

What college students actually want for Christmas.

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BRADLEY UNIVERSITY

THE SCOUT

ESTABLISHED 1898

Braves fall to 0-2 on the road in loss to IUPUI.

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The Scout

@bradley_scout

SABRC allocates spring funding

BY TONY XU
Editor-in-Chief

As student organizations are starting to prepare for their spring events, the Student Activities Budget Review Committee has recently released funding decisions for this coming semester.

There were 64 spring funding requests submitted by 40 student organizations. SABRC allocated total \$94,125.42 of \$109,971 available for the spring.

Forty-eight requests from 34 organizations were fully or partially funded, and 16 requests were denied or withdrew.

Among founded organizations, Red Sea got the biggest piece of the pie with their spring sports giveaway events for a total of \$10,420, which made up about 11 percent of the total allocated funds.

The Black Student Alliance and Association of Latin American Students come in second and third place with \$8,139 and \$7,303 for two events each.

On the rejected side, Student Senate's signature event, "Rise of the Red," was denied funding.

According to Katherine Folan, chairperson of SABRC and senior organizational communication major, Student Senate was rejected because they did not track attendance for their funded giveaways this fall semester.

"When all student organizations are required to go to the [Bradley Organization Leader Training] in the spring, there are instructions that if they are SABRC-funded, then they do need to use Presence to track attendance," Folan said. "Student Senate has been told in the past, and that was something they didn't do for this past semester."

see SABRC Page A4

Treuer teaches Native history

BY MEGHAN ANDERSON
Copy Editor

Last week, young children throughout America glued colored construction paper into "feather headdresses" for Thanksgiving day celebrations. Following this season based upon myths, Bradley students had the opportunity to learn more about Native Americans.

Anton Treuer is a professor of Ojibwe at Bemidji State University, author of 14 books, father of nine and a popular speaker who has presented internationally.

A member of the Ojibwe nation from Leech Lake Reservation in northern Minnesota, he spoke candidly from the perspective of a Native American about the topics addressed in his 2012 publication, "Everything You Wanted to Know About Indians But Were Afraid to Ask." This lecture served as part of the history department's ongoing Armstrong Lecture series.

Libby Tronnes, assistant professor of history, has been assigning this book in her classroom for years.

"I think it's one of the few [books I assign] that students actually like having on their shelves; they keep it," Tronnes said.

To the bewildered faces of a completely packed room in Westlake Hall, Treuer began his presentation by casually speaking in his native



Author Anton Treuer discussed the misunderstood aspects of Native American culture in his lecture on his book "Everything You Wanted to Know About Indians But Were Afraid to Ask" on Wednesday evening.

photo by William Craine

language of Ojibwe.

"They asked me to come share a little time with you today; they didn't say anything at all about doing it in a foreign language like English," Treuer said. "It's always weird to me that it's my language that sounds foreign,

exotic and 'what's he doing?'"

This led him into detailing the issues regarding general representations of Native Americans, starting with the fact that whole disciplines about Natives were formed by what white army officers

wrote in their journals.

"There's an age-old assault on our very way of being," Treuer said.

see TREUER Page A6

University closes down for snow

BY HALEY JOHNSON
News Editor

Bradley University canceled classes and closed down for the first time since 2015 on Monday, as an early season snow storm welcomed students back from Thanksgiving break with approximately five inches of snow. Surrounding areas like Galesburg and Altona experienced about a foot, according to the National Weather Service.

At 5:40 a.m. Monday, the university

sent out an email alert to faculty, staff, and students announcing the university closure.

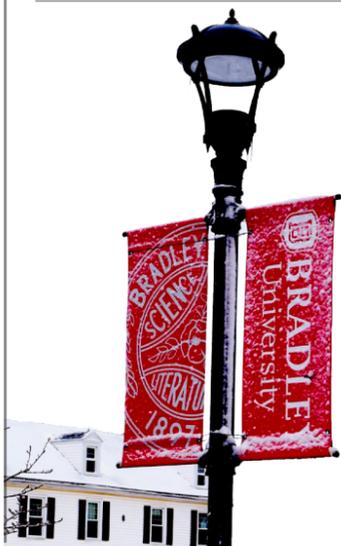
University spokesperson Renee Charles said the decision was made after a lot of consideration by "the President and Provost in consultation with appropriate administrative offices."

University President Gary Roberts indicated that Bradley would have been one of the few schools open in the region.

"The fact that virtually every

other educational entity in the region had already made the decision to close for the day indicated to us that others in our position had weighed the factors and had made the call to close, and it added to the legal risk we might have faced had we remained open and someone had had a serious accident trying to get to campus," Roberts said.

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BRIEFS

BUPD keeps houses safe during break

Students living in the Bradley off-campus community can register their residence with the Vacant House Watch Program so that the Bradley University Police Department will monitor their homes during winter break. Call 309-677-2000 before leaving for break to complete the confidential registration process to participate in the program that has reduced the number of burglaries during breaks.

Spa night to lessen finals stress

Women Who Empower will host a free spa night from 8 to 10 p.m. on Dec. 4 in Lydia's Lounge, located in University Hall. Snacks, music, manicures and hand scrubs will be provided.

Historical homes open for the holidays

The Peoria Historical Society is hosting their seventh annual tour of historical homes in Peoria decorated lavishly for the holidays. This year's tour will lead guests through five homes from 5 to 9 p.m. on Dec. 1 and from 1 to 5 p.m. on Dec. 2. Tickets are \$20. For more information, call 309-674-1921.

Seniors to celebrate with free breakfast

A breakfast for seniors graduating in December 2018 will be served from 9 to 10:30 a.m. on Dec. 13 in the Michel Student Center Ballroom.

POLICE REPORTS

- On Nov. 25, a staff member notified a BUPD officer of a broken glass door at the front entrance of the student center. The building was locked at the time, and entry was not made into the building. The incident is still under investigation.

- At approximately 6 p.m., a student center employee called authorities when she said her former boyfriend walked in, took her car keys from her drawer and drove away in her vehicle.

- A complaint was filed on Nov. 22 about an abandoned vehicle in an alley. Upon investigation by officers, it was found the vehicle was previously reported stolen. The Peoria Police Department took possession of the vehicle.

- During a routine Thanksgiving break check conducted in University Hall on Nov. 21, three long swords were found in one of the dorm rooms. Residential Living confiscated the swords, as they are banned items.

- On Nov. 20, a student reported mistakenly purchasing a stolen phone on Facebook from a non-student. The student said they paid \$400 for it, and upon trying to activate it, the phone was discovered as stolen.

Happy Holidays from The Scout!



The Scout would like to extend the warmest holiday wishes to our readers. Grab a mug of cocoa and enjoy the last Scout issue of the semester!

NEWS

No Shave November concludes with a contest



Bradley University Police Department Chief Brian Joschko (left) and Lt. Sean Savage (right) show off their beards to raise money for charity.

photo via Scout archives

BY HANNAH SNIDMAN
News Reporter

For the third year, Bradley University Police Department held their annual No Shave November beard contest. Participants submitted pictures of their facial hair for display

on Thursday at Coffee with a Cop in the student center atrium.

Anyone could participate by donating \$25 and starting with a clean face on Nov. 1. Winners received a \$50 giftcard to the restaurant of their choice and the rest of the money will be donated to the Center for

Prevention of Abuse. "We've found ourselves working with [the Center for Prevention of Abuse] more and more," Lt. Sean Savage said. "We've always partnered with them on a number of different topics, everything from sexual assault awareness month down to referring

our students to them all the time and they're so incredible. They're a great victims advocate group."

Donations in past years have gone towards Special Olympics and the Boys and Girls Club. The police department may also continue to donate to the Center for Prevention of Abuse in future years, according to Savage.

"It's all about the Center for Prevention of Abuse. I can't brag on them enough, as far as what they've done for this community," Savage said. "They're truly great and that's why I think after this year, I don't think we will be changing it. I think we've found our great partnership in them and we're excited to be giving to them."

No Shave November began when police officers asked the chief to grow a beard for a month in exchange for \$25 to charity. Police officers have a grooming policy prohibiting more than a clean shaven face or moustache.

"Most of my 30 years working, I have not been allowed to grow facial hair, other than a moustache, so getting to grow [it] sounds kind of fun," Sgt. Nick McCumber said. "It also gets to be fun making fun of each other for what comes out because it's just starting, so nobody's looks really good."

The first year, there were about 15 participants and officers took first, second and third places. Last year,

about 30 people entered the contest and two students and one officer placed in the top three best beards.

"For us, it means a whole lot, but the biggest piece of it is the opportunity to give to these charities... and that's why we opened it to all of campus," Savage said. "We've got already a couple people from across the university that have entered the best beard contest."

In addition to the thirteen contestants for No Shave November, campus members could also compete in a Bake Off.

This year, student Jake Settles came in first place for best beard, with Officer Young in second place and Chief Joschko taking third. Seniors Olivia Carrizales and Lizzy Young won the bake off.

"We're really grateful for everyone that's participated because we have been seeing some students that are recurring to every event," senior industrial engineering major and BUPD marketing coordinator Olivia Carrizales said. "They're very faithful to our events, so we're very appreciative of them and also we just have a lot of fun doing it. That's the most important part; we love doing stuff like this."

Innovation and creating an entrepreneurial ecosystem

BY ANGELINE SCHMELZER
Copy Editor

Bradley's Turner School of Entrepreneurship and Innovation gave students a learning opportunity.

The first annual Entrepreneurial Ecosystem and Convergence Conference was held on Thursday.

An entrepreneurial ecosystem is a collection of multiple elements in the area. These elements include a conducive culture for entrepreneurship, policies and leadership supporting it, availability of financial resources, human capital to staff the organization and a market willing to try new things.

William McDowell, organizer and facilitator of the conference and executive director of the Turner School of Entrepreneurship and Innovation, said he thought of the idea shortly after starting at Bradley, through talking to students and community members.

"The goal of this event is to get our students on campus and Bradley connected with the individuals that are operating here within our ecosystems," McDowell said.

"Entrepreneurs, support organizations, other businesses that have been existing for a while, all these different groups are going to come together and get to know each other better and try to figure out better ways to help move this area,

this region, forward."

McDowell said the conference helps students understand how to connect with the local community and that they can bring the skill to wherever their job opportunities take them.

"[We have] some really good speakers that are ... first of all, very motivational, but also have real stories of making something out of just an idea," McDowell said.

Andrew Fischer, junior management and leadership major, said Kadri's speech resonated with him and his brother's story as an entrepreneur.

"He reminded me ... of the challenges with a startup," Fischer said. "The stresses of an entrepreneur are very apparent."

Three guest speakers shared their entrepreneurial experiences. A founder and managing partner of Capella Partners, Romi Kadri; director of the center for entrepreneurial studies at Kenan-Flagler Business School in North Carolina, Ted Zoller; and co-founder of the Ministry of Supply startup, Kevin Rustagi.

McDowell met Kadri through a series of connections and thought he would be a great speaker for the conference. Kadri then asked Rustagi to also speak at the event.

"This is showing the power of connections and networks and working together. Suddenly, we've

been able to populate this conference with some great speakers."

McDowell said that working with external partners could help understanding a student's own discipline and how it can connect with others.

"Hopefully these students will see some opportunities to be involved in what we're doing in entrepreneurship and innovation," McDowell said. "I'm also working in the convergence area now, where we're promoting the idea that students can work on projects with other students who are from different a discipline than they are."

Kadri spoke to the challenges and characteristics of an entrepreneur. He stressed that entrepreneurship is about innovation and finding a problem to fix.

"Students are in the best position to fix a problem," Kadri said. "You can start a business from a dorm room."

Kadri explained how big businesses use the 70/20/10 model. 70 percent of resources go to core business, 20 percent goes to expand core business and 10 percent goes to things completely outside the core business to invest in the future 70 percent.

However, startups must use 100 percent of their time and effort into something outside of their business because their core business doesn't exist yet.

"The truth is though, if you're



Nationally recognized speakers Romi Kadri and Rebecca White came to campus to share their entrepreneurial knowledge with students and members of the Peoria community on Thursday.

willing to take all of that risk, take that massive burn-in, take the pressure and the humiliation and the loneliness of being in your own ideas ... trying to solve something, trying to do something that no one has ever done before, you're not crazy. You're just an entrepreneur," Kadri said.

Additionally, Kadri said those who want to be an entrepreneur will need passion for the problem they

are trying to solve and persistence in finding a solution.

"If you find a problem in the world and you are passionate about it, then you are the best possible person to solve it," Kadri said.

NEWS

Bradley alum sings Broadway

BY VERONICA BLASCOE
Off-staff Reporter

Not everyone has heard about Bradley University. But some alumni are out there changing that, and sometimes they return to say thank you.

Eric Petersen, a Broadway singer, graduated from Bradley in 2003. He was a theater arts major, with an extraordinary career at Bradley, including a starring role as Jesus in "Jesus Christ Superstar."

After graduating, he has played roles as the famous ogre in "Shrek: the Musical," Buddy in the national tour of "Elf: The Musical," and Dewey in "School of Rock" on Broadway, for which he learned to play the guitar in six weeks.

He has also been on television, with guest appearances in "The Big Bang Theory," "Modern Family," and "Law and Order: SVU," among others. He played Kirstie Allen's son Arlo Barth in "Kirstie" and starred

in a New Orleans-based Popeye's commercial.

"He still goes to New Orleans and people say ... 'you were on that commercial!'" said BJ Lawrence, associate dean of the Slane College of Communication and Fine Arts.

Lawrence nominated Petersen for the Bradley University Alumni Association Outstanding Young Graduate Award, which he won in 2017, and helped coordinate his return to Bradley.

"He gives back to his university and he's happy to come back and perform," Lawrence said. "He has a wonderful voice and ... his voice gets better every time I hear him."

She said her ten-year-old granddaughter is purportedly Petersen's biggest fan. Lawrence hopes to convince Petersen to teach a class during the Hollywood semester.

Petersen will be singing a set with the Bradley Jazz Ensemble, 18-20 students run by professor Todd Kelly. The event will be opened up by the

GROOVE Project, a group of students who focus on improvising jazz music.

Although previous concerts have focused more on classical Sinatra-style jazz, this weekend's attendees will be treated to not only a selection of jazz, but also some Christmas music and show tunes, including three Broadway songs from Petersen's best known roles, all in a row.

"I don't know why I did that," joked Petersen. "It's like three of the hardest songs to sing."

The set list includes "Who I'd Be" from Shrek, which Petersen says is his second favorite song.

There will be concerts tonight at 7:30 p.m. and on Saturday at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m., all at the Hartmann Center. Admission to the 7:30 concerts is \$35 per attendee, but admission to the 9:30 concert on Saturday is discounted to \$10 for Bradley students.

"I love being back at Bradley," Petersen said. "I come back here whenever I can ... I'm very proud."

SABRC continued from
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Cara Wood, director of student activities office, confirmed that it was part of the funding policy for organizations to track their attendance or giveaways, and said Bradley Ballroom was also denied for the same reason.

"All student clubs who receives funding needed to track their attendance for their events and for their capital equipment - items that we could have distributed to students - have to track attendance," Wood said. "That was in the policies that all of the student organization signed in April or May when they meet with their financial adviser."

According to Wood, this year's spring funding was very comparable to the past in terms of amount of requests received and money allocated.

"Last November we were allocated about \$98,000; this November we allocated about \$94,000," Wood said. "We only are about 10 events less this November hearing than last November hearing. So that kind is that ACBU difference, now ACBU allocates their funding themselves and reports back to SABRC"

ACBU was added to the list of organizations that receive a set percentage or amount of funding each fiscal year when SABRC revised their constitution in February. Other organizations on the list are Late Night BU and Club Sports.

In terms of the types of the events applied, Wood said there are typical comparisons to the past springs as it usually have more culture-related events than fall.

"When we look at the organizations that are applying for funding, we do see, traditionally, lots of programs that request funding in November for culture months in the spring," Wood said.

Folan said SABRC wishes for nothing but the success of all events and encourages students to reach out to SABRC for helps and suggestions on funding applications.

"We want to see you putting together a very successful request," Folan said. "We really made an effort this past year to try and to put [funding policies] out there and to make it as readable as possible for student organizations ... We can't assume responsibility for organizations, but we want to help you when you reach out."



SCOUT ON THE STREET



How do you prepare for finals?



Larissa Moreland

"I go hard because I have to make up for all of the times I procrastinated throughout the semester. In the end, I just have to cross my fingers and hope for the best."

- Larissa Moreland, junior music business major



Chloee Holm

"I usually make a study schedule for what I'm going to study every day to have a set routine. And I make study guides for each subject and flash card to go along with them."

- Chloee Holm, sophomore biology major



Lindsay Fischer

"I look at the order my finals are in and then sit in the library and try to get rid of distractions and read through my notes until I can't anymore."

- Lindsay Fischer, sophomore political science major



Blake Coan

"I try to have a set schedule for how I intend to use my study time. I also try and avoid studying late at night, so I can get plenty of sleep."

- Blake Coan, junior music business major

OPINION

Editorial

Semester in review

Athletics

One bright spot on the Hilltop this year was the performance of several athletic teams. The men's and women's cross country team won the Missouri Valley Conference, and the men went on to finish 24th at the national meet.

The women's basketball team is undefeated through six games and look like they can contend in the MVC. The men's team is off to a strong start with a 5-2 record. They won the Cancun Challenge by defeating Big Ten member Penn State. We look forward to watching these teams throughout the winter and into the Spring.

Fisher Stolz

Unfortunately, Lydia Moss Bradley's statue was struck by a car and damaged in June.

Fisher Stolz, professor of sculpture, restored Bradley's foundress to her former glory and unveiled her in August.

Thank you to Stolz for repairing Lydia and returning her to her rightful place in Founder's Circle.

Bradley's budgeting process

In October, University president Gary Roberts sent an email to all faculty and staff announcing the school fell short of their budgeted enrollment numbers in almost every category of students. This shortfall will result in a \$4.5 to \$5.7 million deficit for the fiscal year, according to Roberts.

Roberts did not have a specific cause for the shortfall, but pointed to the death of Bradley freshman Nasjay Murry last Spring as a possibility. Regardless of what triggered the shortfall, Bradley administration needs to find a more effective way to budget for each year. The sad truth is tragedies like Murry's death will happen and the budgeting needs to be able to withstand these events.

Discrimination

The Scout covered a report of ethnic discrimination of a student by a professor in October. The student alleges a professor told him he shouldn't listen to Spanish music in America.

Although there has been no confirmation of a resolution to the complaint, we hope campus can be a safe place for people of all races, ethnic backgrounds, genders and religions.

THE SCOUT

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All letters to the editor must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday in Sisson Hall 319 or emailed to bradleyscout@gmail.com for inclusion in Friday's issue. Letters longer than 500 words will not be accepted. The Scout reserves the right to edit letters for inappropriate content. All letters must include the writer's name, contact information and relationship to Bradley. Responses to published letters will be eligible for print only the week following their appearance in the Scout.

Any e-mails directed to members of the Scout staff may be published as letters.

The Scout is published by members of the undergraduate student body of Bradley University.

Opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the university.

Senior column

Luck is strange



AUSTIN SHONE

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Sports Editor

On the Fourth of July in 1939, Hall of Fame first baseman Lou Gehrig delivered a speech to a sold-out Yankee Stadium. The famous line from that speech was, "Today, I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth."

My dad always told me that he'd rather be lucky than good any day. Luck is such a phenomenon to me. Does luck exist? If it does, it hasn't shown up for me at the Par-A-Dice. I don't know what causes luck. I don't know how it happens. All I know is that I've been quite lucky during my time at Bradley.

I wrote many columns over my years at The Scout. Safe to say, they've been my favorite part of the job. Last year, I wrote about how hard it is to connect the dots of your life going forward. It's impossible, in fact, but I hope you'll entertain this final column connecting the dots backwards over the past three and a half years.

Some people find themselves conflicted on which career path they want to take. I was lucky that I didn't have that problem. I knew I wanted to have a job in sports after I listened to Texas

Rangers broadcaster Eric Nadel's voice on my radio during the fall of 2010. From that moment on, it was always sports or bust.

I chalk up a lot of my college experience to luck and strangers. I'm lucky that my cousin runs in the St. Jude Telethon every year because it brought me to Peoria to visit Bradley for the first time.

I was lucky that on that walkabout in the summer of 2013, I stepped into the GCC and was greeted by a total stranger, a short, older lady with spiky white hair, who was kind enough to take me on a tour of the building. Apparently, she was the dean. You don't see many deans who go out of their way to help a total stranger. I was sold then and there.

I'm lucky that my family allowed me to move nearly 1,000 miles away and invested in me because they knew Bradley was my top choice. I'm lucky that attending Bradley also allowed me to be close to my grandparents, who have been instrumental in my life.

I didn't know a single person at Bradley when I stepped on campus, but I'm lucky that I lived on Williams 3 as a freshman with

a stranger from California, along with countless others who have been my best friends.

I'm lucky that I got the chance to be a residential adviser and was first paired up with my former RA, who has been one of my greatest mentors and friends since the day I arrived.

I'm lucky that after struggling to find an internship after my freshman year, I walked cold turkey into the office of a State Farm agency and asked to talk to a total stranger at a small non-profit foundation that I didn't even think existed. It turns out they had an office and a closet on the second floor. I'm lucky that one of their interns was leaving in three weeks, and they had an open position. I'm lucky the boss's last name just happened to be Bradley and he hired me that day. I had an awesome time working for free in their closet that first summer. I'm lucky that Mr. Bradley just happened to be friends with Mr. Nadel, and gave me a chance to meet my hero.

I'm lucky that three years after I first met her, that short lady with the white hair convinced me to take a risk and go to Hollywood, and helped me secure internships with iHeart Radio and the Los Angeles Dodgers. I'm lucky that the Dodgers marched all the way to the World Series and that I was there working every single moment of it.

I'm lucky that four years ago a lifelong friend of mine introduced me to a stranger who happened to be a reporter for NBC. He met me at a Starbucks and talked with me about my dream of going to the Olympics. I'm lucky that two years later that same reporter wrote a letter to NBC recommending me for the Olympic internship program.

I'm lucky that I missed my 21st birthday to travel halfway around the world over the International Date Line to work with the primetime producers for the 2018 Winter Games. I even got to help

that reporter and his broadcast team on the bobsled track live from Pyeongchang, South Korea.

Finally, I'm lucky that I was recruited by a stranger at the activities fair to join The Scout. I'm thankful for the friendships that stemmed from the late Thursday nights in the office editing and designing. To my Scout dad, Chris Kwiecinski, thanks for hiring me, pushing me and assigning me stories that I didn't know I knew how to write. To Alex Kryah, thanks for allowing me to cover the men's basketball team as a beat writer and for teaching me how to "send it."

To Cole Bredahl, you're welcome for hiring you and letting you be my "boss." To Anthony Landahl, good luck. You'll need it. To P-Falz, thanks for making me look good and adopting sports as your own. To Maddie Gehling and Tori Moses thanks for "sprotsing." I know it was painful, but that's what you bought that incredible bean bag for. To Tony Xu, here's one more "yeee" for the road. I hear if you write something down it will last longer.

Everyone I met along my journey started out as essential strangers. It turns out strangers can be some of the most impactful people in your life. It's been a wonderful adventure every step of the way.

I don't know if you make your own luck, or if luck is just something that shows up. Some people say luck is where preparation meets opportunity. If that's true, then maybe luck isn't a spontaneous occurrence. Maybe luck is the product of the people in your life that have prepared you to connect to that next dot. Maybe luck doesn't happen at the next dot ahead, but rather continuously as the lines are drawn.

If luck is real, and I like to think it is, when I walk across the stage in a few weeks, I'll consider myself the luckiest person on the face of the earth too.

The types of people you see in airports

BY SYDNEY FILLIPI

Voice Reporter

The TSA agent at security who you try to be polite to but they are still grumpy because they hate their jobs

Typically these interactions are very awkward, yet short. You expect this kind-faced stranger in a fancy uniform and latex gloves to be nice and ask you about where you're going. However, you are met with a harsh "Next!" and a metaphorical slap in the face because you tried to be polite.

Businessmen who obviously love their jobs

These men often carry briefcases and wear knit sweaters with khakis. They will talk on their Bluetooth phones and laugh about the joke that John just made about their latest business meeting. Sometimes they look like a crazy person just talking to the air.

Parents who refuse to pay attention to their kids as they run around the gate area

The father always has a mustache and wears glasses with a baseball cap. The mother wears Sketchers and stretchy pants that look like jeans. Common phrases include a monotoned, "Boys, stop that." They are usually coming back from Disneyland or Hawaii.

Old couples that bring like sixteen bags and fight with each other about where the gate actually is despite it being on many monitors

C'mon, Jerry! Just look at the monitor! It's right there! I'm on Esther's side!

Cute old couples that make Instagram influencers whisper "goals"

They give each other candy and back scratches. We all want to be like this one day.

Old people

Examples: Morgan Freeman, Jesus, Joe Biden, Joe Biden's mother, this teacher at my high school who is probably immortal,

grandparents, Betty White and Whoopi Goldberg.

Babies

Small humans that look like potatoes.

Babies that are crying

Small humans that look like potatoes that are crying loud enough for it to echo through the entire terminal.

People that smile and wave at random babies in line

The same people that, when they find out the baby is a boy, say that he is flirting because he smiled back. He's a baby, Linda. He smiles at clouds.

Weirdly attractive people that somehow look gorgeous at 7:00 AM

How? How do you do it? Your hair is perfect, and so is your makeup. You look like you just stepped out of a LuLu Lemon and are prepared to walk the runway.

People who look like the Walking Dead at 7:00 a.m.

Me. I will always wear sweatpants and slippers to the airport at 7:00 am.

Young couples that fight with each other and then the woman sulks off, crying and lays across three of the gate seats while wearing sunglasses because she "Needs time to think about things, Kyle."

Gosh, Kyle!

People who look vaguely like Post Malone

And smell like him too.

Post Malone

Often found roaming airport terminals in search of confiscated

weed. He's ready to destroy those lavatory smoke detectors.

People that vape in customer service lines

I wish that I've never seen this before. These guys definitely wear boat shoes and carry \$1,000 headphones in order to bump to Kanye West because "they're woke."

People who you think you went to middle school with

I wish I saw someone from middle school, so then they could see how attractive I got.

Middle schoolers on class trips

You can always pick out the coolest boy that all the girls are in love with and who his girlfriend is even though she's cheating on him with his best friend by holding his hand on the plane.

Basketball teams

Tall and in tracksuits.

Very tall men

Tall and not in tracksuits.

Medium-sized men who are extremely dressed up and only carry a brief case

Men that always wear suits and a long black trench coat and seem like they're in a hurry.

Flight attendants who make you wonder how they are able to walk the entire airport in heels

Tell me your secret!

B-List celebrities

We get it! You're famous in Iowa! You didn't need to bring the movie poster, autographs, your entourage, and your own paparazzi.

People that bring their pets

I love you, but only if you let me pet your dog.



Winter warning

BY MEGHAN ANDERSON

Copy Editor

When our car hit a patch of black ice, our plans for the evening skidded off course and into a snowy ditch.

We just wanted to get back to Bradley in time for our classes the next morning, but Mother Nature had other plans.

Since many Bradley students travel from out-of-state or are outside of Peoria, snowstorms are a source of stress for a large percentage of the campus population. The masses of slippery snow and freezing patches of ice create dangerous driving conditions.

Even the most seasoned snow drivers need to remain focused, alert and slow moving. This is beyond being a tad more careful on your quick drive to high school; for many, this is hours of intense concentration.

And unfortunately, accidents can happen to the most careful and safety-conscious among us.

Luckily unharmed, my friend and I waited in her car, in the ditch, for three hours. Finally, a police officer answered our calls for help that the towing companies would not offer due to the blizzard conditions.

The remarkably attractive cop dropped us off of the local Super 8 motel. Did I mention the power was out throughout the entire town? With the little vision we had and by bumping into strangers every inch, we could see that the motel lobby was swarmed with stranded people trying to get a room.

Every room in every motel and hotel for over 30 miles was booked, and the roads to get anywhere were blocked off. There was also little hope for the return of electricity anytime soon, which meant no food or heat. Plus, our car was still in a ditch.

That's how we ended up huddling up with around 10 strangers on the dirty motel lobby hardwood flooring, only thin fitted sheets and hand warmers trying to warm us for the 10 hours spent in cold darkness, not sleeping. The night sounded of our chattering teeth and growling stomachs, peppered with newcomers bargaining in and asking about room availability to a chorus of bitter laughter.

The night brought us friends - a middle school science teacher passionate about his seven kids and controlled explosions, who became a father to us that night, and a

6'7" travelling fraternity advisor, jolly and a great friend to all, who acted as our big brother.

Once the electricity returned at 7 a.m., the four of us walked to a diner to complain together about the frozen state of our toes, the misfortune of our lives, the aches in all our bones and our weary, greasy attitudes. Everything up in the air, we chewed on our first food since the afternoon before and wondered about our cars, bank account balance and our ability to reach safety within the day. Our tattered crew devoured big breakfasts to regain strength.

Eventually, by Monday night, my friend and I made it back to the Bradley campus with a new sense of camaraderie and new appreciation for heaters. It had been one of the worst days of our lives, and we genuinely were not sure if we were going to survive, but it certainly makes for a good story now.

Other than those guys we all know who wear gym shorts year round, I think we can all admit that winter in the Midwest is cold and unpredictable. The icy air and slick roads bring out the fighter in some and make the rest of us retreat to our blanket-wrapped homes for months. Of course, winter is about holiday cheer and sparkly snow and finding a boyfriend only for warmth, but even the winter enthusiasts must admit that some parts of winter just ... suck. Winter disasters can happen outside of Hallmark movies and oftentimes do not end as merrily either. So, be careful driving, walking and generally living during these months of snow and ice.

As the semester draws to a chilly close, I'm wishing safe travels and warmth to all students and faculty so that we all return for warmer (and a couple cold) months next semester.



DISTRACTIONS

Crosswords

Across

- 1) Go into
- 6) Tubular pasta
- 10) Brit's elevator
- 14) Code name?
- 15) 2015 nuke deal country
- 16) Woody's son
- 17) Bummed-out vampire?
- 20) Aliens, for short
- 21) Rustic stopover
- 22) Already programmed
- 23) Step down
- 26) Skedaddles
- 27) Game-winning shots, e.g.
- 30) Kiltie's cap
- 33) De-grease, say
- 36) Brooding spot
- 37) Make do, somehow
- 38) Communist in charge of a private school?
- 41) Frozen waffle brand
- 42) Bird on a Canadian dollar
- 43) Helping hands
- 44) Hand-wringer's word
- 45) Grows, as a romance
- 47) Active sort
- 48) ___ up (enlivened)
- 52) "Aja" band ___ Dan
- 55) Intimate apparel
- 57) Gardner of "On the Beach"
- 58) Cowardly partier in a stadium parking lot?
- 62) Canaveral org.
- 63) Belt-makers' tools
- 64) Sharpener's creation
- 65) Modeler's medium
- 66) Farm team's harness
- 67) Symbol of laziness

Down

- 1) Feature of a fading flame
- 2) Nick of "A Walk in the Woods"
- 3) Supporting frame
- 4) Legal conclusion?
- 5) Ole Miss athlete, familiarly
- 6) Jerusalem's Mount ___
- 7) Press a suit, say?
- 8) Smidgen
- 9) Sporadically
- 10) Alternative to Velcro, on shoes
- 11) Is vexing to
- 12) Skedaddle
- 13) Basis for pressing a suit, maybe
- 18) Town Car, for short
- 19) Pottery class projects
- 24) Kind of potato
- 25) Simmons of KISS
- 26) Frankincense and amber, for two
- 28) Not alfresco
- 29) Deliveries to record execs
- 30) Open-___ shoes
- 31) Recess at St. Paul's
- 32) Sloppy state
- 33) Shell team
- 34) K'NEX alternative
- 35) Slight lead
- 37) Like new dollar bills
- 39) Passage between buildings
- 40) Not at all ferocious
- 45) Tie for a Texan
- 46) Gemstone of silica
- 47) Airport annoyance
- 49) Spot for a grill
- 50) Decathlon part
- 51) ___ Vader of "Star Wars"
- 52) Match up
- 53) Eurasian duck
- 54) "Frozen" character
- 55) Pitcher's flub
- 56) Climb the corporate ladder
- 59) Tango necessity
- 60) Navigation aid, for short
- 61) Net giant, briefly

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Sudoku

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			8			6		
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		5						7

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NEWS

Bradley recycles technology

BY CONOR MCENTEE
Copy Editor

Bradley University has a program to help obtain university-owned electronics for reuse.

The Technology HelpDesk and Computing Services is recycling electronics around campus, picking them up at various drop-off zones. The university only recycles its own equipment and does not recycle students' personal electronic items.

The Technology HelpDesk helps schedule computer and other electronics pick-ups for the university. They are then disposed of adequately by a designated service.

"It used to be that people could donate or get money back for used computer equipment," said Sandra Bury, executive director of computing services. "There are new requirements that make us have to pay to recycle equipment according to the law."

According to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, covered electronic devices such as: cable receivers, computers (desktop or laptop), electronic mice, portable digital music players, printers, televisions and video game consoles are all banned from being thrown into landfills.

The only acceptable items for landfill disposal are cell phones, portable digital assistants (PDA), computer cables and zip drives.

"Computing services legally recycles university sanctioned technology and computers that have reached the end of their life cycle," Bury said.

Students have to go to other electronic recycling programs within the Peoria community to have their personal items disposed.

Although students find this to be an inconvenience, there are options. Other companies that will take in personal equipment are Best Buy, Goodwill Industries of Central Illinois, Staples Inc. and the Salvation Army.

"We are struggling with a [budget] increase because people are dropping off personal equipment," Bury said. "We are getting help from the [Bradley] university police to have cameras, so we know who keeps dropping off their personal equipment."

One project coming up that the recycling program will be utilized is the tear down of Jobst Hall, where they will recycle all of the university owned technology within the building.

"Special projects like Jobst Hall will help us with an uptick in recycling this year," Bury said.

SNOW continued from page A1

Charles said several factors played into the final decision to close down the university.

"In this case, we had numerous schools in the area closed posing an issue for faculty and staff to find childcare," Charles said. "Also, the blowing and drifting in the morning posed a significant driving hazard. While we are a residential campus and our students live very close to where they go to class, we still needed to consider faculty, staff and commuter students."

Residential students were considered as well, as the university sent out an email indicating residence halls would open a day early so students could travel back before the storm. Also, in the cancellation email sent out Monday, the university announced residential dining halls would remain open.

Roberts acknowledged the downfalls of closing the university.

"While both the provost and I recognize the inconveniences associated with closing the

University, especially to faculty and students who are trying to complete course syllabi and content and only a couple of weeks left to do so, the factors supporting closure outweighed those for keeping the University open," Roberts said.

Bradley emphasizes the difference between cancelling classes and closing the University in its 2018 Inclement Weather Policy posted in January of 2018.

The policy indicates that unless the university formally closes, "any employee who is absent from the campus during periods of inclement weather or other event affecting University operations is required to use vacation, or in the case of bi-weekly employees, vacation or personal time."

The policy goes on to explain why this differentiation is necessary.

"It is important to distinguish between class cancellations and any university closing because of the significant student residential population on campus and the necessary associated life and safety support systems provided to students by our campus," wrote Nena Peplow,

director of human resources.

Kerrigan Wenig, a freshman health science major, like many underclassmen, relies on her meal plan in the dorms.

"I live in Geisert Hall and keeping the dining hall open was very helpful. It was easier to access food and avoid going outside," Wenig said.

Daniella Dennis, a freshman nursing major echoed this.

"Opening the dining halls was also a lot safer than driving somewhere to get food," Dennis said.

As a result of the university closure, some campus events were cancelled, including ACBU's launch of Lydia's Lights, a winter-wonderland-themed event advertising horse carriage rides, a hot chocolate and dessert bar, and music.

"As of right now we do not plan on rescheduling the event for this semester with it being very close to the end of the year and finals coming up quickly," said Megan DeSmet a junior nursing major and special event coordinator for ACBU. "I would like to see Lydia's Lights return perhaps next fall semester, but that is up to the new coordinators."

TREUER continued from page A1

Treuer relayed his own personal stories, showing he even faced racism and prejudice while attending Stanford University. He said that examples like this only help to prove his point that America is more segregated now than ever, and that immigration policies are "political theatre."

"So we gotta do more of what everyone here is doing tonight: showing up, leaning in, asking questions ... read a book, get an education, travel," Treuer said. "All those things are fatal to prejudice and will help better equip everyone to do some problem-solving."

The earlier portion of the presentation served as a framework for the crowd to ask uninhibited questions about various topics from mascots to casinos to Standing Rock, with a disclaimer from Treuer: "I have a house full of Native people, and I never know what they're thinking. I represent one human being."

Students seemed eager to ask questions.

"How do you forgive?" someone asked. "How do we ... help?"

Treuer explained that for Native Americans to accept and forgive is an individual journey to wrestle with. He said that the help anyone of privilege can offer is to surrender advantage to provide opportunity for those who have fewer advantages.

Treuer's book has the answers to more questions one may have related to Native Americans.

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SPORTS

Braves commit 28 fouls in loss to IUPUI

BY AUSTIN SHONE
Sports Editor

When junior guard Jayden Hodgson checked in at the scorer's table after the first media timeout, his number was listed incorrectly on the official score book.

This accident would be the first of three technical fouls and countless mental errors that plagued the Braves in an 85-73 loss at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis on Wednesday night.

Bradley has now lost each of their true road games this season; both against Horizon League teams, the first coming two weeks ago at University Illinois at Chicago.

"We didn't play smart," head coach Brian Wardle said in an interview with WMBD. "Our decision-making and the use of our brains on the floor was very, very poor tonight. Countless, countless, countless mental mistakes by numerous players."

In the first half, the Braves dug themselves a big hole out of the gate, falling behind 24-10. They responded quickly with a 15-0 run to take a 25-24 lead. The Jaguars then took them back their lead and headed to the locker room only down 44-38.

"We played well in spurts," Wardle said. "We closed the first half out well. We just have to be a lot smarter and control our emotions a bit more on

the floor."

Bradley came out flat in the second half, going scoreless for the first five minutes. The Braves pulled within four points just under the nine-minute mark, but that was as close as they would get down the stretch.

Jaguars guard Camron Justice scored a game-high 27 points and was a perfect 15-15 at the free-throw line on the night. IUPUI shot 29-39 from the free-throw line on 28 fouls by the Braves over the course of the game.

"The free-throw difference is what cost the game, obviously," Wardle said. "We started the game making silly fouls and it's hard to win on the road. We started fouling too much early ... and it didn't matter after that. The game was being called one way and you've got to find a way to win and we just weren't able to do that."

Senior forward Luuk van Bree appeared to be the only Bradley player that wasn't in a funk. He finished the night with a season-high 18 points and was 3-7 from behind the three-point line.

"It was huge to have [van Bree] aggressive on offense because we needed it," Wardle said. "I mean we had four guys with two fouls in the first half. We were in foul trouble, so we played lineups tonight we haven't played all year."

The contributions that Bradley

has gotten from junior center Koch Bar and sophomore forward Elijah Childs consistently this season were nowhere to be found as both struggled with foul trouble.

Bar finished with two points and no rebounds in a season-low 12 minutes. Childs established position in the post at times and continued to have success with the hook shot. He finished with nine points on 4 of 9 shooting and just six rebounds.

After the game Wardle admitted to poor decision making on his part when it came to substitutions throughout the game.

"I should have trusted my gut," Wardle said. "I was late on every sub I wanted. I had a good pulse on certain guys and I should have gone with those guys and that's on me. We have a smart team and that was inexcusable tonight."

The Braves look to bounce back as they return home for their Mountain West-Missouri Valley Challenge test against New Mexico at 7 p.m. Saturday night at Carver Arena.

New Mexico enters the contest at 3-1 with wins over University of Texas at El Paso and Iona. Bradley will put their 4-0 home record on the line in what is considered the biggest matchup of Bradley's non-conference slate.

ONE-ON-ONE

Who is your Super Bowl pick?

Rams

vs.

Saints

Last season, the Los Angeles Rams had a breakthrough. They improved their record from 4-12 to 11-5. They went from third to first in the NFC West, almost in the blink of an eye.

Quarterback Jared Goff has proven himself as an elite quarterback in the NFL and has led the Rams offense to new heights this season. He outdueled Patrick Mahomes in the highest scoring game this season and has still not reached his full potential as a quarterback.

Goff isn't all they have. Todd Gurley is second in the NFL in rushing yards and paces the league with 17 total touchdowns. With a workhorse like Gurley in the backfield and Goff's arm, the Rams are almost unbeatable.

Of course they will hit a peak eventually. They will encounter roadblocks, but defenses have struggled to stop them this year. The Rams have the second best statistical offense in the NFL based on total yards and rushing yards and also rank third in points per game with 35.4.

There are several teams that can challenge the Rams. Larry will tell you that one of them is the New Orleans Saints.

So far this season, the Saints' defense has bent, but they have only broken once to Tampa. However, they are not equipped to win.

The Rams defense has Aaron Donald, one of the best defensive players in the NFL. He has 14.5 sacks this year, the most in the NFL. Donald has been a force for the Rams the entire season, and elevates that defense above the Saints. He is joined on the defense by former first round picks Ndamukong Suh, Michael Brockers, Dante Fowler and Marcus Peters.

Looking at the entire body of work for the regular season, the sheer talent of the Rams' offense and defense along with lingering untapped potential give them the advantage. The Saints are not capable of knocking off the Rams in the playoffs. Get ready for the Lombardi Trophy Southern California!

- JOSH SCHWAM

When I make playoff predictions, I like to look at experience. While I don't base my entire prediction off this alone, it is a significant factor in a team's success.

My pick has just the right combination of experience and a young, explosive roster to make them a juggernaut in this year's Super Bowl conversation. Enter: Drew Brees and the New Orleans Saints.

The main reason I picked the Saints is because of their work on the offensive side of the ball led by a sure future Hall of Famer in Brees. He's the steady hand you would want to lead any Super Bowl contender.

Brees' impressive season has him in the conversation for league MVP. He's on pace to set the single season record for completion percentage.

Coach Sean Payton's offense is far from one dimensional, with running backs Alvin Kamara and Mark Ingram each averaging over 60 rushing yards a game. The Saints have posted over 37 points per game this season, the most in the NFL.

While their high-powered offense is the main reason the Saints are my Super Bowl favorites, they are more than capable on the defensive side of the ball, and much more so than the NFC West leading Rams.

The Saints defense has gotten contributions from all positions when they have needed them in close games.

Josh will tell you that the Rams are Super Bowl favorites, but he is sorely mistaken. The Saints already beat the Rams and the Rams' defense has not held up well against powerful offenses. Goff also does not have the postseason experience that Brees has.

With the highpowered offense and veteran leadership from Brees, the Saints are clear favorite to lift the Lombardi Trophy in February.

- LARRY LARSON



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SPORTS

Women's basketball persevere and win close fight with Panthers

BY RONAN KHALSA
Sports Reporter

After a career best 32 points just four nights before, sophomore guard Gabi Haack scored a game-high 23 points against Eastern Illinois to lead the Braves to a 67-64 win on Wednesday.

Bradley and Eastern played a back and forth contest with 12 lead changes. When Grace Lennox brought the Panthers within two points with 1:48 left on the clock the thought of the first overtime contest in Renaissance Coliseum history came to mind.

However, it did not happen this time. Both teams' defenses stepped up and held each other scoreless until Bradley sophomore guard Jailynn Lawson made a free throw to make it a three-point game with 10 seconds remaining to cap the win.

The Panthers tested Bradley's guards aggressively with a trapping defense. Eastern pressed the Braves up from the tipoff and finished with 15 team steals. Bradley had 20 turnovers, with 15 coming in the first 20 minutes of play.

Head coach Andrea Gorski went into the locker room fired up and got her team to focus more on ball security. Down for the first time this season at halftime, 29-28, Bradley came out of the locker room ready to flip the script.

Junior forward Chelsea Brackman, who was scoreless in the first half, scored six points in the first three minutes of play. According to Gorski, Bradley was able to figure it out and play together in the second half.

"Having only five turnovers in the second half was key," Gorski said. "I like how we toughen things out right now. We had a couple injuries and foul trouble, but we didn't use it as an excuse. We just figured out a way to win and people stepped up."

Senior guard Shunseere Kent came down hard on her ankle late in the third quarter and was carried off the court. Her injury allowed for third string point guard Jailynn Lawson to play 14 minutes in the second half with only one turnover. Junior combo guard Ryan Wilkins to see nine minutes of turnover free play.

"I thought Lawson came in and played well," Gorski said. "She is very good against zones and she did a great job. You need that from your point guard play against a trapping zone."

The Bradley front-court scored 15 of the team's 23 points in the third quarter. The Braves' bench found better passing lanes for easier shots in the second half outscoring the Panthers' bench 27-6.

Haack led the Bradley charge from the opening tip but said she could not have done it without her teammates effective passing.

"Today I just played my game," Haack said. "If I'm open I will shoot it. Chelsea [Brackman] especially had some good skip passes [to me]."

Gorski was impressed with Haack's decision making, considering how Eastern focused on their game plan on slowing her down.

"[Eastern Illinois] did a good job not giving [Haack] open threes but she knocked some big ones down



Sophomore guard Gabi Haack shot 5 for 10 from 3-point range in a win over Eastern Illinois.

photo by Kayla Johnson

for us," Gorski said. "She made good decisions and saw when they were overplaying her and had to get to the basket."

Haack took all of her 11 shots except one from beyond the arc knocking down five three pointers. Although Haack did not drive to the basket frequently, she got to the free throw line eight times and sunk all eight.

"I was focusing on just shooting the three, but I know free throws are a big thing," Haack said. "I know my team depends on me to hit those."

Underclassmen were given 66 percent of the playing time. According to Gorski, playing a close game gives all players confidence for the future.

"This game showed a lot about our toughness," Gorski said. "We have to get a little more tough physically but I

liked our mental toughness."

Bradley will continue its three game home stand tomorrow at 1 p.m. against Oakland and close it out Tuesday against Western Illinois at 11 a.m. for the seventh annual Field Trip Day.

Opinion

Hotdogs, Big Macs and NBA basketball

BY ANTHONY LANDAHL
Assistant Sports Editor

Over Thanksgiving break, I had the chance to attend a Chicago Bulls game against the Miami Heat at the United Center. The Heat went on to win 103-96.

The two teams aren't the most exciting or talented in the league right now. In fact, they are two of the worst in the NBA. The Bulls offense is horrendous and the Heat don't have a star offensive player to propel the team forward.

I had the intention of attending the Bulls game and looked forward to my lifelong traditions: visiting the case of the Bulls' trophies, looking at the old pictures of players from the 60s and 70s and, of course, the Big Mac promotion.

For those who aren't familiar, the Chicago Bulls had a promotion that if they scored 100 points or more and

won, every fan in attendance would win a free McDonald's Big Mac.

It wasn't about fast food. It was the fact that the fans could win something of value that got everyone excited. I can remember that if the Bulls had 98 points and were going to win, the player that scored that basket for 100 points was crowned a hero.

But as I looked through the promotional cards to collect my Big Mac card – mind you I collect them and put them on my bedroom door at home – I was shocked to realize it wasn't there. Instead, the new promotion was that if the visiting team missed two consecutive free throws in the fourth quarter, every fan wins a Portillo's hot dog.

And there was no card for me to collect.

I will say that Portillo's hot dogs are better than McDonald's Big Macs, but it was the sheer audacity that the

Bulls organization had to take away the fans' beloved Big Mac promotion that stuck with me on the ride back to Peoria.

In today's NBA the lowest team average of points per game is 103 and the offensive pace of play is high for the first quarter of the season. The Big Mac promotion would have been a lost cause from a business standpoint. Too many Big Macs would have been given away to fans.

Am I disappointed? Of course. I will never be able to collect those cards or chant "Big Macs! Big Macs!" at the end of a game again. That feeling is lost until the NBA decides to get rid of the 3-point line and the game slows down, which will never happen.

What is neat about the new hot dog promotion is that the chances of an opponent going to the free throw line at the end of games are

high. One of the quarrels among many basketball fans is that late game situations result in a lot of free throws being attempted. It was a nice adjustment.

In the Bulls-Heat game, the Bulls sent the Heat to the line four times in the last 26 seconds, an absurd amount for that short period of time. The first two chances at winning a hot dog were foiled. The Heat players managed to sink at least one free throw both times to prevent the Chicago fans from rejoicing.

With tension mounting and 16 seconds left in the game, the Bulls fouled Heat forward Justise Winslow and sent him to the line.

THUNK.

He missed the first. The crowd that decided to stay in the arena stood up. The Bulls weren't close to winning the game. They were down eight. The fans only had the chance to win free

hot dogs. The volume level rose. The second free throw went up.

THUNK.

The crowd exploded with joy. Hot dogs for everyone.

The Big Mac promotion was a tradition. It was a part of the Bulls culture. It took on its own culture. As the NBA changes, the old experiences some of us grew up with have to change alongside it. The Big Mac promotion may have lost its novelty if the fans always won it. It wouldn't be something to cheer for.

Sometimes change is for the better. I like to look at the Bulls' celebrated six champion trophies from Michael Jordan's reign, but I wouldn't mind if we added another trophy and got that seventh championship.

Change may not be fun at first, but if these changes have the potential to grow, we'll get used to it and eventually call it our own.

INSIDE:

Men's basketball A7

Women's basketball A8

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SPORTS

Braves sneak past Panthers

Haack led Bradley with 23 points
as the women remain undefeated.

Gabi Haack

Page A8

Volleyball makes first postseason appearance



The Braves defeated Bowling Green in five sets on Thursday. Senior Erica Haslag had 29 kills.

photo via bradleybraves.com

BY JUSTIN LIMOGES Sports Reporter

After concluding the regular season with a 23-8 overall record (13-5 in MVC), the Bradley volleyball team is making its first national postseason run in program history.

On Thursday, they played Bowling Green State University in the National Invitational Volleyball Championship following an upset in the Missouri Valley Conference Volleyball Championship last week against Drake.

Bradley prevailed over Bowling Green in a 3-2 set win. The fifth set came down to the wire, ending at 17-15. Senior Erica Haslag finished with 29 kills.

Following a historic regular season, Bradley finished third in the conference and qualified for the MVC Championship and NIVC.

Haslag said the team is really excited to be in the position they are this year.

"I mean it's the first time we've gone to postseason, so it's a huge

deal for us as a team," Haslag said. "We just keep breaking records and doing things nobody's heard of since the 2000s. Everyone on the team is excited, and I think the underclassmen are just excited to keep the culture going."

Bradley's 13-win improvement in 2018 tied for the most wins added in the nation, and their 10 additional conference wins are tied for the best one-year improvement in the MVC.

MVC Coach of the Year Carol Price-Torok was pleased with the team's entry into both the MVC Championship and NIVC.

"It's really fun [qualifying for the two tournaments]," Price-Torok said. "When you're the first to do something, I think it's a little more special. Now that we're here, it's about getting after it."

On Thanksgiving Day, the No. 3 Braves faced No. 6 Drake University in the first round of the six-team MVC tournament. The Braves would ultimately fall to the Bulldogs, 3-2.

Outside hitter Grace Schofield led the Bulldogs' run in the first set to

win 25-15. The Braves replied with a 25-15 victory of their own in the second set to tie the series, thanks to outside hitter and MVC Freshman of the Year Hannah Thompson. She had five kills and five digs.

Drake obtained a 4-1 lead early into the third set, but Bradley found its ground and brought it back in their favor, 7-6, led by two kills from Haslag.

The Bulldogs, however, would go on to score five straight points. This lead would keep them ahead of Bradley for the remainder of the set to win 25-23.

Haslag noted that Drake's ability to score unanswered throughout the set is what gave them the advantage.

"I think Drake had a really good plan," Haslag said. "They executed really well because every time they were out of system, they tipped right to the outsides to get us out of system, so we couldn't set out outsides right off the bat."

The fourth set was the closest with three lead changes and 11 ties. The Bulldogs obtained a 15-13 lead

until Bradley made four consecutive kills and Drake's defensive specialist Cathryn Cheek made two attacking errors. This gave the Braves the 18-15 edge.

Drake pulled the score within one at 22-21. After a Bulldogs' error, Bradley freshman outside hitter Rachel Pranger followed with her fourth kill of the set. Thompson followed a Drake point with a kill to end the fourth set 25-23.

The Braves were forced to play a highly defensive battle in the fifth and final set. Bradley went on an early 5-1 lead, but Bradley pulled the score back within one point, 10-9, but failed to stop Drake's offense, which regained a three-point lead, 13-10.

From there, the Bulldogs traded points with Bradley to set up match point at 14-11. The Braves then held off four match-winning points from Drake. Junior middle blocker Maggie Revell and Haslag highlighted the attempted comeback with kills of their own.

Even though Haslag's 23rd kill brought it back to 15-15, it wasn't

enough after Drake made back-to-back kills to win the fifth set 17-15, eliminating the Braves from the MVC Championship.

Notably, Haslag's final kill pushed her to 501 total kills this season. This is the second season in a row that Haslag has surpassed 500 kills.

"It was a great accomplishment," Haslag said. "I barely got it at 501. I'm just happy that my team made it so far and that I can leave the program better than I found it, and that the kills I'm getting this year are contributing to success in comparison to last year."

According to Price-Torok, the team, even with Haslag's impressive individual performance, knew it would be a close contest.

"We knew it'd be a battle against Drake, especially when it came to 17-15 in the fifth," Price-Torok said. "I think we struggled to pass a little bit, which is part of the reason why we couldn't generate more offense than we're used to against Drake."

The Braves will take on Iowa State today at 6:30 p.m. in the Round of 16 in the NIVC.