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Cardinal Village improves Wi-Fi

Luis Lemmen UP contributor

A new Wi-Fi system was installed in all dormitories in Cardinal Village over the summer.

Steven Veron, LU assistant vice president of I.T. Operations, said the old system struggled with the volume of use in the dorms.

"There's 2,500 beds in Cardinal Village," he said. "When you had 2,500 students getting on the network it really started slowing down, because everybody connected to the same

Wi-Fi. The main issue with the old network was segmentation."

Segmentation refers to how the available network is subdivided. Veron said the problem was tackled with the implementation of the new network.

"Every single room in Cardinal Village got a little white box on their wall — the wireless access points," he said. "Each of those wireless access points broadcasts their own Wi-Fi network, and each student has their own personal network only they can access

with their pre-shared key."

Before the segmentation, all devices were connected in the same network. Because devices in the same network communicate with each other, that caused a lot of background noise and slowed the Wi-Fi's speed, Veron said.

"With 2,500 devices logged in, it's like filling up the Montagne Center and every person is talking at the same time," he said. "You have to keep the noise level at a certain threshold."

See WI-FI, page 2



UP photos by Luis Lemmen

Blake Peña, Dayton sophomore, plays a game in his Campbell Hall dorm.

Jefferson County hiring poll workers for 2024 election

Maddie Sims UP editor

The time to vote for the 2024 election season is almost here, but there's other ways to get involved other than just voting.

Jefferson County is currently hiring people to work the polls for the upcoming election as a part-time employment. For early voting, workers will have day shifts from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., the same following for Election Day, with a salary of \$11-12 an

People wanting to apply for the positions should contact the political party they represent. The number for the Republican Party is 409-203-3770 and the number for the Democratic Party is 409-203-

See **ELECTION**, page 4

LU Hub is student community resource

Reagan Rigby UP contributor

LU Hub is the online community and engagements app for Lamar University students and faculty.

"We've had LU Hub since the summer of 2020," Kyle Favan, associate director for student involvement and the Setzer Student Center, said. "It's a great resource and tool for communicating events and activities that we're doing."

The hub allows students and faculty to log on and see what events are happening that week on campus. Student Organizations use the site to

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Runnin' for high office



UP photo by Aaron Saenz

Ethan Ellis is Lamar University's Student Government president and is a hurdler on the Cardinal track team.

SGA PRESIDENT ELLIS SETS GOALS FOR OFFICE AND TRACK

Aaron Saenz UP staff writer

Ethan Ellis loves to run. And whether he is on the track or running for office, Ellis is ready to leap any hurdles that come his way.

Ellis is Lamar University's Student Government Association president for 2024-25. The junior political science major from Missouri City is also a hurdler on LU's track

As with his athletic career, Ellis said he sets goals for himself and SGA.

"What I want to accomplish most during my term is just to improve the overall student life," he said. "Lamar University is a communitybased campus. I want to bring atmosphere back to Lamar, so all our students can have similar experiences."

To boost the overall happiness, Ellis said he plans to bring more events and activities to the university to get students more involved.

Last semester, we had a concert at the Week of Welcome," he said. "After the Week of Welcome, there aren't many events going on for the students to interact with. My biggest thing has been trying to get all the organizations on campus together, so that we can all collaborate and host bigger events and better activities for the students.'

Ellis said part of his vision for the presidency is to improve retention rates of the school.

"The university system wants to improve the amount of students we have," he said. "I want to expose more resources that we have around and keep students here. With the student engagement aspect, as well as giving more information on all the resources we have available, we're trying to influence students to want to stay."

Increasing awareness of student resources is another goal, Ellis said. Many students are not aware of transit options, he said.

"We just did a few surveys last week where students were saying that they didn't know who the transit system was for," he said. "They didn't know they could use it. They didn't know the routes. They didn't know the times. They didn't know where the stops were. So, we're just trying to get more exposure to that."

Student engagement also depends on how well they can connect to student organiza-

See **ELLIS**, page 6

LU partners with Neches FCU

Becca Wallage UP contributor

After more than 20 years of a longstanding partnership, Neches Federal Credit Union is now the official credit union of Lamar University.

"This partnership is a true testament to ours and Neches Federal Credit Union's commitment in creating meaningful and lasting partnerships in our community," Lamar University President Jaime Taylor said in the press release.

The official partnership expansion includes a new, fully self-service Neches Federal Credit Union branch inside the Setzer Student Center where members can inquire about their account with Crystal Jordan, Campus Connect MSR. The branch also includes an ATM/ITM. The machine functions as an ATM 24/7. However, one can also tap the screen of the ITM, Interactive Teller Machine to speak with a live teller at Neches FCU as



UP photo by Brian Quijada

Neches Credit Union ITM machines can be found in the Setzer Student Center as well as across from the Neches Arena at the Montagne Center.

early as 7 a.m., six days a week. Members can withdraw cash, deposit cash or checks, pay on a loan, transfer

funds and more. For those who are on the

See **NECHES**, page 2

Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2024 University Press

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Preservation of one's own culture does not require contempt or disrespect for other cultures.'

- Cesar Chavez

NOTICE

The University Press can be read online at www.lamaruniversitypress.com. For updates, follow us on Facebook, or on Instagram and X @uplamar.

WI-FI from page 1

With the new network, the background noise is kept at a low level because the only devices that talk to each other are the ones in the new smaller networks.

But it is not just the segmentation of the network that ensures better internet in Cardinal Village, Veron said.

'The new network, provided by Juniper, has an AI background component that can optimize it," he said. "By using machine learning, it can recognize at what threshold which device performs poorly and then push it to a different wireless access point or switch to a different band. It

also keeps track of the airwave frequency available and balances the background

Veron said the situation has also improved significantly for gamers.

"When you connect your Xbox, you're getting pure internet access for that device instead of having a thousand Xboxes in the same network," Veron said. "Also, the additional LAN hardwire outlets improve the gaming experience in the dorms. Anybody who does serious gaming does not want to be on Wi-Fi. We want low latency."

Blake Peña, Dayton sopho-

more and Campbell Hall resident, said the old Wi-Fi was choppy and would lag all the time. Also, he said, the download speeds were "horrible."

"The new network is definitely an improvement," Peña said. "I don't lag anymore and also the video streaming has become much better."

Veron said that, in order to comply with state laws, a way had to be found to allow Tik-Tok in the residences while complying with the executive order by Texas Governor Greg Abbott from December 2022, that led to public universities banning TikTok on their networks.

"Obviously TikTok is used very highly," Veron said. "The fact that we brought in a separate internet provider for Cardinal Village lets us make the case that no state business is conducted over here, because it is a residential network."

This measure was implemented not only with a focus on TikTok, but also on possible future apps, he said.

"The governor's order is very open ended," Veron said. "So, if something else comes along, let's say a new social media app rises to the top and everybody wants to use it, we don't want students in Cardinal Village to be impacted if we have to block it on campus."

The Wi-Fi upgrade is part of a larger effort by the I.T. department to implement fast internet connection all over campus, Veron said.

"A lot of our outdoor spaces are covered, but we still have to get it all on the same system," he said. "The end goal would be that you can leave your dorm and go all the way from Campbell Hall to the Business Building and maintain Wi-Fi coverage the entire way. We are working on that proposal now to get it deployed by next year."

NIVERSITY PRESS

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NECHES from page 1

go and want to enjoy the ITM convenience from their vehicle, there is a Neches GO! located outside of the Neches Federal Credit Union Arena at the Montagne Center.

Neches FCU has special promotions only available at the branch on campus, such as limited edition Big Red Tshirts, 40 oz spirit tumblers, and the Lamar University debit card.

"We are so excited to expand our partnership and to be a resource for students and staff on campus at Lamar University," Charlee Chelette, Community Impact Officer at Neches Federal Credit Union.

"In addition to our new branch on campus, Neches FCU will host free financial lit-



UP photo by Becca Wallage

eracy seminars, participate in events across campus, and much more this semester."

There will be six free financial literacy seminars with LU Money Management available for students this semester covering various financial topics that college-aged students might want to learn more

The basketball arena has been renamed Neches Arena at the Montagne Center. about, such as navigating auto buying, building credit from scratch and more.

Registration for the seminars is on the Lamar University website.

For more, visit nechesfcu.org or visit the Neches Federal Credit Union branch in the Setzer Student Center.

Department of COMMUNICATION & MEDIA



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Telling their stories

Photographer Patterson to present Ukraine conflict photos at Dishman

Brian Quijada UP sports editor

In the midst of the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, Patrick Patterson is armed not with a weapon, but with his Leica M Monchrom, a black-and-white digital camera, capturing the devastating scenes and consequences of war on ordinary people.

Patterson will present "To Live," an exhibition of photographs taken over the past two years in the Dishman Art Museum through Nov. 2. A free reception is set for 6:30 p.m., Sept. 27.

Patterson started his photography journey when he was 19-years old, at Lamar University. Since then he has captured many difficult subjects such as forced immigration, Texas' death row, and even the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks.

Throughout his time at Lamar, Patterson had opportunities to travel abroad to places such as Afghanistan and India, but said he would always back down at the last minute. Twenty years later, he said he regrets not taking advantage of those opportunities, asking himself, "What if?"

"I've lived a long time in regret," Patterson said. "Always reflecting back, asking (myself) what would have happened if I would have gone? How would that have changed my imagery? How would that change how I work? How would that impact my career?

"It's hard. It's a very lonely space to be in. It's a very depressing space to be in, to wake up every day and always have that regret. So, when (Russia invaded Ukraine) in February of 2022, I said that I'm gonna go. And I went."

Patterson traveled to Medyka, a small Polish village on the Ukraine border. There he photographed one of the largest refugee crises since World War II. After that he traveled to Ukraine where he lived for more than a year.



UP photos by Brian Quijada

Photographer Patrick Patterson holds up one of his photographs from his time covering the conflict in Ukraine. "To Live," an exhibition of his work, is on display at the Dishman Art Museum through Nov. 2. A reception will be held at 6 p.m., Sept. 27.

"Any new place that I go there's a sense of discovery," Patterson said. "Even in the midst of a war happening you're still traveling to a new place. There was a sense of normalcy. I'd go to cafes; I would drink coffee. I'd go to concerts. But all that can quickly stop, with an air raid siren or an incoming missile or drone."

Unlike some conflict photographers that capture the frontlines and the battle grounds, Patterson chooses to capture the emotion, and the consequences war has on innocent people. From the aftermath of children having to evacuate their schools, to the funerals of Ukrainian civilians, Patterson captures the scenes people don't often see.

Patterson's exhibition fea-

tures monochrome images of the people he met in Ukraine. He said he shoots black and white because it is timeless.

"I mean, I see the world in color, right? I feel like I'm not distracted from what I'm seeing. That's my reality," Patterson said. "But I think black and white, to me, helps the viewer not get distracted from what's happening, or it conveys a certain emotion and feeling."

Patterson said he hopes his photos can help tell the story of how war can change people's lives. His photographs tell the narratives of the survivors and the victims that have been affected by the war.

"Photographs are made with light, and it's one of the few crafts and tools that can stop time forever," Patterson said. "These images will live as long as someone takes care of them.

"But these are real moments, real people, real places. And there's certain sounds and smells that go with each of these images that I have with me. Unfortunately, the viewer doesn't get to experience that. So, I make pictures because I'm hopeful that somebody will look at them and ask questions."

Patterson will participate in a live panel podcast of KVLU's "Bayoulands" at 6 p.m., Sept. 26, in the Dishman Art Museum Auditorium, as well as a lecture at 2 p.m., Sept. 26 in 127 Communication Building on the Lamar University campus.

The Dishman Art Museum is located at 1030 E. Lavaca on the Lamar University campus.



"Banksy Putin" by Patrick Patterson



TICKETS



DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE 2024-2025 SEASON



DIRECTED BY
TANNER MCALPIN
& ASHLEY
DENNISON

OCT 31- NOV 10 THURS - SAT - 7:30 PM SUNDAY - 2:00 PM

fall & recovery

FACULTY DANCE CONCERT NOV 22 7:30 PM NOV 23 2:00 PM | 7:30 PM

the self destruction of emma james

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

HUB from page 1

post events and meeting times.

"When you get on to LU
Hub, it's the homepage and
the events are right there,"
Kathryn Brown, student organization assistant said. "It's
easy to navigate and especially helpful if you're in an

organization, because everything for your organization is on LU Hub and it helps students get more involved."

Fayan said he hopes many more students will use LU Hub than they currently do, and many student organizations and clubs utilize the Hub.

"The Texas Academy uses it very heavily for their students and clubs," Fayan said. "The Honors College uses it for all of their events and communications to their students, and Cardinal Communities is starting to get on

board with using it for their communication."

LU Hub is not only for student organization events and

LU Hub is not only for student organization events and communication, but also to promote events that the entire Lamar community can participate in around Southeast Texas.

"Last semester, I put in events like classic movie nights at the Jefferson Theatre," Brown said. "I even put events like yoga at the Cattail Marsh and some farmer's market things."

Fayan said he decided to start putting communitywide events on LU Hub so that more people could be involved.

"We have a large international population that is older than some of our undergraduate students," Fayan said. "Having some of these community events that they can get engaged with sort of integrates them with the community and doesn't keep them isolated to just what Lamar is doing."

In the future, Fayan said he would like to add several features to LU Hub. "We're looking into a different reservation software for the campus, so that there's only one for the whole campus, since there's about five right now," he said. "It'll be integrated into LU Hub to book rooms and spaces for groups or to study."

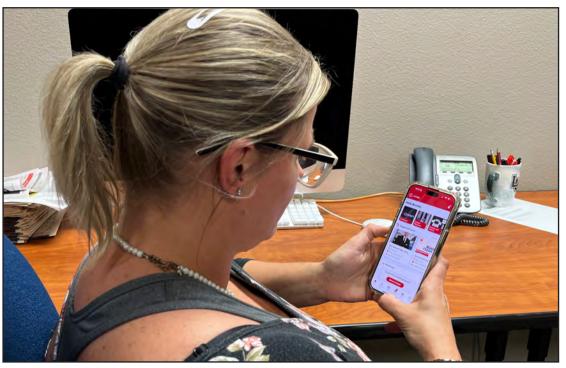
Fayan said he wants LU Hub to be the one place where students can access everything.

"Right now, we have to go everywhere for everything," he said. "The more we can have in one spot, (the more it) seems beneficial."

Brown said she hopes more students will discover LU Hub and utilize it to their advantage.

"I think the problem is, people don't know what it's capable of and don't want to take the time to learn something they don't know," she said. "Hopefully, in the future, more people will learn, word will get around and it will just grow."

LU Hub is available at luhub.lamar.edu/home_login or is available to download through any app store.



UP photo by Brian Qujada

The LU Hub app is availabel to download through your phone's app store.

ELECTION from page 1

Job requirements of poll workers include: setting up, preparing and maintaining the election equipment, thoroughly reviewing and completing all election forms, posting election materials inside and outside of the polling location, qualifying voters through use of identification and poll lists, activating electronic ballots and selecting the correct ballot styles for each voter, assisting voters during the voting process by explain-

ing equipment usage, and closing the polling location at the end of the voting period.

Additionally, there are some skills and abilities which are considered helpful for applicants to have. Some of these are: the ability to fluently speak, read, and write Spanish, basic computer skills, attention to detail, strong verbal and written communication skills, excellent interpersonal skills in order to interact and cooper-

ate with co-workers and to deal effectively with voters, poll watchers, electioneers, and the general public, ability to read, comprehend, and follow Texas Election Laws and instructions given by the Jefferson County Clerk, occasionally lifting and carrying objects weighing up to 20 lbs., such as election equipment, ballots, supply boxes, etc. and the ability to recognize election issues and to promptly report any issues to the Pre-

cinct Judge or County Clerk.

Anyone in the hiring process must attend the training sessions before Election Day, with each party hosting their own training sessions. Additionally, there will be a training session from 8 a.m.-noon at the Jefferson Courthouse by County Clerk Roxanne Acosta-Hellberg.

"We do some equipment training, just to get people refreshed with that process," she said. "But the rest of it is on laws, particular laws that are applicable for this upcoming election and how to handle different scenarios. These people work hard with all they do to get trained, because they get beaten up quite a bit at the locations, which is sad.

"We have very hard workers committed to making sure people are eligible to vote. It's a lot of time, a lot of sacrifice."

For more information, visit jeffersonelections.com.



ЖИТИ TO LIVE

PHOTOGRAPHS BY PATRICK PATTERSON



WHERE THE AMISH VACATION

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DINA LITOVSKY

EXHIBITION DATES: SEPTEMBER 20TH - NOVEMBER 2ND 2024

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Open Pages, Open Minds

Banning books does more harm than good

Legendary science fiction writer Isaac Asimov wrote, "Any book worth banning is a book worth reading." Judging by the number of book bans passed by state legislatures lately, there is an everincreasing number of books worth reading.

Sept. 22-28 is designated as Banned Books Week. The annual event was launched in 1982 to highlight the value of free and open access to information. The week brings together the book community — librarians, educators, authors, publishers, booksellers, and readers of all types — in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas, according to bannedbooksweek.org.

The American Library Association reported there were a total of 4,240 book titles challenged in 2023, a 65% increase from 2022 and a 128% increase from 2021. With the increase in book banning over the years, the future of education in

Commentary



Maddie Sims UP editor



UP graphic by Maddie Sims

schools and public libraries is bleak.

The act of banning books goes as far back as 1637, with the novel "New English Cannan." The Puritan government banned it due to its critique of Puritan rules and positions of power. Ever since then, books with strong themes have been challenged or banned.

The free speech advocacy group, PEN America, found 30% of book titles challenged in schools included characters of color, or discussed race and racism, with another 30% featuring LGBTQ+ characters or themes. Half of these contained abuse, physical violence or sexual experiences between characters.

Some of the most popular

banned or challenged books include "To Kill A Mocking-bird" by Harper Lee, "1984" by George Orwell, "Gender Queer: A Memoir" by Maia Kobabe and "I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings" by Maya Angelou.

Nearly two-thirds of educators said book banning has a negative effect on teaching, according to firstbook.org, especially in schools in lowincome communities which do not have many resources. Additionally, one of their surveys said 72% of the participants found students were less engaged in reading, with a third of educators reporting a decrease in critical thinking. However, when banned books were given as a choice, 78% of participants reported students were

reading more often.

Banning books for having sexual content or graphic depictions of violence is one thing. But when nearly half of the banned books in the U.S. contain Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) or LGBTQ+ characters and themes, it can lead into dangerous territory.

People who fall under either one of these categories will not be able to see themselves represented in the books they read. In addition, people who do not fall into one of these groups will not get the chance to open their minds to an experience that isn't theirs.

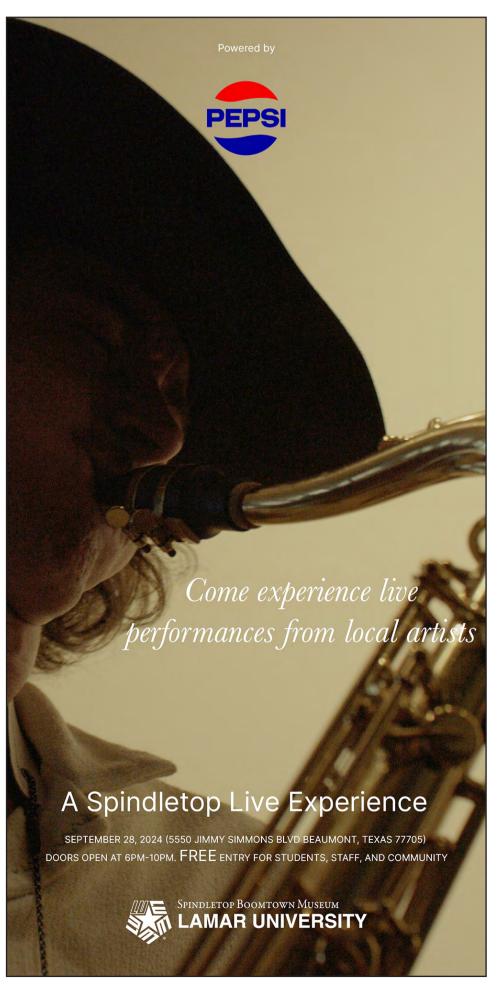
The organization First Book Research and Insights conducted a Diverse Books Impact Study in September 2023. Over the course of six months, teachers were given a budget to add books with diverse characters, LGBTQ+ and bilingual titles to their libraries and classrooms. The educators saw reading scores were 3% higher than the national average, with the collective classroom reading time increasing to 4 hours a week. These books aren't "ruining the children's minds," but rather the opposite.

To quote Atticus Finch, a character from "To Kill a Mockingbird," one of the most banned books in the country, "You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view, until you climb into his skin and walk around in it." Why shouldn't the same thing apply here?

When it comes to books being censored in schools and in public libraries, the people advocating the ban aren't just trying to protect their children from inappropriate content. They're also using the power they have to hate on anyone that isn't "like them."

We are on the edge of the point of no return. Things have not quite gone too far, but we are perilously close to the scenarios of "Fahrenheit 451" or "1984," where independent thought is punished.

Book lovers all over will have to pray school and public libraries are not wiped clean.





'Gentleman's Guide' at SETX Stages delights

REVIEW Maddie Sims UP editor

A man sits in a rotting jail cell, preparing for his execution. With no one to keep him company, he begins writing his memoirs in a journal, relaying a musical tale of romance, comedy and murder.

Southeast Texas Stages (formerly Beaumont Community Players) opens its 2024-25 season with "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder," through Oct. 6.

Monty Navarro's life is turned upside down when a mysterious woman shows up to his apartment to tell him he is a descendant of the aristocratic D'Ysquith family and ninth in line to the Earl of Highhurst. After looking through his recently deceased mother's box of letters, Monty, played by Andrew Gautreaux, learns she was disinherited by the family for marrying for love, rather than status.

Monty attempts to contact the family and is initially rejected, but he is determined for them to acknowledge his existence. After letting the Reverend Lord Ezekiel D'Ysquith (Bryan Buzbee) fall to his death from the bell tower, Navarro's murderous spree officially begins.

An entertaining montage follows as Monty seeks to move up the line of inheritance. Eventually, Monty is hired by the head of the D'Ysquith bank and is able to hash out his plans from the inside. Along the way, Monty struggles with resolving his romantic feelings, having to choose between his past lover from humble beginnings or a woman of the wealthy family.

The cast is spectacular with many moments leaving the audience howling with laughter. Buzbee plays all of the D'Ysquith family members through a series of quick changes, and each character has their own mannerisms and flair.

Sibella (Alyssa Bain) and Phoebe (Alexandria Lewis) are Monty's love interests. Both actors have incredible expressions and singing voices. The audience understands their



Alexandria Lewis, back, Andrew Gaitreaux and Alyssa Bain in a publicity shot for Southeast Texas Stages' "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder."

perspectives and sympathizes with them.

The songs are catchy and really move the story along. While the show is very much a comedy first, the songs are dramatic and serve to ramp up the tension of the plot.

Gautreaux plays Monty well and carries the character's emotions on his sleeve. When Monty joins a tour of the D'Ysquithe castle, he is as giddy and overawed as the other tourists, which punches a hole in his self-serious facade.

Pam Raney-Jackson's Miss Shingle is mysterious and charming. Her character serves to drive the story forward, but there's more to her role than one expects — truly "the last one you'd expect."

The ensemble brings so much life to the show and have many golden moments. For example, in the beginning, they perform a song warning audience members "of weaker constitution" to turn back while they still can.

The set is an incredible touch, with two rotating platforms, along with a curtain in the middle with constantly changing set pieces. All the designers involved clearly worked hard to bring the story to life and immerse the audience.

Director Sean McBride keeps the action moving among the many set pieces and quick changes.

"A Gentleman's Guide To Love and Murder" is an entertaining show filled with gaffs and tension. Will Monty Navarro-D'Ysquithe get away with his crimes and become the earl? Get yourself a ticket and find out.

Showtimes are 7:30 p.m., Sept. 26, 27, 28, and Oct. 4 and 5, with matinees at 2 p.m., Sept. 28 and 3 p.m., Oct. 6.

Southeast Texas Stages is located at 4155 Laurel Ave. in Beaumont. For tickets, visit beaumontstages.com.

SGA from page 1

tions and their leaders, Ellis said.

"We have over 200 registered organizations," he said. "I devised an Excel spreadsheet trying to contact each leader of the organizations. Right now, I'm at about 100 of them. We're trying to get SGA representatives so that every organization stays in the loop. We have all far reaches of the campus to just let us know what's going on,

what they would like to improve.

"Honestly, that's what we're here for, this is what the SGA does. We're here to listen to the students and see what we can do to improve student life."

Ellis said his experiences have given him the tools to do the job.

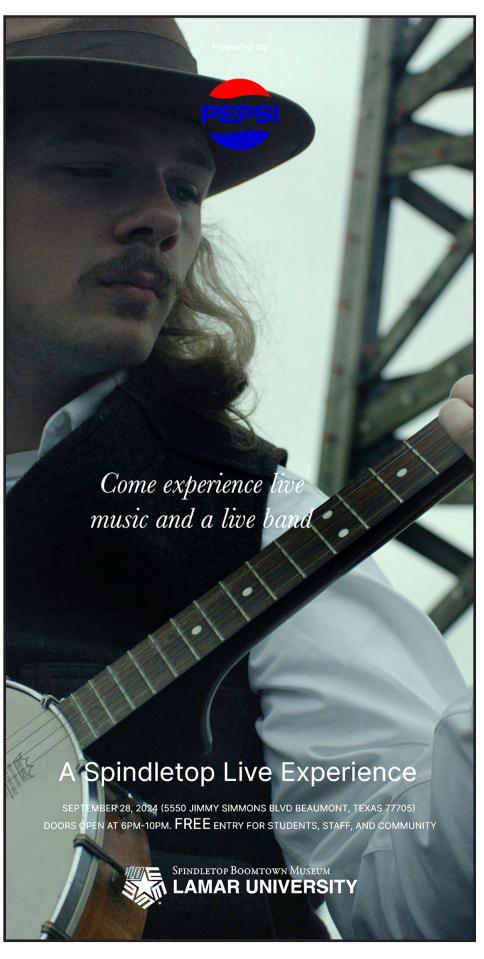
"A leader is a person that has experience in the shoes of somebody in everyday life," Ellis said. "I'm a political science major, so a lot of the things I do deal with legislation — the House of Representatives, Congress, Judicial and Executive branches. That's my experience with all the official things of it, but I feel like my experience comes with having the everyday experience of being a student. Seeing what goes on day to day influences you to want to do better and improve."

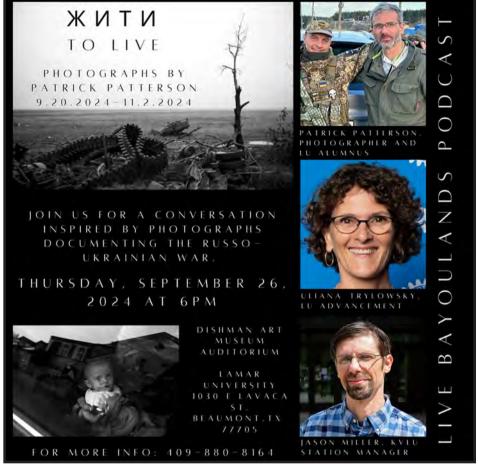
Competing on the track, where he runs the 400-meter hurdles, and homework take a lot of his time but he said he has a lot of help with time management.

"I couldn't do anything that I do without my team," he said. "My team has been a very vital resource for me. We plan around each other's schedules. I schedule everything in my calendar. I don't put my phone down till 10, so

I'm constantly replying to emails, messages, GroupMe's, anything. I put my all, like 110%, in everything I do. No matter if it's sports, education, SGA — I feel like this has been a very important thing to me."

The SGA office is located on the 2nd floor of the Setzer Student Center, above the Panda Express. Ellis can be reached at eellis5@lamar.edu, or by calling 409-880-8891.







Volleyball off to fast start

The Lamar volleyball team has won eight out of their last nine games, their best start since the 2019 season where they only won nine games. The Lady Cards are coming back from winning the Bearkat Classic Tournament where they beat both Sam Houston 3-2 and Texas Southern 3-0. Outside hitter Maja Malinowska was named tournament MVP and setter Alexa Gonzales received an all-tournament selection. LU also won their first home game of the season on Sept. 17 where they defeated Prairie View A&M 3-1. The Lady Cardinals are now 8-4 and are heading into conference play where they will face off against Southeastern Louisiana, Sept 26, at 6:30 p.m. in Hammond, La.



Maja Malinowska

Malinowska named MVP

For the second time in as many weeks, Maja Malinowska was named as tournament MVP, this time for the Bearkat Classic after a pair of wins for Lamar University volleyball over Sam Houston and Texas Southern in Huntsville. Alexa Gonzalez also secured her second consecutive all-tournament team selection.

Malinowska recorded 46 kills across the two matches including a career-high 33 kills, Sept. 20, against the Bearkats, the most by a player from the Southland Conference since 2016 and the most by a Cardinal since Natalie Sarver in 2002. She also managed double-doubles in both games piling up 15 and 12 digs, respectively.

Soccer drops SLC opener

The Lamar University women's soccer team opened Southland Conference play on Sunday night with a familiar foe, dropping a 3-0 decision to conference newcomer SFA in Nacogdoches. Two first-half goals doomed the Cardinals on the road in what was SFA's first official SLC match since returning to the conference in July.

LU will return home Sept. 26 for its SLC home opener against UT Rio Grande Valley. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.



UP photo by Carlos Viloria

LU wide receiver Izaha Jones (3) avoids a tackle against Texas Southern University, Sept. 21, at Provost Umphrey Stadium.

Lamar fight back to beat TSU

Brian Quijada UP sports editor

The thundering sounds of both bands echoed throughout Provost Umphrey Stadium, Saturday, as LU quarterback Jakolby Longino stepped into the field. With a minute left in the game, Lamar needed a touchdown to beat Texas Southern.

As the clock was winding down, Longino connected with running back Khalan Griffin for a three-yard touchdown pass to complete the Cardinals' comeback to record a 20-17 victory.

Lamar struggled offensively in the first half with Texas Southern scoring a 20-yard field goal just five minutes into the game.

A Cardinal fumble in the last minute of the second quarter led to a seven-yard Tiger touchdown, putting them up 10-0 at the half.

Backup quarterback Longino got the start as first string QB Robert Coleman is injured. Longino ended the game with nine completed passes, 63 yards and one touchdown.

Lamar's comeback began midway through the third quarter when Griffin rushed for a one-yard touchdown making the game 10-7.

"Khalan Griffin, Damien Moore — the one-two punch there — with the ability to pound the ball and be effective when they got to second and third levels," LU head coach Pete Rossomando said. "And the O-line did a really good job of blocking,"

TSU started the final quarter with a missed kick attempt, their second miss

of the game, keeping the score 10-7.

Seven minutes into the fourth quarter, on a 3rd-and-10 play, Longino found tight end Devyn Gibbs for a 13-yard touchdown. Unfortunately for the Cardinals, kicker Chris Esqueda missed the extra point, making the game 13-10 LU.

"There were some times where the play wasn't there," Rossomando said. "Gino didn't try to force it. He got rid of the ball, he ran the ball, he did smart things with the football. I say don't be reckless with the ball. And we weren't reckless with the ball. It allowed us to keep that drive going in a lot of different ways."

Lamar played well defensively throughout the fourth quarter until Texas Southern scored a pivotal six-yard touchdown in the last three minutes of the game. TSU regained the lead 17-13.

With 1:05 remaining, Longino and Griffin combined for the game winner, and Esqueda sealed the win with the PAT.

Griffin finished the game with 124 yards on 22 carries and two touchdowns. LU linebacker Ken Savanah led the Cardinals' defense with 11 tackles and two sacks totaling 13 yards.

Despite the win, Rossomando said the team needs to do better with penalties.

"If you go offsides, you're undisciplined," Rossomando said. "You're not dialed in to what we want to do and how we're supposed to do it. I think that you're not dialed in to your quarterback."

Rossomando pointed to Longino.

"I mean, this guy's been here since I've been here," Rossamondo said. "So, it's not like he's a new guy snapping football. He's done it ever since I've been here. It's not a different voice. They heard it, they know it, they've just been not locked in, they weren't dialed in.

"There's some of the aggressive penalties, I can live with a hold every now and again, that's gonna happen, but not eight of them."

The Cardinals are set to play their last non-conference game of the season against nationally ranked Central Arkansas, Sept. 28, at 6 p.m. in Conway, Ark.



UP photo by Carlos Viloria

LU tight end Devyn Gibbs celebrates after scoring a touchdown against TSU, Sept. 21.

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(5.30 PM

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UP photo by Brandy Madison

Magician Benjamin Jackson shows a trick to an audience volunteer in the Lamar University Science Auditorium, Sept. 20.

CAB hosts champion magician on campus

Brandy Madison UP contributor

Lamar University's Cardinal Activities Board hosted a magic show on Sept. 20, featuring Benjamin Jackson, the youngest person to win first place at The World Magic Seminar's International Competition.

The Houston native gives the ancient art of magic a fresh look.

"Magic is about not knowing and not understanding,"

Jackson said.

"Ben is absolutely amazing," Joel Bartsch, president of The Houston Museum of Natural Science said. "His magic goes way beyond mere illusions. You've got to see him perform."

Student reactions to Jackson's performance of close magic left them speechless.

Ben Jackson performs at the Four Seasons Hotel Houston for students who missed show on campus. For more, visit benjacksonmagic.com.



CAMPUS ROUNDUP



UP photo by Sydney Vo

Students light lanterns and sent them across the water during the Water Lantern Festival, Sept. 19, at the John Gray Center. The festival invited participants to send away the troubles and welcome in joy and peace.

Sept. 26, 12:40-1:40 p.m. Center for Resiliency Brown Bag Lecture

105 Cherry Engineering Building

The Center for Resiliency will present their first Brown Bag Lecture. Topics include disaster perspectives through immigration/cultural themes and story-telling and mental health intervention.

Sept. 27, 6:30-8:30 p.m. 'Where the Amish Vacation' by Dina Litivsky

Dishman Art Museum

An exhibition of photographs. Dina Litovsky is a Ukrainian-born photographer living in New York City since 1991. Dina's imagery can be described as visual sociology. Her work explores the idea of leisure, often focusing on subcultures and social gatherings.

Also opening is "To Live: Photographs by Patrick Patterson" (see page 3). The Dishman is located 1030 E. Lavaca St. on the Lamar University campus.

Sept. 28 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Worldwide Day of Play-Field Day

John Jay French Museum

The John Jay French Museum will host the Worldwide Day of Play-Field Day. Activities range from an old-fashioned obstacle course with tasks the French Family would've had to complete in their daily lives to some of BCM's robotics activities, and more in-between. The event is free, but registration is required. The museum is located at 3025 French Rd. in Beaumont.

Oct. 1, 1-3 p.m. KVLU Student Open House KVLU Radio Station

KVLU will host an open house event with a tour of the studio and free ice cream floats. The open house offers students a chance to see behind the scenes of Lamar's Public Radio station and check out volunteer opportunities. The radio studio is located on the second floor of the theatre building.

Compiled by Maddie Sims



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