the artist is remembering the times he made art with his old friends.

His last self-portrait is the most authentic he painted. While his earlier self-portraits are livelier and showy, in "Portrait of the Artist by Himself," the background is plain, his hair is gray and his shirt a plain white. He has painted himself just as he is.

"Gauguin in the World" is a sight to behold. Like Van Gogh, Gauguin was not appreciated until his death. However, he quickly became



recognized as an important foundational figure in the development of Modernism.

The exhibition is not only

visually beautiful but also full of emotion. It is a must-see for anyone interested in the development of art. "Gauguin in the World" continues through Feb. 16. For more information, visit mfah.org.





Paul Gauguin's
"Still Life With
Hope," clockwise
from above, "Children Wrestling" and
"Landscape" are
part of "Gauguin in
the World," on display at the Museum of Fine Arts,
Houston through
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## Voice of the Games



Dan Gresham, center, listens to color commentator Nick Canizales during a Cardinal volleyball game, Nov. 8, in McDonald Gym.

**UP photo by Luis Lemmen** 

#### Long-time Cardinal commentator Gresham still has the love

Luis Lemmen UP contributor

"I like the challenge. Can you make the people at home enjoy the game as much as you are enjoying the game in the booth? That's what's exciting about it."

Dan Gresham is familiar to viewers at home who tune in to see the Lamar Cardinals play. Whether it's football, basketball or volleyball, Gresham brings Cardinal sports to life on ESPN+ as the play-by-play voice.

As Cardinal basketball begins its 2024-25 season, Gresham is entering his 45th season covering the Lamar Cardinals. He said playing and watching sports has been a central part of his life since childhood.

"We'd go to my grandparents' house, have dinner and watch football," he said.

"There'd be 25 people crammed into this little house watching a football game. That's just a Texas thing, I guess."

Gresham was raised in Longview. After graduating from Baylor University, Gresham worked as a sports reporter and talk show host in radio and television. In 1987, he joined KFDM Channel 6 in Beaumont and became the host of the four-and-a-half-hour Morning Show. Gresham retired from KFDM in December 2023.

Gresham's first experience in sports commentary came in radio, when a friend asked him to call a high school football game.

"I did not know if I could do it or not, but I said, 'Sure,' because there was no audience," he said. "In radio, you paint the picture for the listeners — 'Johnson goes down the right side, cuts across the middle, the pass – completed!"

In 2010, Gresham became the play-by-play announcer for the Cardinal Sports Network which airs on ESPN+. Gresham said he found the role of commentator to be different on television than on radio.

"On television, suddenly you realize that everybody sees what you see," he said. "You have to bring value by adding things that people don't know. Like, you may not know that the defensive tackle played quarterback in high school."

When Gresham sits at his commentary table with his headset on, he has dozens of sheets of charts and statistics in front of him. While commenting on the game, he simultaneously navigates through the stack of numbers, looking for background information about players and teams.

"A lot of play-by-play is as much about what you do before the game as it is about what you do during the game," Gresham said. "When I go into a game, I come in with charts and pieces of paper that I spend two hours collecting as much information as I can about each player, team



**Courtesy photo** 

An archive photo of Dan Gresham courtside in the Montagne Center.

and coach. And you can use that information during the course of the broadcast."

During most broadcasts, while Gresham is doing the play-by-play commentary, he is joined by a color commentator whose job it is to analyze the plays.

"They should be bringing two different things to the table," he said. "The play-by-play commentator is describing what's going on. He's setting the stage. The color commentator adds flavor and insight to the game; 'Why did they do that? Why did or didn't it work?"

When doing play-by-play commentary, it is important to not get too technical, Gresham said.

"For example, in volleyball, I could say, 'They're setting up a one attack and they're trying to get into the two spot," he said. "But the average person may

not know what that means. You've got to keep it insightful enough that the person who does know the game understands, but also the person who may never have watched the game gets an idea of what you are describing."

As a commentator, he must remain unbiased and not become a "homer," Gresham said.

"I think the biggest missing piece in sports broadcasting, especially in smaller college sports, is objectivity," he said. "It sometimes becomes the home team broadcast. Maybe that comes from my journalistic background, but I want to be unbiased and for (it to be) a good game. I want to be an observer, not a fan."

One of Gresham's most cherished memories with Lamar is the men's basketball team's Sweet Sixteen run. The historic 1979-80 season under head

coach Billy Tubbs saw Lamar push past Weber State and Oregon State, before ultimately falling to Clemson in the round of

"That's definitely one I will always remember," Gresham said. "We went out to Tucson, Arizona, covered basketball and did live reports."

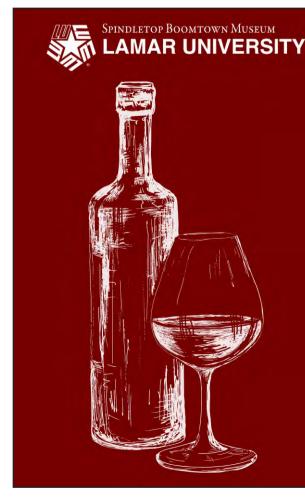
Basketball was the first sport that Gresham covered with Lamar. To this day, it remains his favorite sport.

"If I had to pick only one sport that I was going to do, basketball might be number one," he said. "The pace is great, it's very quick, up and down.

"But right after basketball would be volleyball. For me, it's the most underappreciated sport sometimes. Volleyball is nonstop action and it requires a lot of intensity to play the game. It's not just about hitting, but also about defense and anticipation."

Even after 45 years, Gresham's enthusiasm for sports broadcasting hasn't waned. While he may not have to get up early for his Morning Show shift anymore, Gresham has no plans to step away from commentating any time soon.

"It still excites me," he said.
The Lamar Cardinals men's
basketball will take on Sam
Houston at 4 p.m., Nov. 17, in
the Neches Arena at the Montagne Center. The women's basketball team will face SMU in
Dallas, Nov. 22.



### Boomtown Jazz & Wine

at Spindletop <u>Boomtown Museum</u>

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### Nursing celebrates 50 years

#### **Becca Wallage UP** contributor

LU's Joanne Gay Dishman School of Nursing held an open house to celebrate its 50th anniversary, Nov. 8, in the McFaddin Ward Health Sciences Building.

"We held an invitation only dinner last night for previous administrators, special guests and local stakeholders," Jenny Thedford, instructor and coordinator of recruitment, said. "We wanted to offer something to the community to showcase what we've been doing."

The halls were adorned with photos of each class since 1974, so previous ADN and BSN graduates were able to take then and now pic-

Attendees were able to walk through stations that show what the building offers

and some of the learning environments, including a walk through of how the simulations work.

"We have graduated 3,000 to 4,000 nurses over the 50 years, providing nurses to Texas and beyond," director Joseph Tacy said.

"It is a momentous occasion to be here for 50 years, and I hope the next 50 years is just as good as the past 50 vears."

In 2006, the nursing department became the first endowed department on campus. Then in 2017, Judy (JoAnne) Gay Dishman and George Austin Dishman invested in the department.

The program has evolved from being an associate's program to including undergraduate and master's programs.

"There has been a nursing shortage since the 1980s," Tacy said. "There are various

reasons why the shortage continues to happen, but we try our best to grow and provide nurses to Southeast Texas and beyond to help meet that gap."

The school of nursing has partnerships with Christus of Southeast Texas, Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas and The Medical Center of Southeast Texas. They also have a grant that allows students to conduct telehealth in the Jasper and Fairmont re-

"Our motto is, 'A spirit of caring, vision of excellence,' and I hope the public sees us as that," Thedford said. "We are here for the community. We are a resource, and we want them all to know that."

Tours are available of the school.

For more information, visit lamar.edu/nursing, or call 409-880-8817.



**UP photo by Becca Wallage** 

Nola Briggs, a second semester nursing student, inserts an NG tube into a hi-fidelity manikin in the skills lab at the Joanne Gay Dishman School of Nursing open house 50th-anniversary celebration.

#### Lamar K-Pop Club to host dance event, Nov. 15 in Quad

#### **Presleigh Peveto UP** contributor

The Lamar K-Pop Club will hold a Random Dance and Performance event, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Nov. 15, in the Quad.

K-Pop club president Kennedy LeJune said the event as an evening of dancing.

"Choruses of K-pop songs will be played, and individuals who are familiar with the choreography can go in the middle and do the dance," she said. "All of the songs on the playlist are by request, so everyone is certain to hear their favorite songs being played."

To request a song, visit lamarkpop on Instagram, click on the most recent post and scan the QR code.

LeJune said she is excited to see people come out to perform and have fun.

"This event is a special segment for our members to perform if they want to show off their talents," she said. "I am a K-Pop dancer myself. I will also be showcasing my skills with a team dance and a solo, so I am excited to see what people show up with."

The event is open to every-

Club member Rylee Miller

said she is nervous and excited about performing,

"I will be performing 'Supernova' by Aespa with a few other people," she said. "Me and my group have been practicing hard so I think we will do good."

Whether performing or participating, Lejune said club events are a safe space to be one's self.

"We are a strict judge-free zone, where everyone is encouraged to express themselves freely," she said. "No dance experience is needed in order to have a fun time with us.'

Miller said she has been

practicing so she can know a few more dances.

"I want to be out there as long as I can, so I have been practicing popular K-pop dances so I will be able to jump out there and perform them," she said. "I also added some songs to their playlist of dances I already know."

LeJune said she hopes people will wear clothes inspired from their favorite idol's wardrobe.

"The dress code for this event is that there is no dress code," she said. "I will say dress in athletic clothes if you're planning on breaking a sweat."

Since becoming an official K-Pop Club in January, Lejune said the group has organized more than 10 successful events.

"This is our second Random Dance Play we have hosted, but this one is even more special because it is open to the public," she said. "We want this to be a community event, which means anyone in the 409 is more than welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing all the great performances."

For more information, visit lamarkpop on Instagram. To join the Lamar K-Pop Club, click the link in the Instagram bio and fill out the Google form.







DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE 2024-2025 SEASON

fall & recover

FACULTY DANCE CONCERT

NOV22 7:30 PM NOV23 2:00 PM | 7:30 PM

the self destruction of emmajames

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY KATE BRENNAN

FEB 13-15-7:30 PM FEB 16-2:00 PM

as you like it

DIRECTED BY ALAN **BRINCKS** 

APRIL 10-12 - 7:30 PM APRIL 13 - 2:00 PM

dance unleashed

**FACULTY DANCE** CONCERT

MAY 2 - 7:30 PM MAY 3 - 2:00 PM | 7:30 PM

### Lady Cards repeat as SLC champs



The Lady Cardinal Cross-Country team celebrates winning their second-straight Southland Conference title, Nov. 1, in New Orleans.

**UP photo by Aaron Saenz** 

### Men finish sixth to also advance to NCAA regionals

Aaron Saenz UP staff Writer

The Lamar University women's cross-country team repeated as Southland Conference champions, Nov. 1, in New Orleans. The men placed sixth in in the SLC championships and both teams advance to NCAA regionals.

The women were led by senior Nia Clatworthy, who finished second in the women's 6K race by crossing the line in 20:35.47. Clatworthy was followed by Cara Inch, Inca Padfield, Emma Powell and Annabel Hobday, who all finished in the top 15. The team dominated the course, beating

second-place Texas A&M-Corpus Christi by 43 points.

Senior Cara Inch was the second Cardinal to cross the line. She said that the finish reflected her mindset throughout the race.

"I decided early on to try and break away from the field," she said. "I felt I gave a good effort to catch up to the front pack, and by the end, I managed to gap Corpus Christi's second runner by about 15 seconds"

Inch is now a back-to-back champion, along with a twotime First Team SLC runner, and she said that her initial feeling was relief.

"It had been the expectation

all year but lifting that trophy and putting on the massive Tshirts is so fun," she said. "It's nice to have your hard work recognized by the SLC."

Senior Freddy Richardson led the way for the Cardinal men in the 8k race with a second-place finish. Lloyd Sheppard-Brown finished in 11th. The two top Cardinals crossed the line in 24:41.65 and 25:29.95 respectively.

Richardson said he thought the course around Lake Oak Park was a good environment for running.

"The course was nice," he said. "It had four loops, which was great for the atmosphere as I was able to run past my

cheering friends and teammates multiple times. It wasn't too sturdy under the feet, but the flat loops made for a quick race.

"The toughest part physically for me was the weather," he said. "The humid morning made for very tough conditions, and I think that challenged me mentally. The race felt tougher than usual early on."

Richardson said he was able to finish strong.

"I had made my final kick for home," he said. "I had gone past third and fourth place, so I knew I had done enough to get second place. I felt a lot of relief and was glad to see the finish line."

The team received multiple individual awards at the meet. Clatworthy, Inch and Richardson were awarded Southland Conference first team honors. Padfield, Powell and Hobday, along with Sheppard-Brown, were awarded with Southland conference second team honors. Padfield also won Southland Conference Newcomer of the Year.

Head distance coach Andrew Sweeney won his secondstraight Southland Conference Coach of the Year award.

The Cardinals continue their season at College Station for the NCAA Regional Championships, Nov. 15.



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LU dancers rehearse for the dance piece "Quartre" in the dance annex, Nov. 7.

UP photo by Caraline Otte

#### Caraline Otte UP contributor

Lamar University's department of Theatre & Dance will present "Fall & Recovery," the annual faculty concert, Nov. 22-23, in the University Theatre. Showtimes for both days are 7:30 p.m., with a matinee at 2 p.m., Nov. 23.

"What the audience can expect is modern dance, jazz dance, tap dance — beautiful fusions of fun is what I call it, so it has a little variety," Amy Elizabeth, assistant professor

of dance, said.

The dances in the show are centered around the idea of mental health, Elizabeth said.

"Mental health is becoming more and more apparent in our culture and our society, which I think is really beautiful," she said. "(The show) really focuses on mindfulness and the mind — the voice, the sound, the influence, the relationship that one may have with the voices in our head — essentially mind chatter."

"Fall & Recovery" includes ensemble routines, small groups and partner work.

"We have a lot of partner dancing," Jayleeann Roth, Pearland junior, said. "Not just men and women, but we also do both female dancers dancing together and men dancers dancing together, which you don't see very often."

Regan Dearing, Vidor junior, said she has been in the department since her freshman year but had to miss previous shows due to injury.

"It was really hard on me mentally, but I think it also helped me understand what the people do for us in the theater," Dearing said. "It helped me gain more gratitude towards the people around helping us do our shows. It kind of made me grow in sort of a role model way."

Dearing said theater and dance students are able to get a wide variety of production experience while putting on this show.

"We also get to set up the lights and really understand the technical side," Dearing

said. "It's not all about just the dance part. You get to learn every role."

"Each of the students and faculty have worked very hard this past fall semester to prepare for this dance concert," Roth said. "We have a lot of different styles that you will be able to see and watch, and it will be a lot of fun."

General admission tickets are \$15, \$10 for seniors, \$7 for students with LU ID, and 5\$ for children 12 and under. For tickets, visit lamar.edu/ lutdtix.



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