



Jonas Brothers make a comeback.

Page B3

BRADLEY UNIVERSITY
THE SCOUT
ESTABLISHED 1898



Bradley basketball season award winners.

Page A11

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The Scout @bradley_scout

Delayed deposits

BY ANGELINE SCHMELZER
Copy Editor

College students are always looking for some extra cash. Turns out, you might be owed up to \$100.

Over 300 students who left the dorms during the 2016-17 school year did not receive their housing deposits back in a timely manner. Usually, fees are processed one semester after students move out of the dorms.

"The fall semester after the student leaves the dorm, we get a list from the housing office, giving us a list of damages [and] lost key charges," chief financial officer and controller Pratima Gandhi said. "What has to happen is after that, whatever year the student leaves the dorm, if they don't come back the following fall and live in the dorm ... that's when it triggers to start the refund process."

The \$100 is a one-time deposit with the enrollment fee to insure damages and lost keys. Once moved out, the deposit can go towards any other fees. Any leftover balance is refunded in check or cash. This money is held separately and not used towards the university budget, revenue or operating expense.

Normally, one employee oversees the dorm refunds with a manager backing it up. During the refund process, people changed positions or retired and the job was not finished.

"There is an individual that handles the dorm refunds and then ... the manager is the backup," Gandhi said. "The person left, the manager left and a third person left ... so in that process a part of the dorm refunds got done, but not all of them."

see **DEPOSITS**
Page A8

LOCAL CANDIDATES DEBATE ON THE HILLTOP



Peter Kobak, one of 10 at-large city council candidates, answers a question at a debate held in Peplow Pavilion.

photo by William Craine

BY HALEY JOHNSON
News Editor

Peoria's local election candidates paid a visit to Peplow Pavilion Wednesday night, each taking 60-second turns in the hot seat.

The forum featured three different panels: at-large city council, Peoria Park District board president and Peoria Park District central district trustee candidates.

Junior economics major Nicholas Brusick assisted in promoting the event to Bradley students by sending an email to every student registered in Peoria, encouraging them to come.

"If you really want your vote to count, if you want your voice to be heard, you should vote in the local election," Brusick said. "The local level is most influential in day-to-day life."

The night began when WMBD anchor Eugene Daniels introduced

the 10 at-large city council candidates running for five seats, four of them running for re-election.

"I was so grateful when I was elected four years ago, and really hope I can gain your support again this year. I'm well researched, I vote for your best interest, and many times I've taken serious political risk to champion what I know is right," councilwoman Beth Akeson, said.

Other candidates focused on introducing who they are, and what they would change if elected. Peter Kobak introduced himself as a first-generation American citizen with a lot of background in government.

"I've worked in small business, I've been a community organizer, and like I've said, I've worked in City Hall," Peter Kobak said. "I hope that tonight I made you a little uncomfortable in a good way. I'd be your representative to push and advocate for change we need in our city."

Candidates were asked six questions about topics ranging from head of household jobs to community involvement. They also tackled more sensitive topics like Peoria's race and inequality issues.

Andre Allen said he thinks we should not be trying to achieve equality, but equity to address problems like the 17 percent unemployment rate for African-Americans.

"Equality is if I'm a 6-foot-7-inch LeBron James and you're a 5-foot-one-inch Muggsy Bogues, we're still playing on the same ten-foot hoop," Allen said. "Equity is me having my own hoop based off of my height and you having your own hoop based off of your height, and that's what we need to bring to Peoria."

Candidate Rita Ali addressed Peoria's growing poverty issues and indicated that education is the solution.

"Right now, less than 40 percent of people within our region have an education or skill beyond high school," Ali said. "In order to be a strong economic base, you have to be at 60 percent."

Bradley sophomores Veronica Blascoe and Emma Finch wore "Jensen 2019" stickers at the forum.

"I like that [Jensen] is passionate about giving a voice to everyone," said Finch. "I also like that she's pushing to end Islamophobia, a problem in Peoria."

Election Day for local candidates is April 2 and early voting began March 8.

"Turnout for the 2018 election was at a record high for our age group," Brusick said. "However, though the midterms recognized a higher turnout than usual, there is no guarantee for the same with our local elections. That being said, our local elections are equally important."

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BRIEFS

International art reception to be held at Bradley

The second longest running juried print and drawing competition in the country, the 37th Bradley International, will hold receptions at seven Peoria galleries. The receptions begin at 4 p.m. on March 9, with on-campus receptions at Heuser Art Gallery and Hartmann Center Gallery from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. More information on this free event displaying art from around the globe can be found at <http://art.bradley.edu/bug/>.

Students given the opportunity to voice concerns directly to administration

Student Senate and Bradley University Administration will host their annual "Speak Up" event from 5 to 6 p.m. on March 11 in the Michel Student Center Ballroom. Administration will be present to directly answer opinions and concerns from the student body. Free food including chips and queso, chicken tenders and mozzarella sticks will be provided.

Big ideas to be shown and judged at trade show

The 24 teams in Bradley's Big Idea Competition will compete with trade show displays for fellow students to judge from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on March 13 in the Peplow Pavilion. Every student who attends gets to vote for the top ideas, which will go on to compete in the final round for a chance at the first place prize of \$8,000.

BUPD works to keep houses safe during spring break

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

POLICE REPORTS

- During the evening hours of March 5, an individual attending the IHSA basketball event at the Renaissance Coliseum notified police after two of males hit him in the face. All individuals were identified as local high school students, and the matter is still being investigated.

- Before beginning her evening shift driving the safety cruiser on March 4, a student employee noticed the vehicle was unlocked and three sandbags used to add more weight were missing from inside the van. According to the employee, the vehicle was secure and intact at the conclusion of her shift that morning. There are no suspects at this time.

- A student notified officers that his phone was missing from the Markin Center Feb. 27. According to the male, he abruptly left the gym after injuring his ankle. When he returned, the phone wasn't where he had left it.

- At approximately 11 a.m. on March 1, a contract employee was replacing an exit sign near Heitz Hall. The employee went to his truck to get tools and the sign was missing when he returned. There are no suspects at this time.

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NEWS

Where are they now?

BY TONY XU
Editor-in-Chief

The First Destination Report recently published by the Smith Career Center outlined what last year's graduates are doing after graduation, including if they are pursuing a higher degree or landing their first job.

The report included data from 949 of 992 Bradley baccalaureate degree recipients from all departments and 283 of 300 advanced-degree graduates from August 2017 to May 2018. Among these, 258 baccalaureate and 54 advanced-degree graduates reported their salary information.

Career Outcome

Among all 949 baccalaureate graduates with data, 82 percent found a job, 11 percent to pursue a higher degree and 7 percent are still seeking opportunities. All graduates were categorized by their primary major of choice.

In graduate college, 95 percent of 283 reported are employed; 2 percent are continuing education and 2 percent are still seeking.

"We basically stayed where we are at, we have a nice 93, 94 percent career outcome rate," said Jon Neidy, executive director of Smith Career Center and assistant vice president for student affairs.

According to the report, an overall 93 percent of baccalaureate career outcome rates, the percentage of graduates who are employed or continuing education out of all reported, maintained the same with Bradley's five-year average and is 1 percent higher than its 10-year average.

Caterpillar College of Engineering and Technology ranked the highest employment rate at 93 percent among 193 graduates reported. College of Liberal Arts and Science had the

highest continuing education rate of 26 percent among 190 graduates reported and 66 percent employed.

On the low end, the Slane College of Communication and Fine Arts had an 85 percent baccalaureate outcome rate, below its five-year average of 89 percent and 10-year average of 86 percent, ranking the lowest among five undergraduate colleges.

The nursing program awarded 78 baccalaureate degrees last academic year, ranking the largest program at Bradley. Ninety-five percent were employed after graduation, roughly 73 graduates of the 77 reported, and no graduates continuing education.

In 108 baccalaureate programs lists, many programs only graduated a few students last year; 78 programs had less than 10 graduates, and 30 programs had over 10 graduates. These 30 programs included 716 of the total 992 graduates.

In terms of overall career outcome, the television arts major ranked the lowest among programs with over 10 graduates. Out of the 12 reported, four graduates are still seeking opportunities. The program had 14 graduates last year.

Starting Salary

The report also stated graduates' starting salary based on majors, and compared with national average based on data from National Association of Colleges and Employers. The report included salary information from 258 of employed baccalaureate graduates, and 21 majors received more than three reports and calculated the average.

"We don't have a really big data set around salary, as you get down closer to majors, we may have no data set on a salary," Neidy said. "We do spend a lot of time looking at the report of salary data, and getting raid of things don't seems accurate ... We look at

each line of salary and make decisions in that space."

Electrical engineering with computer option received the highest starting salary average of \$72,120. Five other majors received averages over \$60,000. They are electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, management information system, industrial engineering and construction, respectively.

Elementary education with ESL endorsement received the lowest reported average of \$26,000 among Bradley graduates, lower than national starting salary average of \$37,094 by about 30 percent.

Caterpillar College of Engineering and Technology also received the highest salary reporting rate of 60 percent. In contrast, Slane College of Communication and Fine Arts only had 14 percent salary reporting rate.

In the graduate school, 43 advanced degree recipients reported their salary information, and nine programs received more than three reports to calculation an average.

Master in computer science graduates have the highest average salary of \$81,000 compare to national average of \$91,151.

Among all the average salaries available, accounting three-plus-two bachelor's and master's degrees combined program and master of business administration program are the only two Bradley graduate programs surpassed the national averages. The accounting program averaged \$58,984 compare to the \$53,517 national average, and business administration program received \$66,667 compare to \$62,456.

The full report is available at Smith Career Center website at <https://bradley.edu/scc>.

Caterpillar College of Engineering and Technology had the highest employment rate at



26%

College of Liberal Arts and Science graduates are continuing education after Bradley



Electrical engineering with computer option received the highest starting salary average of

\$72,120

Manuel Munoz reads students their bedtime story

BY MEGHAN ANDERSON
Assistant News Editor

Award-winning novelist Manuel Munoz, author of "What You See in the Dark" and "The Faith Healer of Olive Avenue," read one of his short stories and answered audience questions on Wednesday night.

Munoz traveled to the Peoria cold all the way from Arizona. The large turnout and rounds of applause warmed the Wyckoff Room for him.

Munoz spent years of his life looking up and forward to his future success, becoming the first in his family to ever attend college. He attended Harvard University for his undergraduate degree, then continued on to Cornell University for his MFA. Being a first generation college student shaped his everyday experience and writing.

Even though much of Munoz's work is categorized as fiction, much of it is based on personal experience growing up as a queer Latino from a working class family in rural California.

The short story Munoz chose to read

to the crowd is called "Fieldwork," one of his fiction pieces which appeared in the anthology "Tales of Two Americas: Stories of Inequality in a Divided Nation."

Although the story weaves several different anecdotes and touching narratives throughout, the overall focus of the piece was based on the true experience of caring for his father after his father had suffered from a stroke. The reading came from a personal place; his own parents have not yet even heard this story in his voice.

"I liked that he brought in his culture to it ... it was part of his stories, but also it wasn't the focus, like he isn't solely identified by his culture, but it is part of who he is," said Kara Holder, English and sociology double major. "He had Spanish in his stories in the places where it fit rather than forcing it ... it seemed natural. I liked the emphasis on culture without it being overwhelming."

Holder appreciated not only the culture Munoz brought, but the

personal touch he added by reading aloud.

"I like hearing his inflections, what he emphasizes, what he feels was most important when he was writing it, how he wanted it to be heard and read," Holder said. "His inflections on certain words can bring a certain meaning to them that you don't get from just reading it [yourself]."

"It's always good to hear writers read their own work because you get a new sense of the work, coming from their voice," agreed Allison Plourde, senior English major.

Holder and Plourde attended the reading to get a taste of what they hopes is their future career.

"Any time anyone comes who can offer some sort of advice to me, who's in the field I want to go into, then I'm all for it," Plourde said.

As Munoz closed out the night, he reminded the audience members, many of whom stated they are aspiring writers, that "every head is its own world," full of story potential.



photo by William Craine

Manuel Munoz reads one of his short stories to Bradley students.



SCOUT ON THE STREET



Who is your all-time favorite movie character and why?



Kerri Predovich

"Will Hunting. Even though he has a broken past, he stands up for his friend. Regardless of how much he is hurt, he loves anyway."

-Kerri Predovich, senior, psychology major



Mamoun Qahwaji

"Batman. He has dedication and is very motivational. Plus, he is hot."

-Mamoun Qahwaji, sophomore biomedical sciences major



Courtney Burns

"Peter Pan. [He is] the embodiment of childhood wonder and adventure."

-Courtney Burns, senior, mechanical engineering major



Alysia Solis

"Princess Tiana. She didn't ask to become a princess, but she is the epitome of 'If you work hard for what you want in life, everything will be okay.'"

-Alysia Solis, freshman, hospitality leadership major

BY TIRZAHSPRIGELA CHRISTOPHER
Off-staff Reporter

Human trafficking described as modern day slavery

BY ANGELINE SCHMELZER
Copy Editor

Julietta Hua, author of "Trafficking Women's Rights," gave a speech about human trafficking and the 2011 Foxconn suicides this past Tuesday in Neumiller Lecture Hall.

Fae Chubin, assistant professor of sociology, contacted the author after noticing campus interest in Hua's book and asked her to speak at Bradley.

According to Chubin, the purpose of this event was to educate the Bradley community about human trafficking and what people can do to counter the industry.

"The lecture ... helps us redefine what we consider human trafficking," Chubin said. "Talking about those forms of exploitation of people that happens in legitimate sides."

Chubin said that if we become aware of the exploitation and slave labor that occurs in the production of everyday products, then people might be able to do something about it.

"If we can actually make this connection between our personal consumption and all the people who are being exploited to provide

that for us, then perhaps we will change our consumption," Chubin said. "Maybe we change our understanding of how in this globalized world we are connected to one another and then what we can do to bring more justice."

Freshman sports communication major Jordan McCue said that people should recognize that this is a major issue.

"I thought the event was important because human trafficking isn't considered an issue in the United States," McCue said. "But it happens everywhere all the time and people need to be aware of what's going on in order to combat this pressing issue."

Hua's lecture started with her showing 2011 media campaigns picturing human trafficking in only one way instead of the many forms it can occur.

"It's not just bringing awareness, but then bringing awareness and care is a process that draws on the things that we are already familiar with," Hua said.

She said that there are certain tropes that make people see human trafficking a certain way based on things that they already know.

"We expect victimization to look a certain

way," Hua said. "We expect victims to look a certain way and therefore, when we look for it, we look to find what we already expect to find."

According to Hua, articles started circulating in 2011 about a series of suicides that took place around China at the factories of the Foxconn Technology Group, a company based in Taiwan that produces electronic components.

"At the same time as there was all this media attention around human trafficking and sex trafficking, there was a little bit of coverage on the suicides and then the story disappeared," Hua said.

The two dozen workers that jumped off the buildings were within the age range of 17 and 24.

"The Foxconn suicides were never explicitly described as matters of human trafficking," Hua said.

This was because they were all legal workers that chose to be there. Student workers were at the factories with an internship facilitated through their schools. The internship program did not break any labor laws.

Hua talked about the global economization of life. She related this to the term human

vitality and how capitalism can extract it.

"It's not just that we're owning people," Hua said. "It's not just that people give up their labor or their labor time. It's not even just that they sell parts of themselves. It's that some life only has value insofar as it enables other lives to thrive."

Hua said that working conditions in the factories mirror human trafficking in many ways.

"The workers don't have freedom of movement, they can't leave their positions and the work conditions are so dire that some commit suicide as a means of protest," Hua said.

There was a lot of information to process during the lecture and Chubin hoped that the attendees left with something to think about.

"I hope that students learn about all that is wrong in this world that we are living in," Chubin said. "Be more aware of the inequalities, injustices exist and hopefully feel angry and enraged at this and wanting to do something about it."

NEWS

What's the best frozen pizza?

The last thing college students want to do is spend a lot of money going out to eat or a lot of time making their own meals. A great solution for students is frozen pizza. But what frozen pizza provides the best bang for your buck?

Jack's

\$2.59 Red Baron

\$3.00

COLE: This pizza is what you would expect from the cheapest frozen pizza available at the store. Everything about the pizza was average. It was incredibly thin and did not satisfy my hunger, but it was a fantastic value for the price.



HALEY: This pizza, while thinner than cardboard, was surprisingly good. At the cheapest price, I'd expected flavor short of Chuck E Cheese pizza. Don't get me wrong, this pizza is not going to fill you up, but it's crunchy, flakey and flavored the way pizza should be. I recommend up to two people could share it for such a low price.



COLE: This pizza provided the best value of all. It had the best cheese blend, which made it stand out from the other pizzas. Due to the delicious taste and low price, this was the best pizza of the night.



HALEY: While the distinct flavor of the cheese didn't appeal to me, I can see why someone would want to buy this pizza. It had a crunchy crust, and sauce proportionate to the cheese. For the price, This pizza gets you a decent bang for your buck. You'll probably also feel satisfyingly full after.



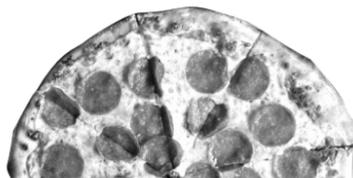
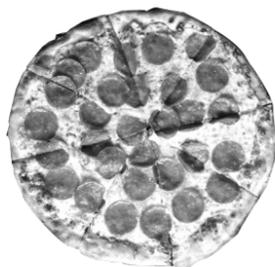
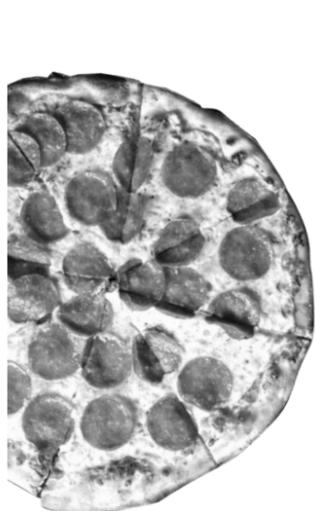
Digiorno

\$7.00

COLE: This was the best tasting pizza on the table, but also by far the most expensive. It most closely resembled a pizza you could order at an actual pizza place. I am not a fan of stuffed crust, so it did not do anything for me. Despite it being the best pizza, it was not worth the high price tag.



HALEY: This was certainly the most expensive pizza. While the stuffed crust was indisputably amazing, the entire crust itself was soft and flimsy, almost chewy. Maybe it's a preference, but I prefer soft cheese and a crunchy crust. Overall, this pizza was satisfying but not overwhelmingly better than the others, as it should have been for almost triple the price of most.



Tombstone

\$4.29

COLE: This pizza was awful. It bent in the oven and therefore cooked strangely. The middle of the pizza had cheese that was barely melted and the edges plus the bottom were burnt. This pizza was not even worth eating.



HALEY: Pizza is supposed to cook flat, right? Someone should tell that to the Tombstone pizza company. This pizza made a bowl shape in the oven, resulting in a grease lake in the middle and dry, burnt edges. At it's price, you could almost get two Jack's pizzas instead. Let's just say I know why they call this Tombstone pizza; it may be your last meal.



By Cole Bredahl and Haley Johnson
Design by Erin Martiens

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Editorial

It's our money and we want it now

Do you remember making the \$100 deposit when you moved into the dorms? Well, neither did the university employee that was supposed to refund it to you.

Last Friday, students received a mass email notifying them that some did not receive a housing deposit refund check and stated that they will be contacted by the Controller's Office individually if they were affected. According to the office, the students affected were the ones that left the dorms during the 2016-17 academic year.

Bradley's chief financial officer and controller Pratima Gandhi said the mistake took place when several employees left their positions and the tasks were left undone. According to Gandhi, the office only realized the mistake about two

weeks ago.

An event like this seems like a typical case of human error, but it should not be taken lightly. Some students can find an extra \$100 in their pocket useful, and since all these eligible students are not living in the dorms, they are paying rent. Receiving a check of \$100 could benefit anyone who is having a hard time keeping up with living expenses.

The Controller's Office has started to process the forgotten checks and give Bradley students their due cash.

Additionally, Gandhi said on Tuesday that deposits would be processed within one to two days and some students had not been contacted by Thursday evening.

The email was triggered by students flooded

the controller's office for deposit refund after seeing a wide spread student Facebook post. It seems as though the housing deposit refund check is not an articulated point.

Moving forward, the Controller's Office said they will change the system of processing these checks to avoid another error. They could have easily called it a simple mistake, but we commend them for fixing a system that failed.

It may be smart to educate students about the housing deposit check as another form of checks and balances to avoid a situation like this from happening again. Improving the current auditing system may also rule out the possibility of any human error.

Column

I am not a frat lord



Conor McEntee
cmcentee@mail.bradley.edu
Copy Editor

When people picture a fraternity president, they probably think of endless keg stands and massive parties where I am the center of attention. Well ... sorry to disappoint you, but that is the greatest myth ever told.

The best representation of the fraternity president is Robert Hoover, president of the Delta Tau Chi Fraternity from "National Lampoon's Animal House." He is overtly nervous about every little thing, has to please the university with outstanding achievements and keep young, rowdy men under somewhat control.

Yes, it's not all sunshine and rainbows. Ultimately, the most responsible person is chosen to run the logistics and plans of the house, and I happened to fit the bill.

Now, this is not a shot at any fraternity or a complaint that things are so hard. This is simply a small look at the life in a position most people are not familiar with.

My days consist of calming down my brothers who feel that something is completely unfair, convincing them that the old ways of doing things just won't work today and rallying others for the

future betterment of the house.

The biggest challenge today is trying to make a change. Times are shifting, and the culture surrounding Greek life has to shift as well. It will be difficult in the upcoming months and years to combat the mindset of what has been so ingrained from the past.

The president is somewhat like being a police officer. You fight for a noble cause, knowing that everyday someone is going to make fun of you for your "fratiness" from the outside and scoff at you for enforcing rules that will keep people safe.

It is not easy ... at ... all. At the end of the day, I lay my head on my pillow and fall fast asleep. I wake up the next day and hit the ground running once again. Some days I want to scream, other days I want to gleam with joy but most days I just want to turn the lights off and sit in silence.

Some might ask, "Why are you

doing this to yourself?" Well, I believe that I can leave something positive behind, even if it means only one person is impacted by my presence.

I have to be an advocate for change, but the tides seem to be against me at the moment. That's okay. Every change comes with resistance. I have to be a leader and a responsible person who has to swallow their pride from time to time just to keep the peace. It sucks sometimes, but someone has to do it.

I will be here fighting the good fight until my term is up, but I will not let people put me down for doing what is right, even though it may be unpopular. Right now, the times will keep changing and a president must adapt, for a fraternity will not make it into the future if it resists change.

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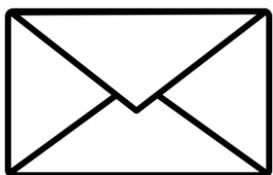
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Any e-mails directed to members of the Scout staff may be published as letters.

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.



Female empowerment - JoBros return - Mad for Mulaney

Why we need sheroes

BY SYDNEY FILLIPI
Voice Reporter

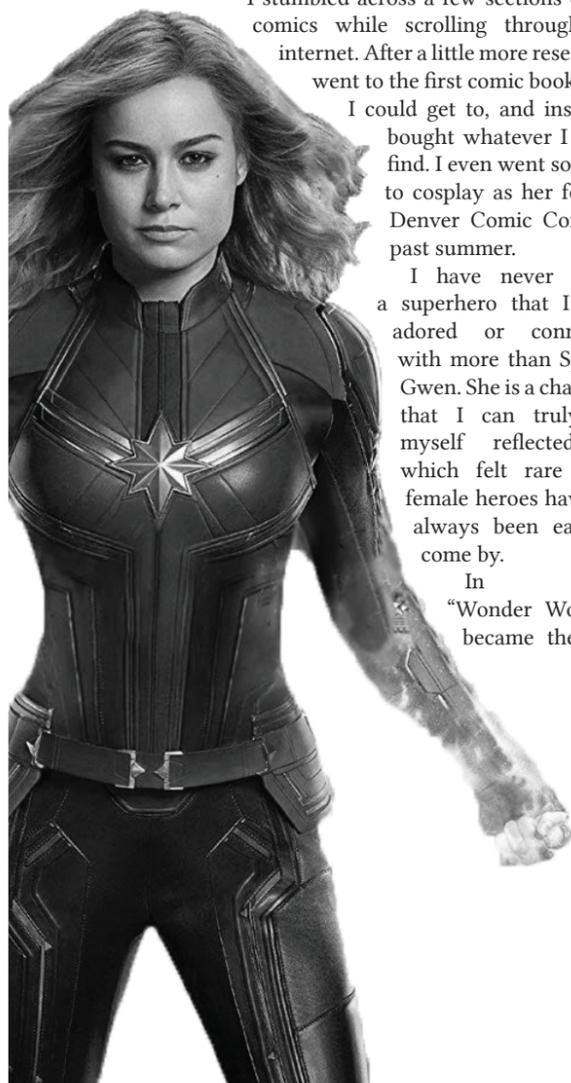
I was 17 when I first heard about my favorite superhero, Spider-Gwen.

I stumbled across a few sections of her comics while scrolling through the internet. After a little more research, I went to the first comic book store

I could get to, and instantly bought whatever I could find. I even went so far as to cosplay as her for the Denver Comic Con this past summer.

I have never found a superhero that I have adored or connected with more than Spider-Gwen. She is a character that I can truly see myself reflected in, which felt rare since female heroes have not always been easy to come by.

In 1974, "Wonder Woman" became the first



superhero movie to have the leading hero be female. Another take on "Wonder Woman" was released in 2017, the first DC heroine to star in the DC Extended Universe.

Marvel's first female superhero movie was "Elektra" starring Jennifer Garner in 2005. This weekend, "Captain Marvel" will mark the second-ever female-led Marvel film.

However, the first live-action DC-based movie, "Superman and the Mole Man" came out in 1951, and the first live-action Marvel-based movie, "Captain America," was released in 1944, followed by "Howard the Duck" in 1986.

That's a 23-year difference for DC superhero movies and a 61-year difference for Marvel. Men were saving the world on the big screen far before women even got a chance.

Even though there have been very few films with leading female superheroes, controversy has still arisen about the fears of implementing too many of them.

Marvel's vice president of print and sales, David Gabriel stated, "What we heard was that people didn't want any more diversity. They didn't want female characters out there. That's what we heard, whether we believe that or not."

In every large franchise, the cult-followings play a considerable part. There will always be people who will read or watch something just because it's Marvel or DC. Sometimes, those dedicated fans don't want change.

But, large media corporations should not discount the worth of young female viewers.

"When I was little, I used to watch 'Wonder Woman' and 'She-Ra' on cartoons," said Heather Ford, instructor in the interactive media department. "So when I was able to find out that there were actual blockbuster movies being put out about these women in elements of achievement, elements of strength, it was awesome for me to see."

By incorporating more heroines into leading roles, Marvel and DC will be able to give girls a sense of power that will stay with them through their entire life.

Personally, I had always been apprehensive about choosing female heroes as my favorites as opposed to their male counterparts. However, once I found Spider-Gwen, I realized how much I really needed to see someone like her as the main character.

"Watching [Wonder Woman and She-Ra] growing up actually gave me the confidence to see someone that I could aspire to be like when I was little," Ford said.

Recently, "Spiderman: Into the Spiderverse" has been praised

for its diversity and has received higher ratings than the majority of other Marvel and DC movies.

The film's main message is "anyone can wear the mask." For children, seeing someone like them on screen is essential, especially if that person is a superhero.

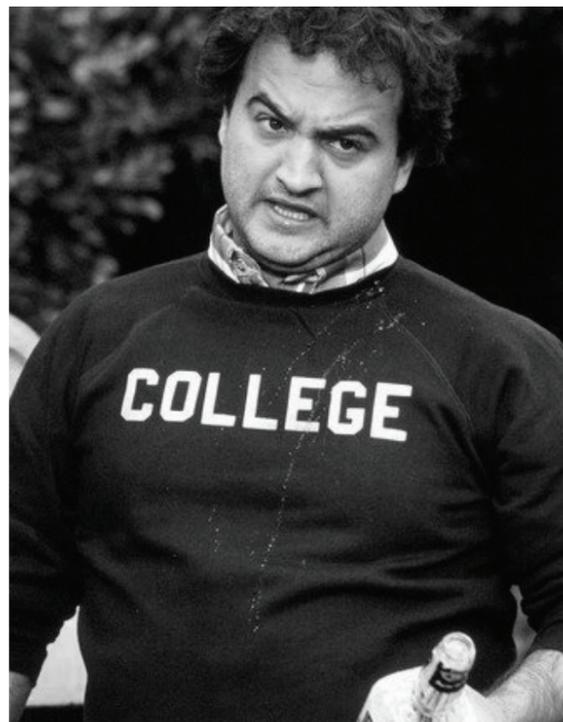
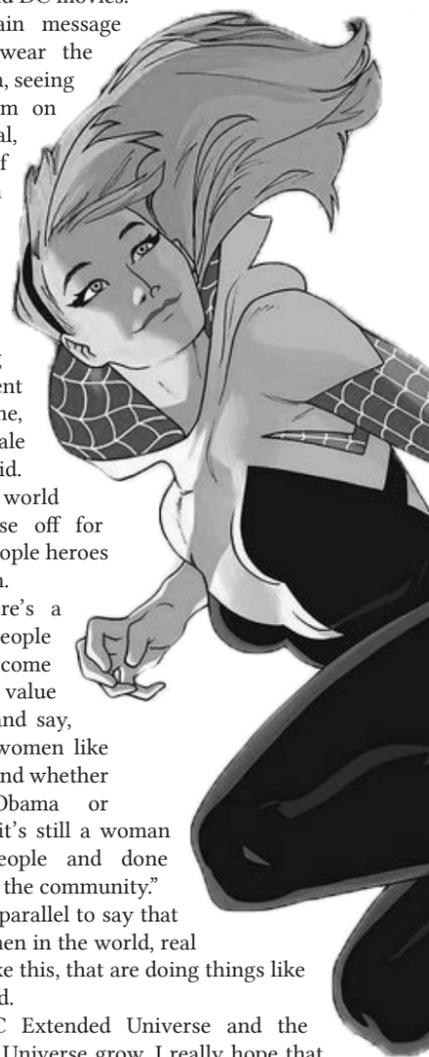
"Any time anyone can connect with someone in a powerful, strong role of achievement is good for anyone, whether you're male or female," Ford said.

All in all, the world will not be worse off for showing young people heroes that look like them.

"It shows there's a community of people who want to come together and who value the same things and say, 'There are other women like me!'" Ford said. "And whether it's Michelle Obama or Wonder Woman, it's still a woman who has led people and done positive things for the community."

"These movies parallel to say that there are real women in the world, real women that are like this, that are doing things like this now," Ford said.

So as the DC Extended Universe and the Marvel Cinematic Universe grow, I really hope that future generations of women are able to see that they can accomplish so much and that they can really be their own superhero.



Work hard, darty harder.

BY MADDY WHITE
Assitant Voice Editor

Although the weather may not lead you to believe it, #dartyszn is upon us.

Does drinking all day eliminate drinking all night? Am I an alcoholic because I'd probably say "No?" Don't answer that.

It isn't hard to figure out where the darties are, just follow the hypnotic xylophone beat featured in "Big Bank" blasting from someone's yard. You'll know you're there when you see a colorful bunch of youths jumbled together on someone's porch.

Darties smell like the zoo, they look like a "Harlem Shake" video, and they last forever. You could get to a darty ready to go at 11 a.m. and the party will not even have peaked by 1 p.m.

You'll look around and see visors, fanny packs, sunglasses and Hawaiian shirts; the crazier your outfit is, the better. Don't stress about looking nice or wearing anything you care about, everyone knows the cherry on top accessory for any outfit is a

bright red solo cup.

Normally, the darty doesn't stop at the first house. You'll get there, toss a few bags, flip a few cups and before you know it you're in the middle of a pre-school style buddy-system line making your way down the sidewalk to the next stop on the route.

Someone's laying on the roof, someone is passed out on the couch and unfortunately someone is probably raiding the fridge for something that tastes a little stronger or a snack.

Be careful. Know that after a few hours in the sun you should probably give your phone to someone more aware of your emotions than you are. Day parties are all fun and games until you pass out and send a "You up?" text at 8 p.m.

House after house can be exhausting; mix in the sun, alcohol, and energy required to participate in human interaction? Forget about it. When you get home, order yourself a pizza, take off your mud-stained sneakers and lay on the floor. You've earned it.



Mulaney's SNL takeover

BY WILLIAM CRAINE
Photo Editor

Saturday Night Live started with a bang last week, as Ben Stiller and Bill Hader returned to reenact the biggest news event of the week: Michael Cohen's testimony before the Reform Committee and House Oversight.

But they weren't the only ones to return to SNL for an evening of the popular sketch comedy. Longtime writer for the show and comedian John Mulaney hosted for the second time in a year – and he definitely didn't disappoint.

Starting with an opening monologue that was reminiscent of one of his stand-up routines, Mulaney struck a perfect cord. While most celebrities usually discuss their upcoming films or music, Mulaney was in the position to demonstrate his comedy prowess; discussing topics such as living in New York, being Catholic and his love life.

He displayed the originality that monologues often forgo in favor of self-promotion. He proved that the show should bring a wider variety of industry talents to host.

Following the monologue, Bill Hader kept the comedy rolling, playing the host of the game show "What's That Name?," with Mulaney and Cecily Strong acting as the contestants.

The participants were first tasked with naming the partners of famous celebrities. Then the challenge became real and relatable: naming your friends' romantic partners.

It was a portrayal of a situation we've all experienced. It only got funnier as the contestants failed and Hader ridiculed them for being horrible people. Everyone has been in the situation where we can't remember a group member's, a classmate's or even a friend's significant other's name – making this skit even more comedic. Mulaney's wit and delivery can take even the simplest skit to next levels of hilarity.

After, an amazing new device was advertised to save you the embarrassment of dying on the toilet, "Shark Tank: Legal Edition" – which notably made fun of New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft for pleading not guilty prior to being tried for the solicitation of two prostitutes – and the moment we've all been waiting for, the glorious return of Chad.

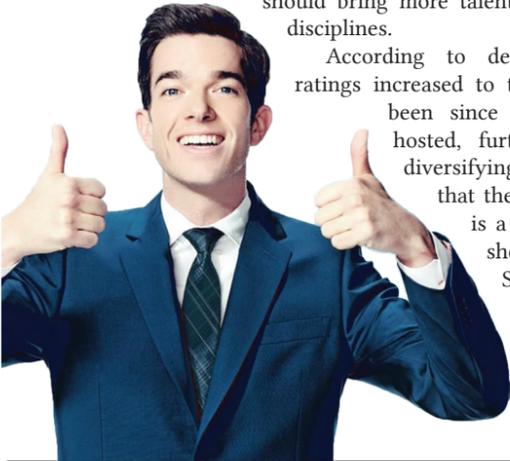
Pete Davidson brought out the obvious fan favorite for a horror flick called "Unknown Caller." Mulaney fans know the connection between him and Davidson, as they have been doing comedy shows together across New York in a mini tour called "Sundays with Pete & John." Additionally, they frequently perform skits together on SNL.

In "Unknown Caller," Davidson portrays Chad, whose television time and cereal indulgence is interrupted by a mysterious phone call.

As the world's most agreeable person, Chad responded to the caller's demand for him to play a game with his famous line, "Okay," setting the events in motion. The villain, played by Mulaney, kills a woman Chad hooked up with and orders a pizza. Chad couldn't care less, of course, even when Mulaney kills the pizza delivery boy.

The back and forth of the two equally unbelievable and outrageous characters is made hilarious by the comedic timing of this duo. While other hosts may take this blatantly unrealistic scenario too far and lose the fun, Mulaney and Davidson perfectly kept the balance between stupid, funny and genuinely well done. These two make the perfect comedic pair.

Following a few more skits, Mulaney gave his closing remarks, bringing one of the funniest Saturday Night Live episodes since last season to a close. While the night featured the usual laughs, Mulaney showcased both his comedic chops and the reason why the show should bring more talent from a variety of disciplines.



According to deadline Hollywood, ratings increased to the highest they've been since the singer Halsey hosted, further evidence that diversifying the industries that they invite hosts from is a great thing for the show. In the future, SNL should continue this trend and keep us crying from laughter.



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Women with an impact

BY VALERIE VASCONEZ
Off-staff Reporter

Who runs the world? Girls!

March is National Women's History Month. This month of recognition highlights what women are capable of and how their skills have shaped history.

This year's National Women's History Project theme is to remember the women who promote peace and nonviolence. Through media or charity work, these celebrities put in the work to fight for a better tomorrow.

Angelina Jolie

What truly makes Jolie's work memorable is her direct interactions with refugees who have been displaced and have personally experienced the damages. With her work and positions with the United Nations and Goodwill, it's admirable how she uses her fame to give light to situations.

Jolie, in her 2009 World Refugee Day speech, discussed how everyday citizens are suffering in wartorn countries from the aftermath.

By shining a light on these situations, the damages of war were brought to the attention of the larger public.

Beyonce

After years of "Queen Bey" fans waiting for new content, everyone was taken by surprise in 2016 with the sudden drop of her album "Lemonade." Following that, an open letter about police brutality and the "Formation" music video with strong imagery was released.

What Queen Bey highlights in her open letter is how black communities are calling attention to police brutality. She calls her fans to take action by contacting officials about the injustices being done to people of color.

Even in the face of said injustice, Beyonce still inspires with imagery of black excellence.

Audrey Hepburn

The iconic looks and movies of Hepburn heavily impacted the media of her time and made her a classic. But, the luxe looks of "Breakfast at Tiffany's" weren't always Hepburn's life.

After returning to the German-occupied Netherlands, young Hepburn helped

resistance fighters during World War II by donating or working with fellow rebels.

Hepburn's personal life is noted in the "Dutch Girl: Audrey Hepburn and World War II," the trauma of her uncle's death by the Nazis leads to Hepburn helping those in disaster relief programs. Months prior to her death, her charity work earned her the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Emma Watson

Watson has moved from making bullies throw up slugs to explaining why women's rights are everyone's concerns. During the #HeforShe campaign, Watson spoke out about reasons that feminism shouldn't be a bad word.

After facing backlash from online users about her white feminism, Watson, instead of denying or ignoring such accusations, took a look at herself and her beliefs. In an email to members of her book club, she recognized that her feminist view doesn't support all women but only herself – which is not what Watson wanted.

What is magical about Watson is her willingness to learn how best to bring equality for everyone.

Eva Longoria

This "Desperate Housewives" actress isn't just known for her skills on film and in television. She has also acquired a masters degree in Chicano Studies that sparked the Eva Longoria Foundation. The foundation is now an uplifting organization for Latina women.

After learning about Chicano culture, she used her platform to politically and economically inspire Latinos to move forward in their lives. By Longoria fighting for women's rights and encouraging Latinas to take leadership roles, she hopes that there will be a chain reaction on empowering Latino communities.

With the education she's helping to provide there can be changes in the workforce and in higher education.

Without these women putting in the work and educating the world on prevalent issues, there would be less progress done in favor of citizen's rights and fighting injustice. Their impact is recognized this month, as it should be every month.



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926 Rebecca (3 bedroom, 1.5 bathroom)







Bringing back an iconic boy band

BY MACKENZIE NEWMAN
Voice Editor

After six weeks, three engagements, two solo careers and countless tears due to their breakup, the Jonas Brothers have finally returned to remind the world what a real boy band is supposed to be.

Nick, Joe and Kevin Jonas have made the inevitable comeback to their song "Year 3000" foretold before their split in Oct. 2013. The Jonas Brothers are once again on track to outsell Kelly Clarkson with their seventh album 81 years from now.

With the release of "Sucker" on March 1, the Jonas Brothers have launched a rebrand of the beloved boy band with better hair, modern style and a brand new pop-centered sound. To celebrate their return to the spotlight, check out our list of songs to jam to while patiently awaiting the release of more new music.

'Burnin' Up'

If hearing Nick Jonas saying "red dress" does not immediately make you feel things, then you clearly grew up in the wrong generation. Plus, this iconic music video features Nick essentially playing James Bond, Joe with a laughable mustache and their

body guard Big Rob joining in on the fun with a rap feature that still has not been explained to me. Honestly, what more could anyone want?

'S.O.S.'

One of the most successful songs on their last, and once thought to be final, album, is a breakup anthem for the ages. If you've found yourself shouting the lyrics to "S.O.S." at any point in your life, then you must know what heartbreak truly feels like. Or you happened to be in the seventh grade and your crush left you on read. Both scenarios are equally applicable if you're searching for reasons to belt this masterpiece through tears.

'Lovebug'

If this song doesn't make you believe in love, then honestly nothing will. Released in 2008, "Lovebug" set the bar for junior high and high school relationships everywhere. Girls begged the DJ at school dances to play this song so they could slow dance with that special someone in the school gym. Young love at its finest right here.

'When You Look Me in the Eyes'

Don't even try to pretend this song doesn't send you right into the feels. We all cry when Joe and Nick's voices harmonize

and sing those sweet and heartfelt lyrics from their third album "A Little Bit Longer." This was the song of every couple in the late 2000s.

'Year 3000'

I still request this at parties. So should you.

'Play My Music'

Who could forget this classic from "Camp Rock?" This song represents all that is good about our childhoods: a classic Disney movie, constant iconic hair flips because the boys' couldn't see behind their luscious locks and Joe and Demi still being considered an iconic pairing. This song can take you back to simpler times.

'A Little Bit Longer'

This soft rock ballad has carried our generation through every hard time. "A Little Bit Longer" highlights Nick's beautiful falsetto and reminds us all why he is now the front man of the band in the "Sucker" cover art. Claim your place Nick, because you've earned this.

See a particular Jo Bros jam missing? Tweet @ScoutVoiceDesk and let us know which of the band's songs you'll be playing on repeat this week and why.

Course Schedule Available Online March 15

bradley.edu/summerclasses

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University

Summer Sessions 2019

Summer Sessions 2019 Dates

May Interim I	May 20 – June 7 (3 weeks)
May Interim II	May 20 – July 12 (8 weeks)
Summer Session I	June 10 – July 12 (5 weeks)
Summer Session II	July 15 – August 16 (5 weeks)

Catch up • Get ahead • Graduate on time

Sudoku

					6	3	2	
4				1				
	9	3				1	6	8
				5		8		
	1		4		9		7	
		7		8				
7	6	2				5	1	
				7				9
	8	9	1					

SOLUTIONS POSTED ONLINE

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Classified ads can be submitted to the Scout Office in Sisson Hall 319 or by calling the Scout office at (309) 677-3067. Please submit classified ads by 5 p.m. Monday for inclusion in the Friday issue.

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Crosswords

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	
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59						60						61			
62					63							64			
65						66							67		

Across

- 1) Computer scientist Turing
- 5) Shoot-'em-up sounds
- 10) Saclike growth
- 14) Battle the clock
- 15) Freeze over
- 16) Find repugnant
- 17) Stone of the screen
- 18) Like a committee chaired by actor Cooper?
- 20) Alcoholic appetite arouser
- 22) Slurred over
- 23) Comedian Philips
- 24) Lilt syllable
- 25) "Take your pick"
- 26) Literary category characterized by jealous characters?
- 32) Flatow of "Science Friday"
- 33) Riles up
- 34) Poetic foot
- 37) Accepted fact
- 39) With 53-Down, like some rural roads
- 40) Annual Oct. 24 observance
- 41) Take for a ride, so to speak
- 42) Brown ermines
- 44) "___ & the Women" (Richard Gere movie)
- 45) Result of an auto mechanic's mishap?
- 48) Old TV ET
- 50) Out of practice? (Abbr.)
- 51) Page in history
- 52) Home of the NHL's Stars
- 54) Leave the launch pad
- 59) Grammy-winning rapper wearing his Swiss chard costume?
- 61) Put grill lines on
- 62) Baking spot
- 63) Zig and zag
- 64) Hill helper
- 65) Kid-lit detective ___ the Great
- 66) Goat-man deity
- 67) Nailed at a slant

Down

- 1) Field of study
- 2) Aladdin's find
- 3) Nadir's opposite
- 4) Not so far
- 5) Country band Little ___
- 6) Trendy berry
- 7) Foam toy brand
- 8) Frat member, e.g.
- 9) Planet shapes, roughly
- 10) Starbucks tea offering
- 11) "Blah blah blah"
- 12) Dutch painter Jan
- 13) Victoria's Secret garment
- 19) ___ vital (life force)
- 21) "That is to say ..."
- 24) "Or else!" is one
- 26) Jobs, slangily
- 27) Bana of "Hanna"
- 28) Armada
- 29) Fielder's cry
- 30) Part of some carpentry joints
- 31) Diesel of Hollywood
- 35) Podcaster Maron
- 36) Computer memory unit
- 38) Outback avian
- 40) Podcast subscribers, say
- 42) Playground features, often
- 43) Where to put on a play
- 46) Uplifting lingerie
- 47) Bigwig with big bucks
- 48) Extra charge
- 49) Pupa-to-be
- 53) See 39-Across
- 54) Really tired
- 55) Impose, as a tax
- 56) Kasich's state
- 57) Lose sparkle
- 58) Pebbles Flintstone's dad
- 60) Tony winner ___ Arthur

NEWS

Naturally Yours strives to make you more natural

BY MEGHAN ANDERSON
Assistant News Editor

Calling all vegans, gluten-free and organic product eaters.

Naturally Yours was first opened in 1988 by a doctor committed to providing healthy and holistic alternatives to the products found in mainstream stores for the wellness of local residents. The store has thrived since then and is the largest health food store in Central Illinois.

"They carry a lot of specialty items that I don't see other places. You can even request that they start stocking certain items," said Shannon Alphonso, senior industrial engineering major, who has been a customer of Naturally Yours for the last few years.

Their aisles are stocked with allergy-friendly, vegetarian and vegan options that are difficult or impossible to find at regular grocery stores, along with aisles of supplements and other wellness products free from toxins and chemicals. The store also boasts a bakery full of items like fresh baked goods and juices, with a vegan lunch special on Thursdays.

"Their menu is awesome," Alphonso said. "You can ask them

to juice produce for you. They also encourage you to bring your own containers, and they have student discounts."

Matt Kowal, general manager of Naturally Yours, has worked at the store for 17 years, and said he has watched as more people become more conscious of what they are putting in and on their bodies.

"It's this whole movement that's just exploded," Kowal said. "It's good for us and good for ... everyone."

Kowal emphasized that one core aspect of Naturally Yours that sets them apart from other grocery stores is the knowledgeable staff. Staff members personally encompass a wide range of issues and preferences customers may have walking into the store.

"We have people who have tons of knowledge about supplements, people who are activists whether it's sustainability or recycling, people who are vegetarians, vegans, people with food sensitivities," Kowal said. "You have all these people under one roof ... you can't say that when you go to another store. We know what we're talking about because we live the lifestyle."



Naturally Yours Grocery is located in Metro Centre at 4700 N. University St.

photo via Naturally Yours

As health trends rise and fall, Kowal said he sees the popularity of certain products follow.

"We had [Cannabidoil] five years ago, but we would hardly sell any of it because nobody knew anything about it ... now we sell massive amounts of it constantly," Kowal said.

One product exclusive to Naturally Yours is 309 Cultures, a line of fermented, raw and organic

foods made directly in Peoria by an employee of the store, even fermented in-store. The sauerkraut and kimchi can be bought in jars or added at a small extra charge to store-prepped meals.

Another unique offering is their koba drink, a popular beverage among South Pacific Islanders, and known for its ability to boost mental clarity.

Kowal hopes that more Bradley students become aware of these and other hard-to-find helpful products close to campus.

Naturally Yours is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. every Monday through Saturday. It's located in Peoria's Metro Centre, at 4700 N. University St.



photo by William Craine

Josh Cohen shares how Washington really works

BY HANNAH SNIDMAN
News Reporter

A small group of Bradley students and professors gathered in Bradley Hall Wednesday evening to hear political consultant and Bradley alumnus Josh Cohen share his career experiences.

Cohen, who currently serves as a principal at New Heights Communications, discussed stories from his time working on campaigns and how Bradley students can begin a career in politics. He spent a large part of the hour answering student questions.

"I learned a lot tonight," senior political science major Zachary Nolan said. "For me as a political science major, it was very informative to learn how the specific classes we are taking while at Bradley have real life application later on down the road in our determined careers."

While the audience enjoyed pizza and cookies, Cohen discussed his predictions for future elections and how politics work today. He told students that politics is not only who you know, but what you know.

"If you want to work in politics ... it's important to get out into the field and get real life, real world experience. And it's also important to understand the mechanics of different departments," Cohen said. "Hopefully, I was able to instill a little bit of direction or at least show students that there is a way to practice

politics. I was just hoping to shed a little bit of light on how campaigns are run and how students might be able to get a little bit more involved in helping shape their future."

Cohen graduated in 2005, and this was his first time back on campus since graduation. He came to visit the Hillel House and decided to reach out to his former political science professor Craig Curtis.

"Like a lot of our alumni, he's interested in giving back," Curtis said. "We want to have our students have the opportunity to interact with alumni who are working in their field. Those students who want to do this kind of work have a chance to talk with someone who does it for a living and has been successful."

Cohen has worked for Sen. Dick Durbin, at the Democratic Senate Campaign committee, at Service Employees International Union and on the Obama Campaign with the Democratic National Committee. He talked with students who are looking to go into consulting and who are already working on campaigns.

"My favorite part was Josh's insight," sophomore political science major Wesley Bounds said. "He helped shed light to a field in politics that doesn't get as much publicity as other fields in the arena. Events like these allow us to experience and learn about careers we've not known too much about and allow us to connect with someone in the field."

Stay up late with your siblings

BY CAROLINE TODD
Off-staff Reporter

Children ran about the floors of Markin, with their faces painted like butterflies and stuffed lions clutched to their chests. A magician roamed around, performing card tricks to an audience of wide eyes. And music echoed, blasting the latest Jonas Brothers' song.

March's Late Night BU brought Siblings Weekend to the carnival. If you looked upwards at the ceiling of Markin, you just might have been able to see a circus tent.

Bradley is familiar with the monthly programming of Late Night BU. But as the tradition continues, students have mixed feelings about the success of the event.

A line stretched from one side of Markin to the other. Students waited patiently for the famous Portillo's hotdogs and chocolate cake.

Kate Vetter, assistant director of programming of Student Activities, works to make LNBU successful. She talked about how the Student Activities Office defines success at LNBU.

Student turnout is the clearest definition of the event's success.

Most years, the best-attended LNBU events are August and March, during Welcome Week and Siblings Weekend. These nights can bring upwards of 3,000 people. Vetter said 2,303 students attended the August LNBU.

Vetter estimated about 700 participants attended each of the

LNBU in the fall.

In defining success for LNBU, it's also important to consider the program's initial goal. As it states on the Bradley website, "Late Night BU is an alcohol-free night of entertainment planned, promoted and run by students."

Sophomore construction major Ben Maust knows students who go to Late Night while drunk.

"I think it's a well-known fact people show up drunk," Maust said.

Vetter said she knows this happens.

"Obviously, it's a college campus," she said.

But she stressed that the main goal of LNBU is to provide a space where students don't feel pressured to engage in activities like drinking.

Later that night, a group of girls were at a table enjoying the Portillo's hot dogs. Two younger siblings sat along one edge.

"People who come here aren't the ones who are going to drink," a junior health science major Aubrey Tate said.

But for others, it's simply not convenient to attend LNBU.

Senior electrical engineering major Eric Jones is a commuter. He's never been to any Late Nights, not even his freshman year.

"It's just not for me," Jones said.

The girls thought positively of the night's success.

"This was the best Late Night so far," said Tate.

Band member brings the spirit

BY JADE SEWELL
Off-staff Reporter

In the excitement of intramural sports and through the roar of every basketball band chant, there is one student who is always at the heart of it all: Cameron Niesman.

Niesman, a sophomore accounting major was awarded "Most Spirited Student" at the Bradley vs Illinois State University game on Feb. 22.

In order to be a contestant for this award, students needed a peer nomination.

"I was really surprised when I got nominated," Niesman said. "It was definitely an honor."

From there, he was picked to be one of two finalists for the award. The day before the game, the Bradley women's basketball team tweeted out a video from each finalist, and every retweet counted as a vote. In addition to the Twitter voting, there was in-person voting at the basketball

game to determine the winner.

Niesman's success can be chalked up to a variety of reasons, including his involvement in extracurriculars and his love for Bradley.

"I officiate intramurals and I'm in almost every single intramural. If there's a sport I'm not in, it's probably because I couldn't find a team," Niesman said.

Besides his love for sports, Cameron is an active member of the Bradley Basketball Band, where he plays trumpet.

"No matter what is happening in the game, Cameron is always cheering Bradley on, and he is always cheering the loudest of anyone," friend and fellow band member Kyle Janssen said. "He also initiates and starts cheers during the games. Cameron really enjoys Bradley games and supporting the team, whether we're winning or losing."

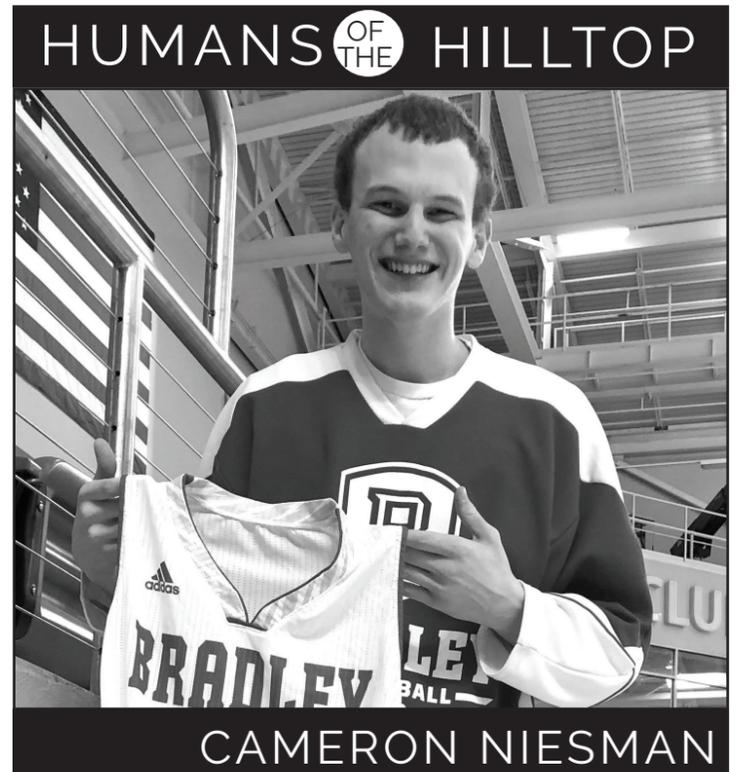
In fact, Niesman loves Bradley Basketball so much, that he's only missed two women's home

games the entire season. In both instances he was in class, where he managed to catch glimpses of the game via online streaming.

"I live for sports. I'm always finding a way to yell and cheer for sports. You don't get most spirited by just standing around; you're always pushing other people to cheer on," Niesman said.

While Niesman received a book bag full of T-shirts and Bradley merchandise for winning, he said the real reward is being recognized as the first recipient for Bradley's "Most Spirited Student" and the support he received from his band family.

"I don't think I could have done it without my friends or the band friends I made at conference last year. Their support was huge," Niesman said.



Sophomore Cameron Niesman was named most spirited student. photo by Jade Sewell

DELAYED continued from page A1

Gandhi described this occurrence as a "perfect storm." Even though more than half of the deposits had been refunded or applied to tuition, 300-350 people were missed in the event of workers leaving.

According to Gandhi, the new employee was going through all the deposits to see where they were and

saw some that were older.

"They were going through the current year's and that's when they realized somebody missed that group," Gandhi said. "They started working on those immediately too."

Gandhi said the mistake was found around two weeks ago and the office had everybody on the issue.

"They're finishing up and they should be done within the next day or two," Gandhi said on Tuesday.

Many were not aware that they

could receive these deposits back until they saw social media posts by students, the mass email from student affairs and individual communication from the Controller's Office stating they have a refund waiting in Swords Hall.

"I was surprised when receiving the email because I haven't lived in the dorms in two years," junior elementary education major Aviva Abrams said. "I went to pick up my deposit and was told the wait would

be 30 minutes."

The deposits for students who left the dorms during the 2017-18 school year are being processed as normal.

If eligible students have graduated, then their deposits will be mailed to their permanent home address.

Gandhi said they are changing the process to prevent a similar event from happening.

"We are going to change it, so that it will go into different people along with the assistant controller, so it's

going to be not only that department but there will be a notification one level up," Gandhi said.

Gandhi also mentioned that she has been at the university for 25 years and nothing like this has happened before. She wants to ensure that this was a one-time occurrence.

"I will guarantee you that it won't happen again," Gandhi said. "Once is enough."

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Opinion

The mascot amendments

BY ANTHONY LANDAHL
Sports Editor

KABOOM!

You probably just groaned.

It's a name (and a face) that is burnt into the minds of Bradley students all over campus. It's convincingly the most questionable part of the Hilltop.

It's our mascot. His name is Kaboom!. Is the exclamation point really apart of the name? Are we sure it isn't spelled in all caps? Is it an onomatopoeia? Not really, but it all seems fitting.

Every Thanksgiving and Christmas, it seems like I have to constantly explain the origin story of Kaboom!. Every time I show family members and friends a picture of him, they ask the same question: "What is that thing?"

I respond, "It's a gargoyle."

"But why?"

Because there are gargoyles are on top of campus buildings. It seems to be the storyline we chose to go with. In reality, there are only few visible gargoyles on Bradley Hall and Hayden-Clark Alumni Center. Why was a gargoyle the go-to choice for the mascot?

According to an article in The Scout from 2016, when the university was searching for a new mascot, suggestions included "Braveheart, Westlake Hall's clock, a gargoyle, military personnel, a superhero, a

squirrel and having no mascot."

I don't know what's more depressing: having a clock as your mascot, having no mascot or having a gray beast with small horns. Now it's a little clear what we were dealing with when Kaboom! was chosen.

It's been five years since Kaboom! was unveiled to us at a Bradley basketball game versus Loyola on Feb. 22, 2014. This was also the first time that people looked at Kaboom! and said, "But why?"

In those five years, the mascot has been called "the most terrifying new mascot in college sports" by USA Today and even featured in Sports Illustrated.

It's clear: Kaboom! is not the most popular mascot in the nation. People are confused when they look at him and the internet immediately labels him a nightmare.

Now, in no way am I

bashing Kaboom!. I'm just citing the opinion the internet protraits. Once you get used to him, he isn't so confusing or terrifying.

If a gargoyle was confusing to my uncle at the dinner table, then explaining the concept of St. Louis University's Billiken will make him rethink time and space. I'll let you do the research on that one; I'd need a whole other column to go over what a Billiken is.

And if it's the factor of "terrifying" that we are talking about, then don't look any farther than the New Orleans Pelicans' King Cake Baby. In honor of Mardi Gras, the Pelicans present a monster that is supposed to

be a celebratory symbol. Search Google Images for it, just not at night.

I want to be proud of Kaboom!, I really do. Bradley hasn't had the pride of mascot in so long. The Native American imagery was removed in 1992 and the bobcat never worked out. In this case, we have to put in an extra effort to make a mark with Kaboom!.

Now, this is where I get critical: it's once you see Kaboom! try to pump up a crowd you realize he's just not getting the job done. The webbed feet are too big and he's awkward when he walks. This holds him back from running around and bringing energy to fans. He needs to be able to at least attempt a half-court shot.

Specifically, it's a costume department issue and the funds may not be there for a new suit right away. Hopefully, in the near future, demand will come for a Kaboom! costume upgrade and

appropriate arrangements will be made.

What we need is an athletic Kaboom!, one that can do backflips and is a spectacular dancer. BYU's Cosmo the Cougar can pull off a choreographed hip-hop dance with cheerleaders while Kaboom! would have a hard time keeping his head on while attempting the "Cupid Shuffle."

Uniquely enough, Kaboom!'s signature entrance to men's basketball is riding in on a motorcycle, which people really like. Unique is a word that can describe the last few years with Kaboom!. People have laughed and stared, but there are solutions to alter the mascot stigma.

Just this year, the Philadelphia Flyers were given Gritty, a googly-eyed, deranged-looking muppet mascot whom the world shouted down with criticism. In this case, however, the Philadelphia fans took it personally.

They knew their mascot looked freaky, they knew their mascot didn't make sense and they even asked the question "But why?" But when it seemed like the world kept mocking something apart of Philadelphia's identity, the fans went to Gritty's side. They defended and accepted him for what he was. That's family.

Do you think Kaboom! is creepy? Do you want another mascot? Maybe it's time we accept him for what he represents but add some smaller feet.



Feature

Running its course: Mounce twins reflect on final year at Bradley

BY LARRY LARSON
Sports Reporter

Despite the fact that senior golfers Branden and Michael Mounce have played on the same sports teams all their life and both strive for the same team accomplishments, the competition between the twins has remained up to par.

"It sucks to lose, and it sucks even more to lose to your brother," Branden said.

The competition has always been fierce between the two. While growing up in El Paso, Illinois, the two said they played a myriad of sports including football, basketball, baseball and hockey.

Once they started at the small high school at El Paso-Gridley, they narrowed their sights down to a few sports. One at which happened to be golf.

"We live on the golf course, so there were a lot of times where we would just get a couple buddies and

just play until dark, which was fun to do with someone who lived with me," Michael said.

All that time on the course paid off in IHSA play. They led their team to a second-place state finish in their sophomore year, and back-to-back 1A titles in their final two years. To the Mounces, it wasn't just an individual victory, but one they could celebrate with the community.

"It was just the guys we grew up playing with our whole lives," Michael said. "So just to win something like that with those guys, I thought it was awesome."

After their successful high school careers, both took their talents just 15 minutes down the road to Illinois State, where they played freshman year. After one year, both decided to come to Bradley.

"I actually left ISU a few weeks before [Michael] did," Branden said. "It was the middle or end of July when he finally moved on from there. By that time, 99 percent of teams

have their roster filled and don't want anybody else. For Coach Roche to let both of us on was pretty special."

Bradley head coach Jeff Roche knew the brothers from the past and immediately pursued their transfer.

"I had watched both of them play in high school, but they chose to attend ISU," Roche said. "When they decided to make a change and called me to say they were interested in transferring to Bradley, I knew we had to make room for them. That was a great day for Bradley men's golf."

The brothers have both logged 17 rounds thus far in the 2018-19 campaign. Michael is averaging 73.65 with one top-10 finish. Branden isn't far behind with a 75.59 average.

"They are both great players and want to win," Roche said. "So they push each other to be the best that each of them can be. The sibling rivalry is at play as well, always wanting to beat the other in whatever competition it is."

While the twins have their

similarities, they aren't identical and neither are their golf games.

"They are similar in that they are both ultra competitive," Roche said. "But their style of play is different. Branden plays with a more aggressive style, while Mike is more tactical."

"If I could describe it," Michael said. "I'd say that I'm a little more conservative, and Branden just kind of goes with it."

Off the course, the brothers have won multiple accolades for their academic efforts. Michael, an entrepreneurship major, was the class valedictorian at El Paso-Gridley, placed onto the Athletic Director honor roll five times, the MVC honor roll twice and was awarded the MVC Commissioner's Academic Excellence Award in 2017 and 2018.

Branden, a finance major, was named to the AD honor roll four times, landed on the MVC honor roll twice and awarded the Commissioner's Academic Excellence Award in 2018.

Upon graduation, the duo does not

plan on heading in separate directions just yet. They'll use their degrees from the Foster College of Business to assist their father with the multiple businesses he owns in El Paso.

Additionally, they don't plan on ending their golf careers any time soon.

"We'll still play competitive golf around the area and then if it gets good enough, we'll try to push it to the next level," Michael said.

Before looking ahead, the two still have approximately five tournaments left in a Bradley golf uniform this spring.

"I couldn't have asked for anything more from them," Roche said. "They've been great, on and off the course. They have both been so instrumental in the success we've had in the time they've been here."

The team will continue spring action this upcoming Monday and Tuesday at the Twin Oaks Intercollegiate in Springfield, Missouri.

Column

After a tough decade, women's basketball can produce something special

BY ANTHONY LANDHAL
Sports Editor

With the 2018-19 season winding down, the win column is shining the brightest it has been in a decade for Bradley women's basketball. After Thursday's loss against UNI, the team's record stands at 20-8.

It is the most successful season since the 2011-12 campaign when the Braves reached 18 wins. This year also denotes the first time the program reached 20 wins since the 2008-09 season. That season the team finished 20-9.

The most impressive quality of this team isn't one you can find on the stat sheet. It's their potential.

With scoring, rebounding and a high caliber defense in the Missouri Valley Conference, the Braves can make noise in the conference tournament, beginning on March 15. They haven't advanced to the semifinal round of the tournament since 2009 as a four-seed.

No. 22 Drake and Missouri State

are dominating the conference this season, and Bradley is the picture-perfect underdog. It will be a challenging ride to the semifinal, but Bradley can take the playoff opportunity to get smarter and learn essential lessons of winning as a team.

Any step forward is progress. A bid to the semifinal game for the first time in 10 years would be a satisfying accomplishment win or lose.

Though this year's team may not finish with the conference crown, the prospect of competing for the title in the future is not outrageous. Historically, Bradley has not made its mark on the conference. The Braves have not advanced to the final game in the MVC tournament's entire 36-year history.

But as the 2019 season ends and a new decade begins, the chances of controlling the conference will rise.

Only two seniors will depart this summer and a core of young players have been steadily developing.

Junior Chelsea Brackmann is

the conference's best rebounder. Freshman Lasha Petree is a top-10 scorer and arguably the best freshman in the league.

Finally, sophomore Gabi Haack, the team's leading scorer (15.4) and fifth in the MVC, is quietly laying the foundation for an enduring Bradley legacy. She averaged five more points this season than during her freshman year. Haack's chance of being one of the conference's top scorers in the next two seasons is plausible.

For newcomers, it will be interesting to see the recruits joining the team next season. Bradley has developed a program that acts cohesively, provides different roles for different players and has allowed room to grow.

Will Peoria be the hot spot for women's basketball in the 2020s? If this program attracts the right recruits and makes the most of the roster it has now, Renaissance Coliseum will be gradually filling seats in the years to come.

ONE-ON-ONE

Will the NBA proposal to lower the league age do more good or bad?

Good vs. Bad

What do legendary basketball players LeBron James, Kobe Bryant, Kevin Garnett and Tracy McGrady all have in common? They all went straight from high school to the NBA and leapfrogged the NCAA.

Last month, the NBA sent a proposal to the National Basketball Players Association to lower the minimum age to enter the NBA Draft from 19 to 18. The league hopes to have the proposal completely effective for 2022.

While the extra year can improve the player's development, there are significant risks. On Feb. 21, Duke star and expected No. 1 overall pick Zion Williamson suffered an injury in a game against North Carolina. The freak accident happened when Williamson planted his foot awkwardly and tore through the side of his shoe.

Luckily, the injury was only a mild knee sprain, but accidents like this cause debates on how much a player should jeopardize their professional career for one year of college.

Alongside Williamson are Duke freshmen R.J. Barrett and Cam Reddish, who are both projected top-5 draft picks in the upcoming 2019 draft. One wrong step during a practice or game could cost them millions of dollars and a successful professional career.

According to the NBA.com, the top-3 draft picks from last year made \$8.2 million, \$7.3 million and \$5.5 million, respectively, for their first season. Even if a player drafted this high does not turn out to be a long-term player, he will still make a comfortable amount of cash.

The future of the NBA rests on its up-and-coming stars. Being able to capitalize on the players' potential as soon as possible will benefit both the players and the NBA as an entity.

If the NBA's proposal to lower the league's eligibility age from 19 to 18 goes through, it will spell disaster for both the NBA and NCAA.

First off, the most prominent reason is that the level of play will drop significantly in the NCAA. College players need at least a year to mature before the jump to the NBA.

Going from high school to the NBA worked for players like Kobe Bryant, LeBron James, Kevin Garnett and Dwight Howard. But no matter how good a player might be at the high school level, it is very rare to find talent of that caliber.

Most kids coming straight out of high school are not big or strong enough to take on the best talent in the world every night. Playing college basketball for at least a year gives them time to develop and mature into NBA-ready athletes.

This change will also hurt play at the college level. March Madness is one of the most exciting times in all of sports. Imagine taking away the top talent in the NCAA: The tournament would not be anywhere near as exciting as it is now.

Eric will tell you that the proposal benefits the players who want to make money, but it will hurt the quality of play in the NCAA. Really, the only league benefiting here is the NBA as the young stars will bring fans to games.

Lowering the draft age will hurt the preparedness of players in the NBA to perform at the highest level. It will also result in college basketball losing its best players and the excitement that comes with them.

- ERIC GRAY

- ANTHONY CULLOTTA



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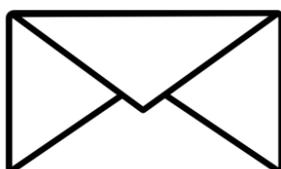
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SPORTS

Bradley Basketball

End of the year awards

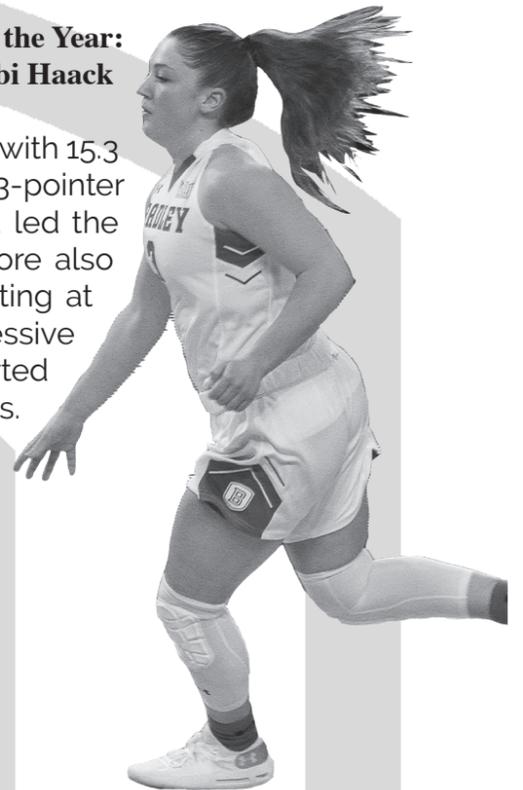
**Player of the Year:
Darrell Brown**

For the second year in a row, junior guard Darrell Brown has led the Braves in points and assists. Brown averaged 15.0 points per game, one of the top scorers in the Missouri Valley Conference and was named to Second Team All-MVC. Brown also led the team in 3-point percentage, increasing his percentage by 11 percent.



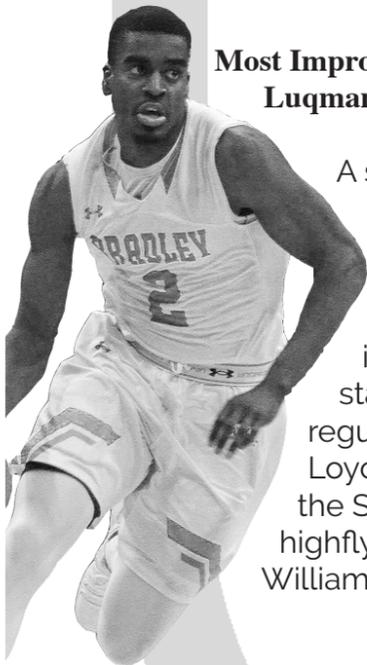
**Player of the Year:
Gabi Haack**

Haack led the team in scoring with 15.3 points per game, recorded a 3-pointer in 15 consecutive games and led the team in assists. The sophomore also led the team in 3-point shooting at 36 percent, and as an aggressive force, got to the line and converted 83 percent of her free throws.



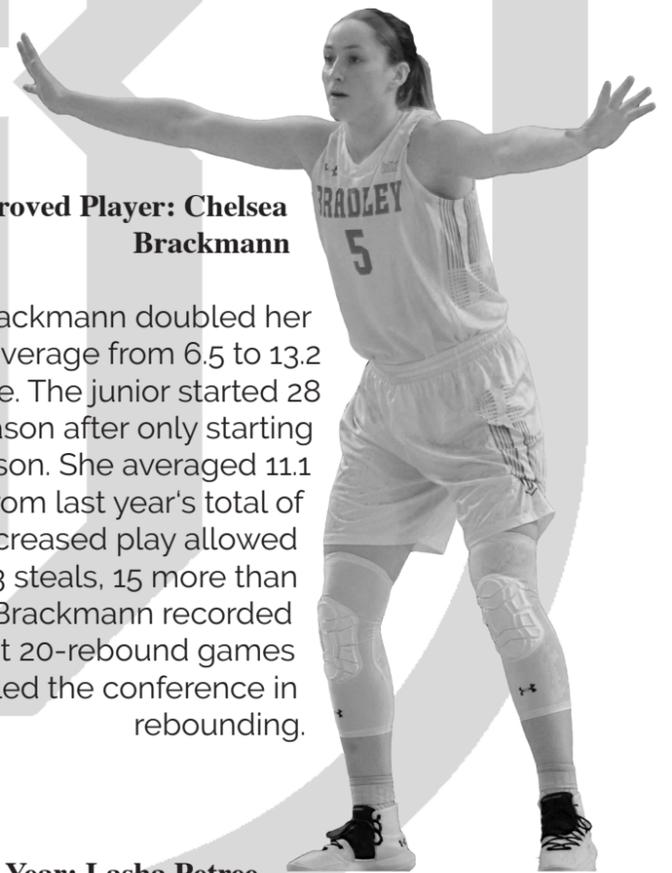
**Most Improved Player:
Luqman Lundy**

A season after not starting at all, senior Luqman Lundy started in 16 games for the Braves. He earned career-highs and improved in every major statistical category. In the last regular season game against Loyola, he earned a spot on the SportsCenter Top-5 for a highflying poster dunk over Lucas Williamson.



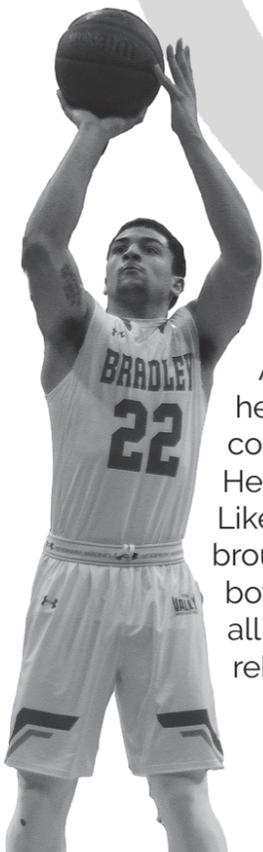
**Most Improved Player: Chelsea
Brackmann**

Chelsea Brackmann doubled her scoring average from 6.5 to 13.2 points per game. The junior started 28 games this season after only starting 14 last season. She averaged 11.1 rebounds, up from last year's total of 6.5 and her increased play allowed her to record 43 steals, 15 more than last season. Brackmann recorded two 20-point 20-rebound games this year and led the conference in rebounding.



**Newcomer of the Year:
Ja'Shon Henry**

At the beginning of the year, head coach Brian Wardle compared freshman Ja'Shon Henry to a young Charles Barkley. Like the Hall of Famer, Henry brought an explosive skill set to both ends of the floor. Henry led all BU freshmen in minutes, points, rebounds and steals.



Newcomer of the Year: Lasha Petree

The freshman from Detroit earned five MVC Newcomer of the Week Awards and averaged the most points for a freshman in the MVC this season. She recorded the third most minutes for the team with 24.6 but only started 12 games. In a notable performance, she willed the team from 17 down to beat Indiana State on Feb. 8. She scored 13 points and had three steals in 46 seconds.



INSIDE:

Women's Basketball A10

Basketball awards A11

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SPORTS

Is Kaboom! overrated?

You know him well. Kaboom! has been with us since Feb. 22, 2014.



Kaboom!

Page A9

Beer returns

Baseball continues to win close games

BY RONAN KHALSA
Assistant Sports Editor

The Bradley baseball team has yet to lose a series this season. The Braves brought their record to 6-3 after winning two of three games against the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Bradley took the first game 4-3 after 11 innings of play. Down to their last out in the ninth inning, junior Brendan Dougherty smoked a double off the right center wall to tie the game.

Then it was time for redshirt senior reliever Allan Beer to come in and hold the Roadrunners from scoring. In the top of the 11th, Dougherty once more came up clutch and drove home the go-ahead run. Beer was credited with the win.

The following afternoon, Bradley kept the momentum rolling and scored three runs in the first inning. The early outburst was the only scoring for the Braves would need to secure a 3-2 victory. Beer saw action again and only needed 15 pitches to pick up his third save of the season.

On Sunday, UTSA capitalized on three Bradley errors, one wild pitch, a balk and two hit batsmen to salvage the final game of the series, 7-2. Bradley pushed across two runs in the eighth, but the lead was too much to overcome.

All told, the weekend was a success, but head coach Elvis Dominguez said he believes that the team has yet to play their best baseball.

"Honestly, we haven't played a complete game yet," Dominguez said. "Our offense hasn't been able to capitalize on a lot of things and some of those close ballgames you see we should have not have put ourselves in that position, but it's still early."

Contributing to the team effort, the Bradley pitching staff is currently performing at a collective 3.07 earned-run-average. Beer, who has two wins and three saves in just five appearances, said he trusts that the offense will start scoring more and take advantage of opportunities to win game.

"The bats are going to come along because we have really good hitters and they are going to bust out of their slump," Beer said. "I know Andy [Shadid] and [Dougherty] are both potential draft guys, so they are going to hit better than they are now."

Another professional prospect is sophomore catcher Keaton Rice, who has been a big part of the team's early

success. He is hitting .308, boasts a 1.000 fielding percentage and has caught four of 15 base stealers. This summer he will play in the Cape Cod League, one of the top summer collegiate leagues in the nation.

"He's legit and does everything for us," Beer said. "He's just a brick wall back there. He's really good at like receiving the pitches and makes us look way better. We can throw balls and he will pull it right back for us."

As a catcher, Rice said he knows the importance of being a field general and leading by example. He takes on responsibility of calling the pitches for the Braves' staff behind the plate and remains patient when he's hitting, waiting for the right pitch.

Rice has the ultimate confidence in Beer, who is completely healthy for the first time in his career.

"We have a lot of strong guys coming out of the bullpen who all have plus fastballs," Rice said. "But with Allan [Beer] coming in you pretty much know the games over so I just call what his strengths are and get the hitters out."

Although Beer was the closer in his sophomore year, he has taken the next step and hasn't given up a run this season. According to Dominguez, Beer is the third iteration of Bradley's dominant closers. Beer follows the likes of Matt Dennis and Bobby Johnson, two former Bradley pitchers who are now playing professionally.

"With Allan [Beer] we always knew he had it in him," Dominguez said. "You never know how he is going to react but we have been very fortunate in that I can save him and not extend him. We have all the confidence in him and he has all the right makeup to be in that position which is a big plus."

To Beer, Bradley is more than just a place to play ball. As a civil engineering major, he said that he loves to immerse himself in a demanding field of study and play competitive Division I ball. He did not have any offers before Bradley.

"I still get super nervous [pitching] even though I'm a fifth year," Beer said.

His fear hasn't showed up in the box score and he clearly hides it when he's facing hitters.

Bradley has a RPI of 55 and will head to Las Vegas this weekend for a three-game series with UNLV. Senior Mitch Janssen will throw the first pitch at 8:05 p.m. CST.



photo via BradleyBraves.com

Fifth year reliever Allan Beer has earned a win or a save in all of his appearances this season.

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