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UWG Junior Gets First Collegiate Victory



Photo Credit: Caitlin Teknipp

Daniel Forte
Editor-In-Chief

UWG Junior golfer Sam Jones captured the first victory of his collegiate career with a win at the 2017 Matt Dyas Memorial Invitational golf tournament. The Wolves were the host school for the two-day tournament at Oak Mountain Championship Golf Club. Jones, who overcame a one shot deficit after the first round, shot a final round 69 to win by two strokes. The New Zealand native's second round score was tied for the lowest among day two competition.

The exceptional score did not come easy for Jones who battled windy and rainy conditions on both days to post a two-round total of 5-under 139. Jones capped off a tremendous fall campaign by finally breaking through for the Wolves and taking over the tournament during round two.

"It was tough out there, on both days," said Jones. "So I knew that if I stuck to what I was doing in the second round I would be good."

Jones grew up playing in Taranki, New Zealand, a town located on the west coast on the north island of New Zealand. The climate there is much different that what most golfers face in the southern United States. New Zealand weather can be quirky for golfers as it is very windy and rainy, especially the coastal towns exposed to the ocean.

Weather in the southern United States is fairly predictable save for pop-up thunderstorms during the summer months, so many of the competitors did not know how to adapt to the windy and rainy conditions in Carrollton.

"I learned how to play in conditions like that," Jones said. "A lot of the other guys that grew up playing here are used to calm weather, they don't know how to keep the ball under the wind when the weather gets bad. That's where I knew I had the advantage."

The victory was also the first victory overseen by head coach Todd Selders, who took after Barry Harwell resigned last spring.

"Coach Selders is good for us, he kind

of sits back and lets the players do their thing," said Jones. "Coach Harwell was great too, but he was much more intense and expected a lot out of us, and I think we play better with this style of coaching, at least I do."

It was not only the first win by Jones this season; it was the first win by any player on the UWG men's side this fall. This particular victory, however, was very meaningful to the squad. Last year's tournament was the first year a player from West Georgia hadn't won the individual title. Since Corey Evans won the inaugural tournament in 2012, a Wolf had won the individual title every single year, except in 2016.

"It felt really good to bring the win back to us," said Jones. "Especially after what happened last year, none of us played well then so this win did feel really good. I was happy to bring it back

for Matt."

Matt Dyas was a junior of the golf team from 2010-2011. He was riding his motorcycle to participate in West Georgia's homecoming festivities on Oct. 1, 2011 when he struck a car that pulled out in front of him on campus and was killed. Gloria Faith Dupree, the driver of the car, was charged with first-degree vehicular homicide, driving under the influence, and failure to yield. The tournament was re-named the following year in tribute to Dyas.

The tournament wrapped up the fall season for the Wolves, and they look to improve over the winter months and get some better results in the spring season. "The team as a whole I think can play much better, Jones explained. We need to have quality practice time and I need to lead by example and I think we will be good next spring."

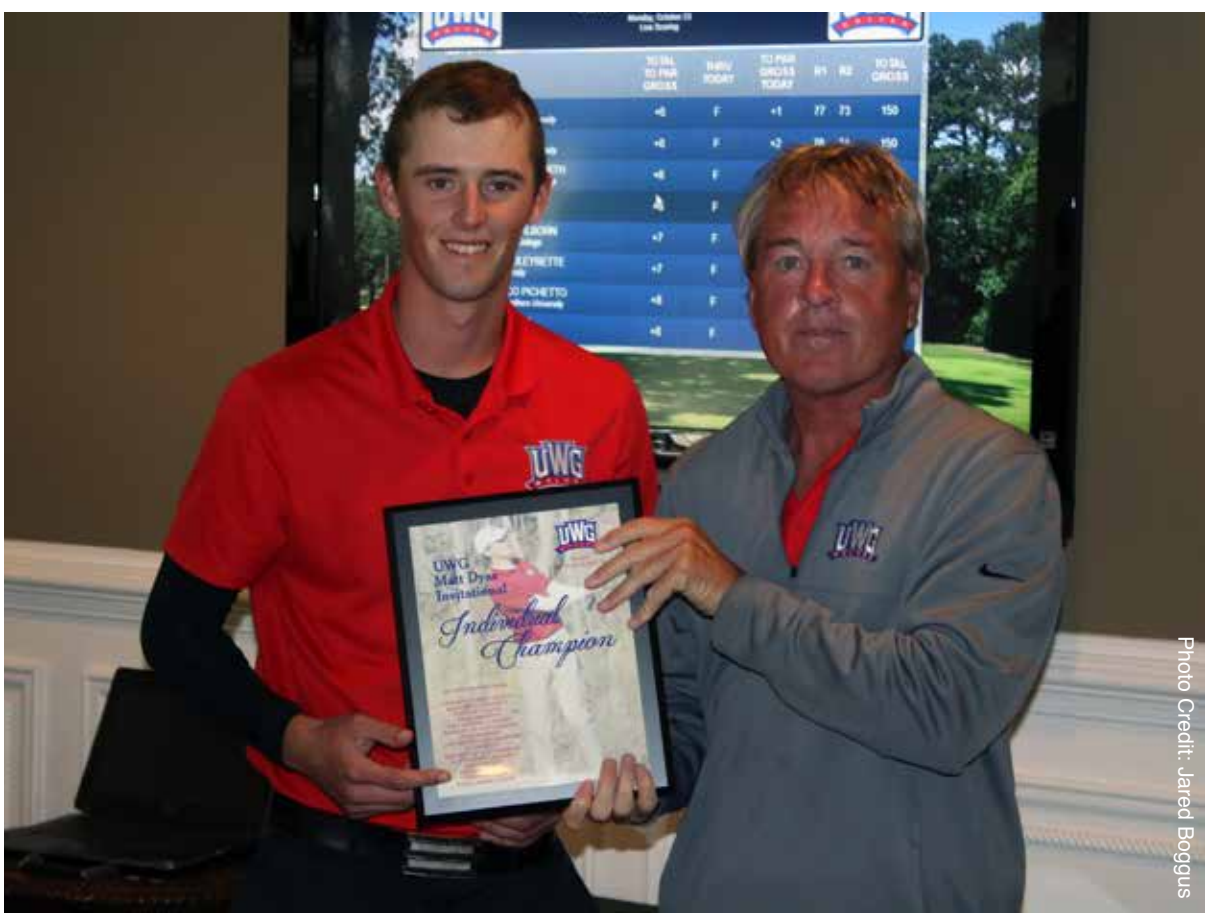


Photo Credit: Jared Bogus

Living West

The Grand Journey: West Georgia Outdoors' trip to the Grand Canyon this November

Megan Bohlander

Webmaster

UWG is having its first ever trip to the Grand Canyon this Thanksgiving. West Georgia Outdoors (WGO) will be taking eight students and three trip leaders on one of the largest trips that this program has led. Students will have a great opportunity to visit one of the natural wonders of the world.

"The Grand Canyon is arguably the most awe inspiring area in the country," said senior staff member of WGO Jared Ashley. "Due to size, remoteness, and overall beauty it attracts even the most novice outdoorsman. Giving students the chance to live within the canyon for a week could easily be one of their highlights through college."

WGO chose the Grand Canyon because of the life changing impact it could have

on the student's career. Spending a day overlooking the canyon seems incredible in itself, but UWG wanted to one up that by giving students the opportunity to camp and be a part of the canyon. A lot of preparation will go into this trip including packing necessities and training for elevation fluctuations. It is also an extensive commute that will be well worth the drive once arrived at the beauties of the canyon.

"The trip itself will take nine days total from leaving campus to returning," said Ashley. "We will be loading up and hitting the road on November 17 to start our 24-hour drive to Arizona."

The group will arrive to the Grand Canyon on Monday, Nov. 20 for four days of backpacking, hiking and camping. Over the course of the four days, students and trip leaders will be following a loop trail to explore the canyon. This includes carrying all of the gear and food that is essential for the week in backpacks. The

camping arrangements will be fairly remote with very limited phone service or bathrooms. This will give students the true backcountry experience.

"I believe that any outdoor activity can help students realize what they are capable of," said Ashley. "Not only do they go through some self-realization but I've also seen members of these trips become very close friends within the time spent together."

In addition to experiencing the greatness of the Grand Canyon, it is also about self-development and bonding among peers. This trip will give students a better understanding of the natural world and open their minds to maintaining a healthy environment so that sceneries like the Grand Canyon can prosper. Students can sign up now to be a part of this journey and attend pre-trip meetings on Nov. 6 and 13 to get to know fellow group members and leaders.



Photo Courtesy: Ben O'Bro on Unsplash

Sending Love and Gratitude on Veterans Day

Odera Ezenna

Contributing Writer

The Center for Adult Learners and Veterans (CALV) is joining in the national recognition of those who have served in our armed forces with an early Veterans Day celebration this Wednesday, Nov. 8, at the Campus Center.

As we approach Veterans Day each year, CALV arranges a gathering on the UWG campus to honor all veterans and people who have family members that are deployed or that have served the country. The holiday was conceived to celebrate the ending of World War I and to honor U.S. veterans and victims of all wars. It is held on Nov. 11 each year.

Since Veteran Day falls on a Saturday this year, CALV decided to hold the event during the week to allow participants to

celebrate with their families on the day of holiday. The celebration is also open to the general public.

"In the past, we found that if the holiday falls on a weekend, having the event on a Friday is no good because there are so many people who don't have Friday classes," said Danny Gourley, Director of Center for Adult Learners and Veterans. "Also, we have found that there are so many events happening on the day of throughout the community, and we'd just end up competing with that. So we chose Wednesday when things will not be really busy."

The celebration will open with a presentation of the colors by the Air Force Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps from Central High School here in Carrollton, followed by an acapella performance of the national anthem by four UWG music majors. Guest

speaker and UWG President Dr. Kyle Marrero is scheduled to give a speech about how much the university values our veterans, both in the classroom and in the workforce.

"I will also give some information about the impact of our veterans in the classroom, like how they're performing and what they do in our classrooms," said Gourley. "Then we will give the audience members an opportunity to share stories of how veterans may have touched their lives, before we take down the colors and conclude that portion of the ceremony." Audience members will then get an opportunity to socialize and gather with members of the community as celebrations will continue at a reception held in the CALV office. Food and refreshments will be provided by Dine West.

Unlike previous years, invitations were sent out to all vet-

eran groups located in the Carroll County area, including the American Legion, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

"We actually physically drove to their locations and dropped off posters as ways of invitations," said Gourley. "So far, we don't have any idea yet how many people might come, but we are expecting more community members this year than in past years."

To further spread the word about the event, CALV also did interviews with Carrollton Menu and the Times Georgian to ensure the news was reaching people.

"It's an important time to remember and reflect on people who have made sacrifices for us," said Gourley. "They come back with changed lives – both good and bad. So it is just about recognizing the tribute of both their service and what they bring back to the community."

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Living West

7th Annual OxFam Hunger Banquet: May The Odds Be In Your Favor

Monica Sanders

Copy-Editor

Thursday, Nov. 9, the Center for Diversity and Inclusion is hosting their annual OxFam Hunger Banquet in the Lower Level Z-6. OxFam America was created in the 1970s, originating from Great Britain, to bring attention to the plight of chronic hunger and food insecurities.

The OxFam Hunger Banquet is an interactive and engaging program where each person who attends is an actual participant. Since its creation, the banquet has been adopted by different synagogues, churches,

organizations and different universities. The event focuses on socioeconomic status and the different opportunities and non-opportunities given depending on your assigned status.

“My favorite part is when people gain the knowledge to understand this is an actual problem,” said Nathaniel Flory, CDI graduate assistant. “Some people like to think Diversity and Inclusion is just culture, gender, race and ethnicity or sexual orientation, but they tend to forget socioeconomic status is a part of that.”

Organizations supporting this event includes but is not limited to, Dine West, who will be providing the food for this event, Center for Student Involvement, Housing

& Residence Life, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., the Latino Cultural Society, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc., Black Student Alliance and many more.

The Banquet is not just a closed campus event, it is open to the entire Carrollton Community.

“We invite everyone to come out to see what it means and support individuals experiencing chronic hunger and food insecurities,” said Deirdre Haywood-Rouse, Director of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion. “This is a worldwide problem, in terms of locally, statewide, regionwide and nationwide. We have students at the University of West Georgia who sometimes do not have food. They may be in school and they may be

able to go to class, but they don’t have food to eat.”

Community partners include the Carroll County league of Women Voters and the Carroll County Soup Kitchen. Although the event is free, the CDI is asking everyone to donate any canned good that they might have. Each donation will be donated to the Carroll County Soup Kitchen.

The CDI encourages anyone who wants to see life and different situation through a different lens to come to the banquet. If any student is suffering from chronic hunger or food insecurities, can anonymously contact patient advocates in health services who will help you locate the appropriate resources.

News

“A corporate score of Olympic proportions”: Atlanta Favored for Amazon’s Second Headquarters

Gracie Shefelton

Guest Writer

Atlanta is an early favorite among many business experts for Amazon’s second headquarters.

Hundreds of cities put in bids last month for Amazon’s “HQ2”. However, there are a few bids that stand out from the crowd. More specifically, Austin, TX and Atlanta are the primary favorites because of all they have to offer; big airports, relatively low cost of living and a high quality of life, along with a favorable business environment.

Many business analysts, journalists and anyone who is interested have given their opinions about who will win the bid. Forbes, however, made the observation that Atlanta has been on every list of Amazon’s best options.

Amazon has very particular criteria a city needs to meet in order to make the cut. The first and probably most difficult one is their demand for 50,000 “high level jobs”. With nearly 6 million residents in the metro area, Atlanta could easily supply Amazon with the manpower and talent that they need.

The city also has the tech-industry talent that Amazon is specifically looking for

to fill those 50,000 jobs. With the presence of Georgia Tech and Atlanta Tech Village, the talent they need is already in the city. Real estate broker Pierce Owings of Cushman & Wakefield says this makes Atlanta the perfect spot for Amazon’s HQ2.

Since Atlanta already has a strong tech industry, it also has the infrastructure. According to Moody’s Analytics, “[Atlanta has] built superior logistics and adequate fiber connectivity.” The city already has the technical infrastructure to support a company like Amazon. Again, this makes the bid more attractive, as the company would not have to spend valuable time and money on making sure the city has all that it needs to support their business.

Moody’s also mentions that, “[Atlanta] has also become one of the most important professional services hubs in the South, with competitive costs of doing business supporting corporate relocations and expansions and allowing for agglomeration economies.”

The city is not only an important hub for business, but it is a very competitive place to do business. Amazon is undoubtedly looking at the bottom line with their decision, and Atlanta offers a competitive price for businesses that operate there.

Atlanta also has the world’s busiest airport to offer, according to the latest Airports Council International ranking. Atlanta’s Harts-

field-Jackson International Airport knows how to move people and move freight, too. Judging by their high volume of traffic for the past few years, the airport is well equipped to handle the traffic that Amazon would bring through.

The airport is also a huge international hub. Amazon does business across the world, and Atlanta already has the capacity to support that international supply chain. Hartsfield-Jackson’s wide array of international routes and experience with international shipping makes their bid that much more attractive.

With all that Atlanta has to offer, it also has a lot to gain from this potential addition. Obviously, the city would gain a substantial amount of revenue if Amazon moved in. Atlanta would also gain a lot of prominence among U.S. cities. Amazon’s presence would make Atlanta more attractive for people to live and work, while boosting its reputation in the business industry, too.

All this being said, Atlanta stands a pretty good chance in the running for HQ2, but no one will know for sure any time soon. It is reported that Amazon will not announce their decision until 2018, though no official date has been set. Until then, the city is holding on to hope for what has been called a “corporate score of Olympic proportions”.



News

Will We Ever Know the Truth?

Jamie Walloch
Contributing Writer

Stephen Paddock opened gunfire on a large crowd of 22,000 concertgoers at the Route 91 Harvest country music festival in Las Vegas, Nevada resulting in the deadliest mass shooting committed by a single person in American history.

Approximately between 10:05 p.m.-10:15 p.m. on the night of Oct. 1, 2017, thousands of military rifle rounds were shot from Paddock's 32nd floor suite of Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino leaving 58 people dead and 546 injured.

Nearly an hour later, Paddock was found dead in his hotel room from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Even after sources interviewed his family members and searched through his financial, travel and health history, there is no clear indication or reasoning as to why this man decided to gun down thousands of innocent country music fans.

Since the shooting, the authorities and media have released rather confusing information about the mass shooting that is almost too difficult to believe, causing even more speculation about what all is even true with this.

Paddock was initially portrayed as an ordinary man living an ordinary life, but is now being reported as an obsessive gambler and wealthy real estate investor with no signs of mental illnesses. His brain is being dissected by Stanford University and undergoing tests to help understand why he committed this

mass murder, but authorities do not believe they will find anything.

The one real rationale that lies horrific event is that bad behavior is common in his family. Paddock's father was a bank robber on the F.B.I's Most Wanted list for over a decade and his brother was recently charged with possessing child pornography.

Almost a dozen suitcases filled with 23 weapons and loads of ammunition somehow made it up to Paddocks hotel room without being noticed. Housekeepers cleaned his room and room service visited during the days leading up to the shooting but did not notice anything out of the ordinary. Paddock possibly had inside help, but even that answer will likely never be fully

confirmed.

Many reports have since been released regarding multiple shooters and several broken windows seen at the hotel that night. Numerous videos from witnesses show conflicting reports on how many people shot down into the concert crowd even though only one shooter is identified by authorities.

A security guard of the hotel, Jesus Campos, was first reported to have been shot by Paddock six minutes before he began firing down at thousands of people. Recent information has been reported that this is false and Campos was shot closer to the time Paddock began firing shots.

It was also believed that Paddock had a girlfriend named

Marilou Danley. Reports first stated that she might have been his accomplice in the mass shooting but it has since been discovered that Paddock paid for her to be out of the country specifically during this time.

Not until weeks after the shooting did the authorities release the information that the computer found in Paddock's hotel room at Mandalay Bay, was missing its hard drive.

With new information being released by authorities, Americans can only wonder why innocent concert goers were targeted by this act of evil. We will never know how or why the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history took place.



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News

America's Blind Spot

Jaenaeva Watson

Contributing Writer

Rape and assault victims came forward on social media hoping to open the eyes of Americans who were either ignorant of the situation or ignoring the situation. The hashtag MeToo campaign sprung to life after several public figures who had been sexually harassed revealed themselves and their stories.

Social media is becoming more popular in terms of revealing your innermost thoughts. Some even use it as a way to release a horrific experience they have undergone. A rape or sexual assault from someone who is trusted continues to be the case. Alyssa Milano, an actress, took to her Twitter account to encourage women to use the #MeToo, to expose the magnitude of a rape problem in the country. The #MeToo campaign hadn't begun with Milano though; it goes back further.

#MeToo began with Tarana Burke, the founder of Just Be Inc. who shared a story of her younger days. She talked about how she was unable to muster up the courage to be the shoulder to lean on for a rape victim. A little girl was abused by a man her mother was dating and as she began to tell the story to Burke, Burke stopped her and suggested

another counselor who might be able to help. Burke regretted her response in that situation because she could relate to what had happened to the girl. She wanted to say "me too."

In the weeks of October, the campaign flared on Twitter of women and men coming out with their hashtags. Bill O'Reilly, an American journalist, is a prime example of someone who used their power to take advantage on women in the same industry. O'Reilly was not the only person in the position to contribute to the trend of powerful people sexually harassing those under them. McKayla Maroney, a former Olympic gymnast, accused her former USA Gymnastics doctor of raping her since she was a teenager and continued for years. The list of the accused continues to grow as the campaign moves through the entertainment industry.

So often, cases of rape and sexual assault goes unannounced and unchallenged. However, this is not because the situation is never brought to someone's attention. Many times, the victims are ignored or told there isn't any proof. Actress Rose McGowan experienced the "no proof" statement when she attempted to tell someone that Harvey Weinstein, a film producer, raped her. Even victim blaming causes people to hold onto their darkest secret in fear that they will be shamed, outcasted or embarrassed for something that they did not do but something that was done to them.

The Netflix series, "13 Reasons Why",

focused on the main character, Hannah played by Katherine Langford, who committed suicide and recorded it on tape. Throughout the first season, viewers saw how rape in a seemingly average school had been ignored or celebrated. Due to the rapist's position at his school, no one wanted to hold him accountable.

Even when he was confronted during several episodes, he said that he didn't consider what he was doing to be rape. The show never revealed whether his parents, the teachers or the coaches knew of his actions but his friends definitely knew. The 13 people who listened to the tape heard two accounts of rape by the same person. Many of the characters believed that Hannah lied and that she made the stories up to romanticize her suicide.

According to Rape Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN), since 1998, 17.7 million women have been victims of attempted or completed rape. Women in college are three times more likely to experience rape or sexual assault than women in the general population. It's not only women at risk of being assaulted. Even though less likely, 2.78 million men have been victims of attempted or completed rape.

Whether it is public figures or an average person, several individuals face the same struggles when it comes to rape and sexual assault. Unfortunately, it can happen in the workplace, the schools, and even in homes.

Sports

Georgia is the #1 Team in College Football

Justin Hodges

Feature Editor

For the first time since 2008, the Georgia Bulldogs are college football's top ranked team.

After reaching as high as second in the weekly AP Top-25 Poll, Georgia debuted as the #1 team in the season's first College Football Playoff Poll. The poll, voted on by a committee tasked with selecting the four teams to play in the College Football Playoff, had Alabama, Notre Dame and Clemson to round out their initial top-four.

"What gave Georgia a very slight edge over Alabama this week in the eyes of the selection committee were really the two top-25 wins that Georgia has over Mississippi State, but specifically over No. 3 Notre Dame," said the committee chairman Kirby Hocutt, who is also Texas Tech's athletic director.

While Georgia being ranked #1 shocked many, few can say that the Bulldogs are undeserving of this ranking. Right from the beginning of the season Georgia has completely dominated nearly every team that has stood in their way outscoring their opponents by a combined score of 305-95. That is an average of 38 points scored and 11.8 points allowed per game.

Georgia has been able to be so dominant thanks to a rather "old school" style of play. The Bulldogs' defense has been absolutely ferocious and more importantly disciplined; a formula that has created arguably the best defense in the entire country.

On the other side, Georgia's rushing attack has been absolutely

unstoppable. With two seniors in Nick Chubb and Sony Michel creating the best backfield duo in college football along with two sophomores in Brian Herrien and Elijah Holyfield and a star freshman in D'Andre Swift the Bulldogs have unparalleled running back depth that has powered them to where they are now.

Despite the accolades and near perfect play, Georgia's head coach Kirby Smart ensured on an

SEC teleconference that none of this is getting into the team's heads.

"It's really nothing more than a distraction, more than anything," said Smart. "Our kids acknowledge that and they understand that's the way of the world, that's the system that we live in. It's made to generate ratings, generate publicity for our sport. But our focus and attention is on South Carolina."

There are still three games left in the regular season for Georgia

before a potential titan battle in the SEC Championship with Alabama. This includes a tough road matchup against Auburn on Nov. 11 and the annual "Clean, Old Fashioned Hate" rivalry matchup against Georgia Tech on the final day of the regular season.

While nobody should be too excited just yet, we should all salivate in what is a great achievement for the Georgia football program.

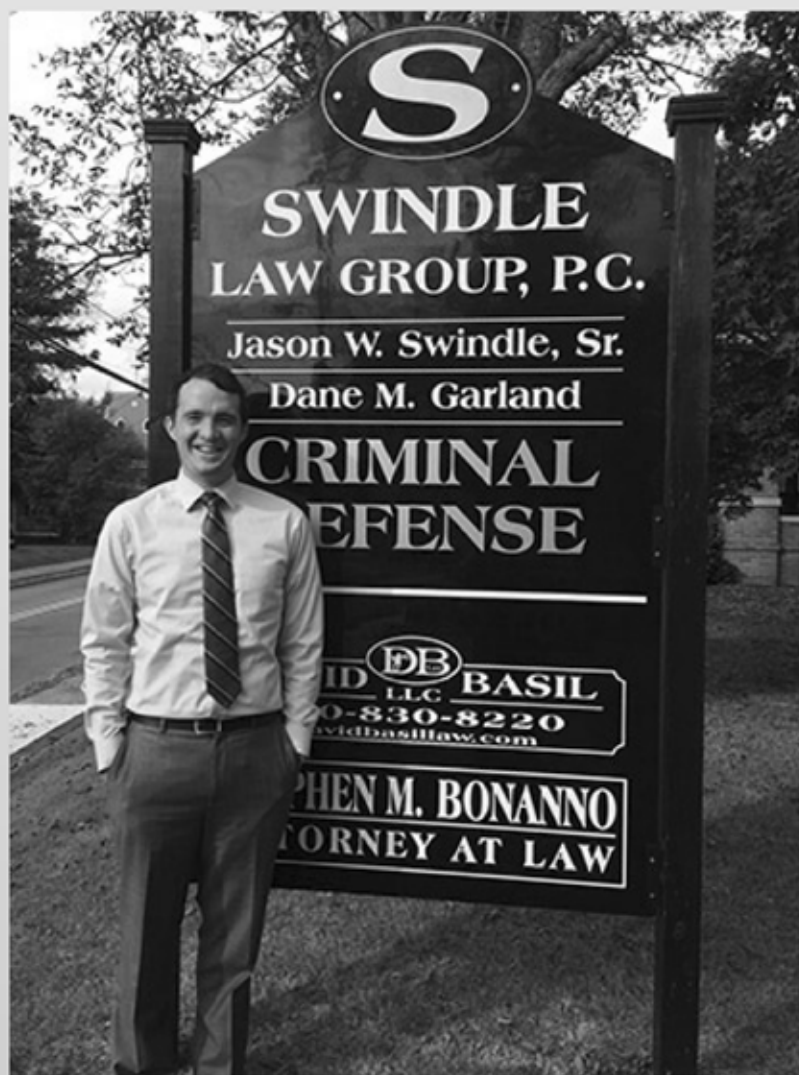


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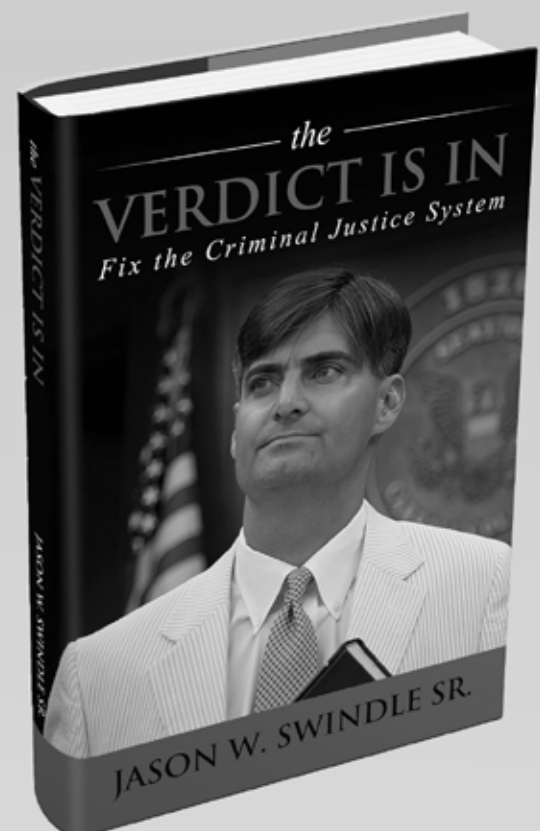
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Arts & Entertainment

Weezer: “pacific daydream”

Robert Moody

Copy Editor

Nerd-rock super group Weezer released their newest album, “Pacific Daydream”, on Oct. 27 after over a year of anticipation from eager fans.

Over the last two decades the Los Angeles based band has gained large amounts of recognition and obtained a very diverse and massive fanbase. Their unique sound, guided by the creative genius of frontman Rivers Cuomo, is consistently bridging the gaps between various genres such as punk, alternative, rock and pop from song to song. “Pacific Daydream”, the band’s eleventh studio album, is no different as it leaps from genre to genre from beginning to end.

The 10-track “Pacific Daydream” clocks in at just over 34 minutes and is best described as a power pop album seasoned with manic enthusiasm, power chords, screeching guitar riffs, west coast groove and vibrant vocals that range from light pop to angst-filled punk. The album is also one of the most natural that the band has ever released. Cuomo has admitted that they were trying to put together a much darker album, known as the “Black Album”, but ultimately put that project on hold after most of the new material fit the pop beach format of “Pacific Daydream”.

The album opens with “Mexican Fender” as a series of solo power chords break through

silence before Cuomo’s sharp voice cuts in with lyrics about a summer love experience in Santa Monica. The pop-rock intro grows with each verse before hitting a frantic high point in the bridge before the final chorus as “she loves me, she loves me, she loves me not” repeats before segueing into the next track.

The second and most unique track on the album, “Beach Boys”, opens with a bass line inspired by the west coast beach pop style of the legendary band from which the song gets its title. As the surf groove sets in, Cuomo precedes the chorus by mentioning his adoration of the Beach Boys as he sings, “let me tell you ‘bout a band I loved when I was a west side kid”. The song then draws upon the inspiration that the Beach Boys have given them as the lyrics allude to their music bringing tears to their eyes, bringing back fond memories and desiring to celebrate their iconic sound.

The album’s pop sound is easily noticeable on many tracks from the calm melody of “Sweet Mary” to the energetic chorus of the lead single “Feels Like Summer”, but this sound truly shines in tracks like the intoxicating “Happy Hour” and the lovesick “Weekend Woman”. “Happy Hour”, the final single released before the album’s official drop, opens with a thick and boozed-up groove filled with synth and bass and speaks about a desire to be away from work and enjoying the more fun things in life like good company and a nice drink.

“Weekend Woman”, which was released as a

single only two weeks before “Happy Hour”, follows a very simple melody and, like many major pop songs, is based on lyrics that tell the story of falling in love with an unforgettable stranger and dreaming of being together once again. While these types of songs are fairly new ground for Weezer it is a sound that has been welcomed by many fans.

There are many tracks on “Pacific Daydream” that are reminiscent of the original Weezer sound from older singles such as “Island in the Sun” and others that led to their initial success. The track that most resembles the original angsty Weezer is “QB Blitz”, a song that begins with a stripped down acoustic guitar and the rhyming lyrics “all my conversations die a painful death you see, I can’t get anyone to do algebra with me”.

The song goes on to mention the difficulty of making real friends before introducing a crawling bass line into the unenthusiastic chorus. The song continues to build toward a loud and busy bridge only to return to the original chorus to wind back down to the solo acoustic guitar.

“Pacific Daydream” seems to be the most mainstream friendly album that Weezer has produced in their 23 year existence and despite harsh critical reviews the band is satisfied with their work and excited to share it with fans all over the world. The album can be found in most major retail stores and on most online streaming services.

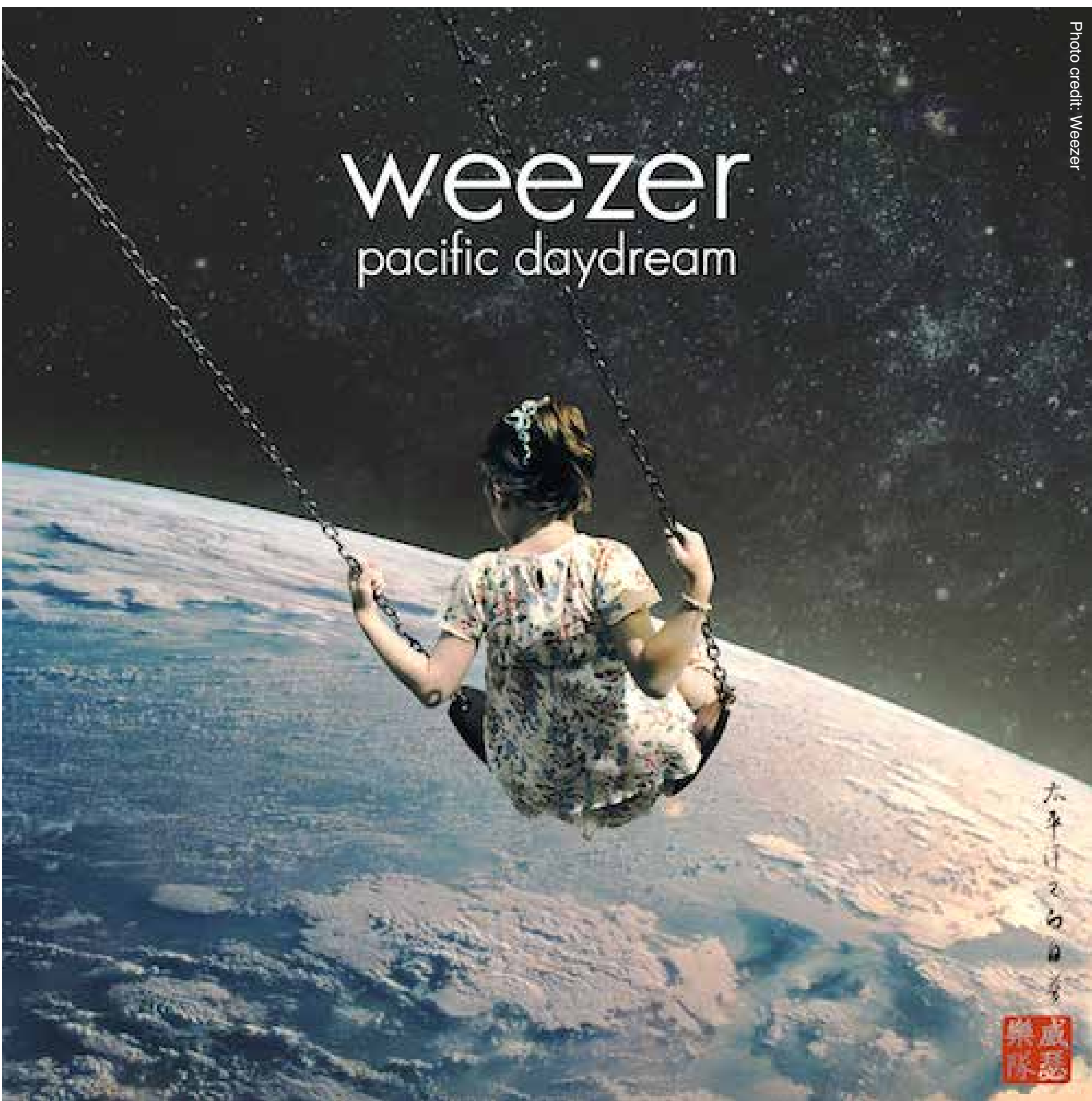


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