



THE ARCHWAY

Black and Gold and Read all over

www.bryantarchway.com

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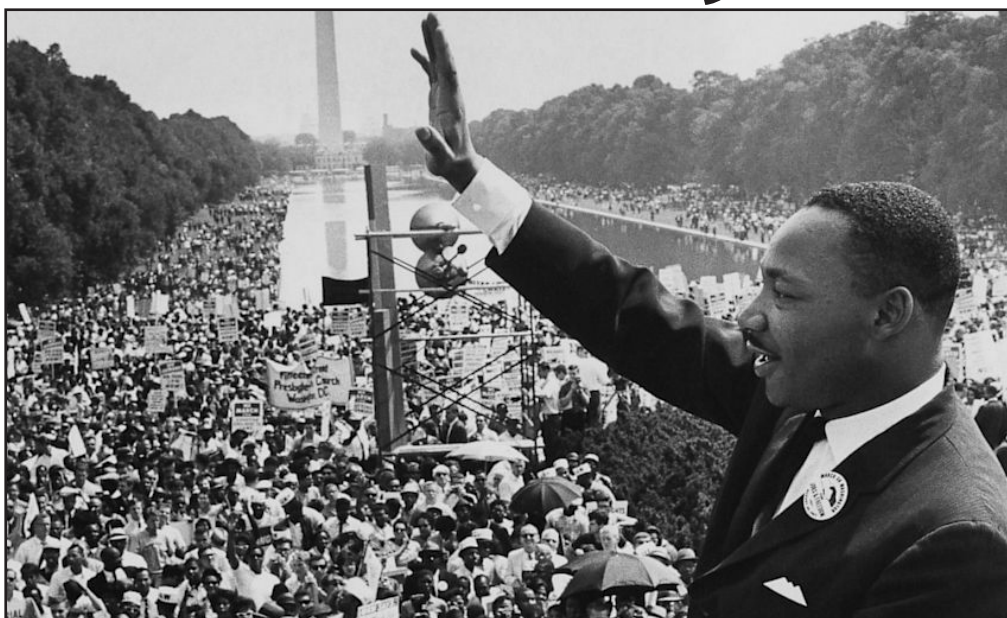
Being black at Bryant

By Marisa Ebli
Staff Writer

Today a moment of silence was held by our Multicultural Student Union in honor of the life and work of Martin Luther King, Jr. His message of equality is no less poignant today than it was fifty years ago on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. There is no doubt that progress has been made in the last half century, but few would agree that it is no longer an issue. To address this, Black History Month organizers provided a forum for this conversation. Last week, a panel of four black students was held to discuss their experiences within the Bryant community.

The panel consisted of sophomore Tyree Roulhac, juniors Paul Taylor and Tyriq Deshields, and senior Walisha Curry. Each provided a unique perspective on how their identity has been affected in their time at our university. Many topics were brought up as to what supported or challenged their identities, the differences between being a black male and black female on campus, and what the hip-hop/rap culture means to them.

The open atmosphere allowed for the panelists to share their personal stories freely. Many experienced an extreme



Martin Luther King Jr. giving the "I Have a Dream" speech on the Lincoln Memorial. (MCT Campus).

culture shock upon their arrival, having come from primarily black high schools and communities. For them, the small group of people that they found some connection

with led them to cling to this and stay strong in their black identities. On the other hand, Curry, having previously gone to a predominantly white school, expressed a

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Public speaking: stand and deliver

By Susan Baran
Faculty Contributor

It's that time of year once again, Bryant's annual Public Speaking Colloquium (PSC) is scheduled for Monday evening, March 24th at 7:00pm, with the preliminary competition planned throughout the day on Friday, March 21st. The PSC is sponsored by The Hanover Insurance Group along with the Department of Communication and the College of Arts and Science. It is organized by The Podium, Bryant's premier public speaking club.

speaker. Over \$2,000 in cash prizes will be awarded to the top six competitors on the evening of the event, with the largest cash prizes awarded to our top 3

'You don't need to be a polished public speaker to compete.'

winners - \$1200 (first prize), \$500 (second prize), and \$250 (third prize). Applications are now being accepted with limited slots available, so do not delay! All undergraduates are welcome to

job interviews, prospective employers are particularly interested in their involvement in the Colloquium.

Because many employers struggle to find qualified graduates with outstanding interpersonal skills, this is your chance to stand out amongst the many! Additionally, students have found it to be an influential factor on their graduate school applications as they attempt to "stand out" from other competing applicants.

The PSC has been called the "American Idol of public speaking." Students who attend are stunned by the talents of their peers and also benefit from seeing exactly what it takes to be an excellent presenter. Attendees also have a chance to win great prizes in the program's raffle. Last year, two lucky winners walked away with iPads.

You don't need to be a polished public speaker to compete. You just need to have an interest in becoming a better presenter and in reaping the rewards of participation. The process is simple. Once you fill out and submit your application, you will instantly receive a packet of information detailing the steps to follow in order to compete. You will first prepare a short 3-minute speech for the preliminary round to be held on Friday, March 21st in the TV studio. The speech will be on an approved topic of your choosing. Should you make the top six

and advance to the main event on Monday, March 24th, you will spend the weekend in between (3/22 and 3/23) writing a 5-6 minute speech for the finals - again on a topic you choose. It's that easy!

Participants will be notified of scheduling in advance. For example, each student will be given a time slot for the preliminaries. Even if you have class on Friday, you can still compete because you would only be required to show up for your allotted 10-minute time slot.

The judging process is very unintimidating; and whether students advance to the finals or not, each student walks away with a productive critique of their speech skills which will prove to be quite beneficial for class presentations, job interviews, and business speeches. The top six will be informed by email on the evening of the preliminaries.

Take advantage of this amazing opportunity, you could win \$1200 if chosen as Bryant's best public speaker or other significant cash prizes for being among the top six. The deadline for applications is Friday, February 28, 2014.

More information about the PSC can be obtained by contacting Podium President, Austin Beltis at abeltis@bryant.edu or by emailing the event's Director, Communication professor Susan Baran at subaran@bryant.edu. For your convenience, the application process can be completed entirely through email.



This year will mark the fifth year for this highly successful event which has attracted everyone from potential employers to alumni and local celebrities. The PSC has been featured on Channel 12's Rhode Show numerous times, and has been applauded by the academic community throughout the region.

Each year, over 50 students compete to become Bryant's best

compete. The top criteria in determining job attainment and success are communication skills - writing, critical thinking, and speaking. Students who have participated in past years have found this to be a remarkable way to jumpstart their careers. Some have been hired by major companies, thanks, in part, to their PSC participation; others have found that during



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Guidelines for Comment...
 Only articles and letters including authors' names and phone number will be considered for publication. (Phone numbers will not be printed. They are for verification purposes only.) On rare occasions, names will be withheld upon request if the editors deem there is a compelling reason to do so. No letter will be printed if the author's identity is unknown to the editors.

Letters to the Editor that are between 400 and 600 words will have the best chance of being published. Also, except in extraordinary circumstances, we will not print submissions exceeding 600 words. All submissions are printed at the discretion of the E-board. The Archway staff reserves the right to edit for length, accuracy, clarity, and libelous material.

Letters and submissions must be submitted electronically from a Bryant email address. Bryant University community members can email submissions to: archway@bryant.edu. Letters and articles can also be given to The Archway on disk. They can be left in The Archway drop box on the third floor of the Bryant Center or disks can be mailed through campus mail to box 7.

The deadline for all submissions is by 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to publication (for a complete production schedule, contact The Archway office). Late submissions will be accepted at the discretion of The Archway staff and will more than likely be held until the next issue.

Members of the Bryant community are welcome to take one copy of each edition of The Archway for free. If you are interested in purchasing multiple copies for a price of 50 cents each, please contact The Archway office. Please note that newspaper theft is a crime. Those who violate the single copy rule may be subject to disciplinary action.

Campus Calendar

February	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	2pm - MyPath Showcase, Janikies		9pm - Big Bingo! Roto				

Bulldog Bulletin

The Archway: Writers' Meetings, Mondays 5:30pm, Fisher Center Room 3
Bryant Pride: Thursdays, 5:30pm, Music Conference Room
Bryant Outdoor Adventure Club: Wednesdays, 6pm, Room 2C

**Want to see more people at your meetings or events?
 Advertise for FREE through the news feed or calendar.
 Email your club/org's information to archway@bryant.edu**

DPS Log

DRUG (POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA)
 Feb 11, 2014-Tuesday at 21:48
 Location: RESIDENCE HALL
 DPS received a report of possible drug activity in a Residence Hall. Drug paraphernalia was found and confiscated by DPS officers.

VANDALISM (SCHOOL BUILDING)
 Feb 11, 2014-Tuesday at 23:29
 Location: RESIDENCE HALL
 DPS received a call from the Residence Hall 17 elevator emergency phone stating two males were stuck inside. The Smithfield Fire Department was contacted and responded. The two males were freed from the elevator by an Atlantic Elevator technician.

VANDALISM (AUTO) VANDALISM TO AUTO(S)
 Feb 15, 2014-Saturday at 10:25
 Location: COMMUTER PARKING LOT
 DPS took a report of vandalism for a broken car window.

ASSAULT
 Feb 15, 2014-Saturday at 16:31
 Location: TOWNHOUSE
 DPS received a report of an assault in a townhouse. A fight between two room-mates was broken up by DPS—Residence Life to handle the situation.

BIAS INCIDENTS None Reported

To report a bias incident or hate crime, go to www.bryant.edu/bias or call the Bias Incident Hotline at x6920. Bias related incident is a threatened, attempted, or completed action that is motivated by bigotry and bias regarding a person's real or perceived race, religion, natural origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, or gender status. Examples of these incidents include name calling, offensive language/acts, and graffiti/behavior.



Marge - a Bryant legend

By Matthew Trelli
Staff Writer

It's a well-known fact that if you have spent any time here at Bryant University then you know Marge Yansick. For those of you who aren't aware, aside from being a campus wide celebrity, she is the gatekeeper of Salmanson Dining Hall and has been doing so for 42 years. In her time here at Bryant she has met a number of students, some of whom she is still in contact with to this very day, even after they graduated nearly 40 years ago. When asked what keeps her coming back year after year, she did not hesitate to answer, the students are the reason she loves what she does. Perhaps Marge can teach us all an important life lesson, if you enjoy what you do, you will never work a day in your life.

Marge certainly cannot forget the earlier years of her career when plastic IDs were a figment of the imagination and everyone had to be signed in by hand. One can only imagine the lunch line waiting to get into Salmo if that were still the case today. Marge also recalled being a witness to a food fight that took place in the 70s. However, being the mother of four boys, she was well equipped to handle a situation such as that and made it out unscathed. Overall, Marge has noticed a significant improvement from the students compared to back in the food fighting days. Now-a-days they are all good to her, she commented, which shouldn't be hard to do seeing as how one conversation with Marge is enough

to cheer up even the worst of days. When Marge isn't swiping students in or tearing up a crossword puzzle in the daily newspaper, she still manages to stay busy. Her weekends are occupied with volunteering at her son's workplace. It should not come as much of a surprise that she even supplies the employees with lunch. She enjoys spending whatever free time she has left reading anything she can get her hands on. With everything she does she still manages to stay dedicated to the student body. Over the course of the past 42 years she has accumulated a large number of sick days. Even her recent injury couldn't keep her away from work. Her dedication to the students here at Bryant is just another reason she found her way into the hearts of each member in the Bryant community.

For the rest of her time here and maybe there after, Marge will continue to be the face of Salmo. She has set out to reach the milestone of swiping students in until she reaches the age of 90 which seems to be plausible, especially with the relationships she has built with the students as well as her boss Shawn who is a big reason she walks into work with a smile on her face every day. It would be difficult to find someone who could disagree that a conversation with Marge is certain to brighten their day. It is staff members like her that bring together the campus and create a sense of community. Marge Yansick is arguably the best part of Salmo and her time here at Bryant is certainly appreciated. A Salmo meal wouldn't be the same without her.

**Want to get involved in *The Archway*?
 Come to FSC Room 3 on Mondays at
 5:30pm!**

www.bryantarchway.com

Got old electronics?

Participate in Bryant's Electronic Recycling Drive!

By May Vickers
Staff Writer

As part of Bryant University's ongoing participation in Recyclemania from February 2nd to March 29th, the Sustainability Ambassadors in close conjunction with the Facilities Department will be hosting an electronic recycling drive on February 25th from 9 am - 2 pm. Faculty and students can bring any of their old electronics to the Universal Waste Shed (located at the base of John Mowry Road) or the Long Island Parking Lot next to the Fisher Center. If any individuals have large electronic items such as televisions, please drive these directly to the Universal Waste Shed.

Electronic items you bring to be recycled will help Bryant University place higher in Recyclemania to beat universities such as Brown University, Babson College and the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD). Recyclemania is a nationwide competition between colleges and universities to improve waste reduction through increased recycling. Examples of acceptable electronic items include air conditioners, televisions, cell phones, circuit boards, coffee makers, computers, irons, lamps, stereos, stoves, typewriters, vacuums, video game systems and many more.

Electronic waste represents a special category of waste in Recyclemania that can be recycled to improve the University's overall recycling rate. This category differs from the other categories in the competition such as paper. Because all electronic waste can be counted, universities are encouraged to include electronics collected from the general public by working with their local communities. The category is ranked on a per capita basis and universities must use third party certification. Bryant University receives information and third party certification from Goodwill Industries of Rhode Island Free Electronics Recycling. Third party certification is necessary to avoid negative health and environmental impacts created from improper handling practices. In 2013, Stony Brook University won Recyclemania's electronic waste category by recycling 120,302 pounds of electronic waste.

According to the United States

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Americans now own approximately twenty four electronic products per household. Donating electronic waste for reuse extends the lives of valuable products and prevents valuable materials from entering the waste stream. When electronic waste is illegally dumped into the environment the mismanagement of it can lead to nickel, lead, cadmium and mercury exposure which can



pose serious risks to humans and the environment. The benefits of recycling electronics include reducing greenhouse gas emissions, reducing pollution, saving energy and saving valuable resources. By participating in the electronic recycling drive on February 25th, you are causing direct positive impacts on the environment and improving Bryant University's recycling percentage and overall sustainability efforts.

Bryant University is not responsible or liable for any information damaged or lost on items turned in during this event. University owned waste must go through the help desk to be removed from inventory and wiped of any information.

You have the power to have a direct impact on Bryant University's rank in Recyclemania for 2014! Help our university win by recycling as much as possible. For more information on this event please contact Jessica Vickers: jvickers@bryant.edu, David Leduc: dleduc@bryant.edu, or Mark Russo: mrusso8@bryant.edu.

Being black at Bryant

Continued from page 1

pressure she feels to destroy any negative connotations anyone has of black people. Overall, they have taken their experiences here as a chance to learn and represent their culture and community well.

Within the group, opinions were very much the result of qualifying identities: athlete, non-athlete, male, female, etc. Deshields and Taylor, both members of the varsity football team, had found instant brotherhood among their other black teammates, while Roulhac expressed his difficulties in finding his niche, identifying himself as a "narp," an non-athletic regular person. At first the idea of self-identifying as a "narp" got a laugh, usually a term only used by athletes, but when he shared that someone in a group had once asked him how he had even gotten into Bryant without being an athlete, hearts stopped. Even though it was asked without malice, it is difficult not to feel the implications of these words.

One of the most engaging conversations was the topic of hip/hop and rap culture. Many of the panelists expressed that they see rap music as a depiction of black culture and that is why they listen to it, because they resonate in some way with the artists' words. This inevitably led to "the N-word." The tension in the room skyrocketed as the panelists grasped at explaining what it meant to them. Many in the audience expressed their extreme disgust at the use of the word. The panel responded with, it depends. The fine line between a term of affection between close friends and a terrible racial slur did not become any clearer as the hour ran out.

Obviously this is a very small pool of black students at Bryant, but it makes their experiences and opinions no less valid. There is still a need for more support of black culture and students on the Bryant campus. The panelists suggested a need for a change to include their history in the curriculum, not simply how it affected white American or European history, but to be given the time it deserves. An increase in scholarships was also suggested to give more intelligent black students the chance at a higher education.

We should consider then, as we enter the second half of Black History Month, if we are still heading towards the same dream Dr. King set forth fifty years ago. Is reclaiming a word that was the epitome of degradation empowering blacks against years of discrimination or is history being forgotten? Either way, discussion between cultures and communities is the only way progress is made. Black History Month co-Chair Desire Marshall wants people to know this is not just a conversation among black people, BHM is for everyone. We must move past perceptions of one another to celebrate the progress of the movement and the culture of black America.



By Gianna Romito and Renate Isvak
Contributing Writers

Hello Bryant University Students! During the past couple of weeks the Student Senate has been overwhelmed by the various complaints and new/current events that have been happening on campus. As many of you know, winter is in full swing and the amount of snow in the parking lots as well as on the walkways has been quite a challenge for students entering and exiting campus. Many of the students have come to various Senators asking what we could do about the situation. I can assure you that all complaints regarding the snow has been mentioned and will be brought up to facilities. In the meantime, the Student Senate still continues with important university topics as scheduled.

During last week's 2/5 Student Senate meeting, Jeawon Back, member of the 2016 class, was formally sworn into the Student Senate to fill the vacant 2016 chair. The seat was formally vacated a month ago. The Student Senate genuinely looks forward to working with Back for the rest of the 2013-2014 term.

In addition, many clubs came forward for various Requests. The Men's Soccer Club came forward with a new Club Constitution and was formally recognized by the Student Senate as a new club on campus. There are currently 80 active members in the Men's Soccer Club. Within those 80 members, elections will be held later on to designate the remaining e-board positions. The club already designated a captain. At present the club has a practice location, necessary equipment, and a club practice schedule. The club will practice but will not formally compete as of yet.

Several clubs and organizations also came forward for Requests for Additional Funding during the 2/5 Student Senate meeting. These include CEO, Men's Volleyball, and the Wrestling Club. CEO requested funding in order to fund Sodexo catering and miscellaneous items, including name tags, for their conference. Men's Volleyball requested funding in order to stay at a hotel while they compete during their tournament. The Wrestling Club requested funding for equipment necessary to continue as a club on campus. All of their Requests for Additional Funding were passed.

Men's Crew also came forward with a Request for Initial Funding to initiate their recently formed club, which was also passed. They requested this funding in order to purchase a rack for their boat, which would be damaged during storage otherwise.

During Committee Reports, the Student Services Committee announced that they are trying to change Salmanson's dining hours and are discussing said changes with Shawn Monahan. Any progress in negotiation will be announced.

Discussed at this week's 2/12 Student Senate meeting were several subjects from previous meetings. In continuation of the dorm improvement project, the surveys administered to Bryant students have been collected and are being counted. There will be an open forum at the Fisher Student Center in Papitto at 4:00pm on Wednesday 2/20 with Residence Life Staff to discuss the results. This will be a part of this week's regular Senate Meeting. It is important to attend to voice your opinion about key points where the Student Senate should focus their attention during the dorm enhancing process.



@TheArchway

2.21.14
&
2.22.14

WINTER WEEKEND 2014

FRIDAY
10AM - 2PM
FREE HOT COCO, COOKIE DECORATING & DIY WINDOW GELS - FISHER STUDENT CENTER

4PM - 8PM
CHOCOLATE FOUNTAIN, DIY SUGAR SCRUB, DIY CHAPTSTICK, FREE BLANKETS RAFFLE FOR BINGO - FISHER STUDENT CENTER

9PM
BIG BINGO - ROTO

SATURDAY
12PM - 4PM
TUBING SLIDE, DECORATE A MUG, ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR, WINTER OLYMPICS OBSTACLE COURSE - FISHER STUDENT CENTER

4PM - 8PM
DECORATE & DRAWSTRING BAG SNOWMAN FISHBOWL VASES, HOT CHOCOLATE BAR, FREE LONG SLEEVE SHIRTS, SMORES BAR - FISHER STUDENT CENTER

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Do it yourself: Dorm Room Treat Brownies

By Bradley Padula
Staff Writer

During the cold winter months nothing tastes better than a warm, freshly made brownie. All you need to make one yourself is six simple ingredients and a microwave safe mug. In a few minutes you can make yourself this sweet treat. One quick trip to the supermarket and under \$15 later, you can have supplies to make 7 or more brownies in a mug. You will need...

- 4 tablespoons flour
- 4 tablespoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons water
- 2 tablespoons cocoa powder
- 2 tablespoons butter
- pinch of salt

Optional ingredients: pinch of cinnamon, a few drops of vanilla extract, or chocolate chips

1. Take your mug and place the water, flour, butter (melted), and pinch of salt inside. Stir well until mixed.

2. Add cocoa powder and sugar, stir until smooth.

3. Place in microwave for 60 seconds. Remove and check for how well it is cooked. The brownie should be thoroughly cooked. If needed, cook at additional 10 second increments until it is done.



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The Archway
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stands midday on
**Wednesday this
semester!**
We hope you pick one
up then!

Her Campus Bryant

Celebrating another birthday

By Daneille Freeman
Contributing Writer



About two years ago, Hillary Coombs and Makena Sage heard about Her Campus, an online community for college women written entirely by the nation's top college journalists, and took a leap of faith to start a chapter here at Bryant. The two Her Campus Bryant founders met through their on-campus jobs as Research Assistants in the OPIR office.

Part of Bryant University's plan for the year 2020 is to increase female enrollment to 50 percent. Her Campus became their contribution to help Bryant succeed in this plan. The idea behind starting a Her Campus chapter at Bryant was to create a new outlet for females on campus to express their feminine and creative sides. Both Sage and Coombs are firm believers in the importance of developing female leaders. Their hopes were that Her Campus Bryant would become the perfect community for women at Bryant to not only come together and meet, but also connect through the articles written.

The fruits of their labor can be seen today as Her Campus Bryant has become a very well-known organization on campus. The organization went from being just ten girls to now having over 60 members, and being one of the top chapters in the nation, also known as a "Pink Level" chapter. Hillary explains what it felt like to see her creation become a top chapter in the nation, "Attaining PINK Level Status is an amazing example of how great Her Campus has been for the Bryant University community. Our readers are through the roof and we have not stopped growing since the day we launched two years ago. Not only do I love seeing Her Campus Bryant succeed but the University as a whole has contributed to our growth and expansion."

By serving as a creative outlet for Bryant's female population, Her Campus allows girls to meet weekly and discuss

what's worth talking about for the week. This can include world news, fashion trends, sex related blogs, and celebrity drama, the purpose being to allow girls to talk about, write about, and read about topics that really interest them.

The organization has hosted multiple awareness events, such as the screening of Girl Rising, a film that features the stories of nine young women who have overcome struggle and actively participate in women's rights movements. One year ago, on Valentine's Day, Her Campus Bryant partnered with Toby Simon, director of the Gertrude Meth Hochberg Women's Center, to bring awareness to One Billion Rising. It is a global campaign to bring women everywhere together to put an end to violence against women, rape, and inequality. As a group, they stood in the rotunda, all wearing red, and put one finger up in the air.

As Her Campus Bryant prepares to celebrate its second birthday this month, female faculty members on campus reflect on how bringing Her Campus to our community has made a difference at Bryant. Toby Simon, has been a great contributor to the organization over the past two years. When asked her opinion on the success of Her Campus at Bryant, Toby replied with, "Her Campus has been a wonderful addition to the women's community at Bryant. The women who work diligently on the publication are incredible! I love the interactions that our Hochberg Women's Center has with them as well as the collaborations on projects. We hope they'll be around to celebrate another two years!"

Join Her Campus Bryant and Tupper for a joint birthday party in the rotunda on Thursday, February 27. Celebrate the hard work that has gone into this organization, and strides Bryant has taken to raise the percentage of female enrollment.

Kelsie's Korner Monster Cookies

By Kelsie Hollenbeck
Staff Writer

Getting tired of your boring chocolate chip cookies? Monster cookies can fix that. Even though they're called "monster cookies," don't be alarmed. These cookies are not scary... unless you're a calorie counter, in which case they'll be your worst nightmare! Filled with chocolate chips, peanut butter chips, creamy peanut butter, M&Ms, oats, and vanilla pudding (You read that right: vanilla pudding!), these cookies truly live up to their name: they're oversized and pack a punch! There is a little bit of everything in them, so there's no way your taste buds will complain about boredom. One tiny bite yields massive flavor as six all-star ingredients meld to create one of the most delectable cookies on the planet. To be honest, I didn't know how vanilla pudding would pair with peanut butter and chocolate, but it actually blends quite well and boosts both flavor and texture! And Monster Cookies make no scanty snack. Your stomach will be full just after one bite of these bad boys. And the flavor will stay with you long after you've scarfed down the last crumb. You will absolutely want more! This recipe will definitely be a hit at your next party; you'll be asked back for these cookies alone! Now, worried about those boring chocolate chip cookies feeling left out, abandoned? No worries; they won't feel neglected. They'd be all for the upgrade, if they, too, could try monster cookies.

Ingredients:

1 1/2 c. all-purpose flour
1 box (3.4oz) vanilla pudding
1 tsp. baking soda
1 stick of butter, softened
1/2 c. creamy peanut butter
2/3 c. brown sugar
1/2 c. granulated sugar
1-2 eggs
2 tsp. vanilla
1/2 c. quick cooking oats
1 c. mini M&Ms
1/2 c. chocolate chips
1/2 c. peanut butter chips

Additional Comments:

Sometimes the cookie mix comes out a little dry... to fix this, add two eggs instead of one! Also, the pudding mix comes straight from the box. DO NOT make the pudding; just add the dry mix to the cookie mixture.

Directions:

- 1) Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- 2) In a medium bowl, combine flour, baking soda, and vanilla pudding mix and set aside.
- 3) In a mixer, cream together (on medium speed) butter, peanut butter, and sugars until light and fluffy (about 5 minutes).
- 4) Add eggs and vanilla. Reduce to low speed and add flour (dry) mixture. Mix until just combined.
- 5) Add oats, M&Ms, chocolate chips, and peanut butter chips. The batter should be thick enough to work with and roll between your fingers.
- 6) Spray the baking sheet with Pam, and scoop a 2 tbsp. ball. (I used a 1-inch cookie scoop and combined two cookie balls to make one). You want these cookies to be large, and they spread very little.
- 7) Roll into ball shape between palms, and space cookies 2 inches apart on baking sheet. Slightly press down on cookie balls to flatten.
- 8) Bake for 10 minutes. Let cool for 5 minutes before transferring to cooling rack.



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Flappy Bird - the addiction

By Ashley Smith
Staff Writer



Have you played? If you have, I'm sure that question may seem strange to you. There comes a point where it doesn't even seem like a game anymore. It's a priority, a nagging sensation that takes over in every second of down time that you have. The satisfaction of raising your highest score just one point keeps you coming back. You find other things in life not as meaningful as before, the greatest satisfaction comes from the pixels on your phone screen that were put together with the attempt to resemble a small bird. Just as you're about to give up and get rid of it forever, you reach the next level and are immediately sucked back in.

A game as addictive as this, we would assume is a great success for the developer. However, this wasn't the case. Developer Dong Nguyen received death threats and accusations that the success was all driven by computer "bots," a PR stunt for a larger game studio, or simply criticized the graphics for being similar to Nintendo's Super Mario. On February 8th, Nguyen tweeted, "I am sorry 'Flappy Bird' users, 22 hours from now, I will take 'Flappy Bird' down. I cannot take this anymore." And that is what he did. The app was removed from app stores making it impossible to download Flappy Bird. However, the people that already had it downloaded were able to keep it. This is where it gets interesting.

Look at your phone. How many scratches or imperfections does it have? How much do you think it is worth as a used phone? Probably not much. But wait, do you have Flappy Bird installed? It might be worth more than it was when you

bought it brand new. Right after Flappy Bird was taken off the market, people began putting phones with Flappy Bird installed on eBay. No big deal, you'd think, until you'd see that they were priced at thousands of dollars.

So what? No one could possibly pay that much simply for a free, discontinued app on a used phone! Wrong! There were bids on the phones for as high as \$14,900 after 26 bids on a Sprint iPhone 5 16GB with the app installed, and it still had eight hours left on the auction. Also, an iPhone 5s simply advertised as "Flappy installed bird" had five bids at \$8,100. There are even phones with a "buy it now" option of \$20,000 all the way to \$40,000. So, how much is your phone really worth?

Don't rush off and try selling your Flappy Bird phone on eBay, though. Apparently eBay has put a stop to the selling of phones with the app installed. It is said that they do not allow the sales to occur because it goes against their listing policies. Essentially, selling copyrightable material, like an app, without permission from the creator, Dong Nguyen in this case, is not allowed on eBay. Some of them may have gone through, but more recently people have been getting their auctions pulled from the online marketplace with an e-mail being sent to them stating, "Smartphones and tablets must be restored to factory settings before they are allowed to be sold on eBay. Please remove all content from your device, including the game Flappy Bird, before you attempt to list your item again. Please be sure your current and future listings follow these guidelines, keeping in mind that additional violations of this policy could result in the suspension of your account." Therefore it is easy to see that eBay does not approve nor take these actions lightly. However, don't fret; sales are still occurring on Amazon for as much as \$100,000. Whether or not Amazon will allow this much longer is unclear, but there is always Craigslist and other online market places if you really want to turn a profit on your now-valuable used phone!

Olympic sponsors for gold

By Ronald Wagner
Contributing Writer

Every two years, athletes from all around the world gather in one city for the Olympic Games with only one goal in mind, the gold. A time where athletes all gather to prove who trained the hardest, sweated the most, overcame the greatest adversity, and gave it their all. It is also a time for the world to come together for what is one of the greatest sources of entertainment to ever see television. But are our expectations of the Olympics too high?

According to the New York Times, the total cost for Olympic Games has reached record setting marks including \$50 billion (Sochi, Russia 2014), \$19 billion (London, England 2012), and \$40 billion (Beijing, China 2008).

How will the International Olympic Committee deal with the rising costs of the Games? The answer falls into the hands of brands such as Coca-Cola, McDonalds, BMW, and more. If sponsorship does not take on a larger role in funding the Olympic Games, we may see a decline in the amount of effort that goes into hosting the worldwide event.

Olympic advertisements funded about 40 percent of the cost to stage the London Olympics in 2012. Though this

is a relatively large amount of money when considering how much goes into funding the Olympic Games, it is not nearly enough to underwrite the Games in Sochi which cost over \$50 billion.

New policies set by the International Olympic Committee in 1984 stopped a problem that could have potentially ruined the reputation of the Games if further continued. The Olympic Games started to see more competitiveness between its sponsors than it did its athletes. Sponsors had resorted to bribing athletes to utilize their products before, during, and after their events in order to give that product publicity around the world.

Competing sponsors Adidas and Puma, forcefully tried to persuade track athletes to wear their shoes over the competing brand during events in the 1968 Mexico City Games. Coaxing tactics included stuffing thousands of dollars into brand shoes in order to influence the athlete to wear them during events. Blatantly ignoring Olympic regulations, shoe companies distributed approximately \$100,000 in cash and over \$350,000 in shoes and gear during the 1968 Olympic Games according to CBC News.

With sponsors clearly abusing their rights in partnership

with the Olympic Games, the International Olympic Committee created a global sponsorship program named "The Olympic Partners" (TOP). TOP reduced the total number of Olympic Games sponsors to 35 total promoters. The program was created to ensure that the right sponsors are represented during the worldwide broadcasted Olympic events.

According to CBC News, during the London Olympic Games in 2012, all cars were distributed by BMW and all sodas were supplied by Coca-Cola. In addition, the only french-fries on the entire premises were provided by McDonald's.

So what is the next step for the International Olympic Committee? More money needs to be generated for the Olympic Games to avoid lowering worldwide expectations.

The International Olympic Committee could raise the number of sponsors allowed at the Olympic Games, but this would also lessen the value of those paying nearly \$100 million to be an exclusive official sponsor. The only way I foresee a successful increase in funds is to charge more to be an official sponsor of the Olympic Games, a title, for example, Coca-Cola does not want billion-dollar corporate rival, Pepsi, to possess.

Eyewear Headache

By Nicholas Calabro
Staff Writer

There is a lot of new technology in the world today, but we must be cautious with it, because we may not know the possible harm from using it too much. The case in point here is Google Glasses, which have reportedly been causing some people to have headaches. The Google Glasses bring the Internet up close and personal. This was likely to make the device more convenient, but it all comes with a price. This is because, you are essentially looking at a computer all day, which can lead to eyestrain.

Google itself has acknowledged these problems with their newest device, and have stated precautions that should be taken by any possible users of their product. Google says the glasses, "could harm vision that is still developing, so nobody under the age of thirteen should be using it." In addition, people who have had eye surgery in the past should avoid using the product.

Another problem is that, for Google Glasses, you cannot turn off what actually causes the eyestrain and/or headaches, without changing how the device works. Given that Google may not be able to fix these problems soon, it is suggested that people ease themselves into using Google Glasses. But, what happens when this advice is ignored?

An explorer, Chris Barrett, used to wear these all the time because he was that impressed with the novelty. He told CNET that he experienced two headaches not long after he started to wear Google Glasses, "The first headache came during the first week of wearing the Glasses. I was wearing them every day, all day long." He said that the second headache came around four to five weeks later, while being filmed for a Korean documentary. He said he was wearing the device for upwards of eight hours a day."

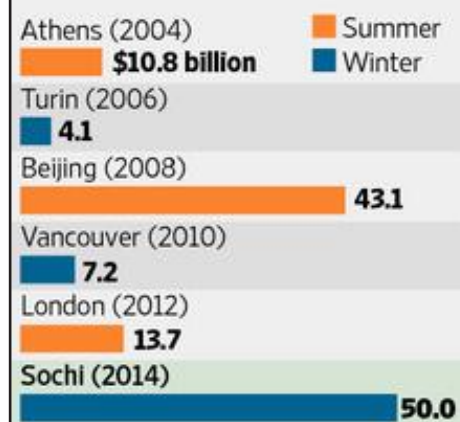
After the second headache, Barrett decided to see if he was the only one who had this experience with the Google Glasses, since he reportedly tends to not get headaches, and he was not. Again, Google itself has encouraged potential consumers to ease into using these Glasses, but they also denied, "their Glasses are inherently likely to cause headaches." A Google spokesperson has also told CNET that they have, "been working with eye care professionals from the very beginning to ensure that the device is safe for use."

In other words, this was not something malicious on Google's part. Rather, they made the mistake of not anticipating the kind of usage exhibited by Barrett and others. In an ironic twist, they have done something too well. Indeed, the moral is, that we must exercise restraint when we are introduced to something new, for we may not know what the unintended consequences could be.

Graph of the week

Going for the Gold

Costs to host countries for recent Olympic Games*



*Converted at exchange rate for the month the games started; includes infrastructure projects as well as cost of games

Sources: news reports (Vancouver); estimates from host country officials
The Wall Street Journal

Weekly Business Quote

"It's very important for leaders in business to work to create human capital, a team that has the same sense of purpose and alignment."

- Carlos Slim

Kings of the NEC: Bulldogs baseball ready to defend their conference crown

By Danielle Scheur
Contributing Writer

Following a year of history - making, ring - winning, and an unbelievable overall team effort, the Bryant Baseball team is starting up their 2014 season this weekend. The team has been looking forward to this day and cannot wait to begin.

We all can look back at last spring as a time that will forever be a part of history for the Bulldogs. In their first year eligible for post-season playoffs, the Bulldogs did nothing but exceed expectations in their 2013 season.

After starting off a little rocky in the NEC playoffs, the bulldogs became the 2013 ring winners over Sacred Heart in the finals. The team was nothing but thrilled as they came back to an empty campus in May to continue their training and learn where they would be going next to compete for their dreams in hopes to reach the College World Series.

The Bulldogs flew all the way to Kansas eager to compete in their first Regionals. Although they did not make it past

Regionals, the Bulldogs made history and gave themselves a great start at their first year of competing post-season. They are working even harder now to be more successful than last year, and hope to record more history for Bryant Baseball.

Craig Schlitter, a senior captain, plays a huge role in the pitching staff for the Bulldogs. He has played a major role for the team since his freshman year, and is eager to start his last season as a senior. With a lot of experience behind him, Schlitter will help lead the team in hopes of having an extremely successful 2014 season.

"Coming off a season where we accomplished many goals, we have been working even harder this year to exceed our expectations" said Schlitter, "We are all very excited about the season and can't wait for the first game."

The Bulldogs were recently picked first in the NEC preseason poll to repeat their success of last year. Schlitter said "with our team getting so much recognition throughout the nation, it is important that we keep level heads and focus



Bulldogs pitcher Craig Schlitter will be one of the major players in defending Bryant's NEC title (MCT Campus)

on our goal, which is an NEC championship."

The Bulldogs are recognized as a dominant team in the Northeast Conference all due to their hard work, team coherence, and talent. Their style of play and team effort is taught by head Coach Steve Owens, who was chosen last season as the Northeast Coach of the Year by the American Baseball Coaches Association.

This team, along with many other successful teams here at Bryant such as Men's Lacrosse and Men's Basketball, has helped spread the name of our school outside of the NEC and across the country. With playing games last year in other regions such as Oregon, Ohio and Kansas, they have helped spread the Bryant University name and have gotten a lot of recognition after making it into Regionals.

With ten newcomers, there will be new talent added into the crew after losing some major role players on the team last year. The upper classmen have and will continue to show the new members what the team is about, and will hopefully lead them to another championship that they can experience firsthand. The new Bulldogs will be led by many teammates with great experience at a high level of play. Many members of the team have played with great players across the nation through their summer league teams, and some had great experiences as members of the Cape Cod League and the NECBL.

The Bulldogs will be opening up this weekend on the 21st of February, at the University of Maryland at College Park. They will be heading south to Maryland for a four-game series that the team has been preparing for since the end of the season last May. The first home game will be played midweek on March 18th against UMASS Lowell, and the first home series will be played against Albany starting on Friday the 28th of March.

Where's Rondo going? All-star point guard could be moved at the deadline

By Justin Beaucage
Sports Editor

During the offseason, the Boston Celtics were one of the busiest teams, beginning their rebuilding process. Boston sent away their second leading scorer in franchise history, Paul Pierce, and forward Kevin Garnett. The trade suggested one thing about the Celtics: they are ready to move on from the past and start building a new, young team around younger players.

So, the cornerstone of this team will be built around young, All-Star point guard Rajon Rondo, right? Not quite.

Ever since he broke out as one of the top point guards in the NBA, it seems like Rondo has been on the trade block. The 4-time All-Star has been linked to many teams over the past couple of seasons. His explosive play, superb ball-handling, and highlight-reel assists have made him one of the deadliest point guards in the league. The rest of the NBA knows that, and many teams have done as much as they could to try to lure Rondo away from Boston. Despite this, the Celtics stayed strong, and kept him as the leader of the franchise for all these seasons.

However, as this NBA trade deadline approaches, something must finally give, and Rondo may call a new place home this season.

Rondo just recently returned this season after suffering an ACL tear last year. He struggled to find his offensive rhythm in the early weeks, as he had to shake the rust off. In the last couple of games, Rondo has finally found his groove. In his last two games, Rondo has averaged over 15 points and 8 assists. His PER has increased to 16.17, which is ten points higher than when he initially returned.



Celtics point guard Rajon Rondo could finally be traded this week (MCT Campus)

The Celtic's phones have been ringing about trade offers since Rondo has improved his play. Before, general manager Danny Ainge has insisted that his best player wouldn't be traded. However, this season is a different story. As the team is in re-build mode, Ainge has not shot down chances of Rondo being shipped out. Even though Ainge is more reluctant, the asking price is quite high for Rondo. The team wouldn't consider trading him without two first-round picks being offered to start, and then a high-impact role player to go with it.

Even with Celtics' demand, there are still teams that are interested in Rondo's services. There are teams that will be calling right up until the deadline to convince the Celtics to trade Rondo. Rondo is looking to go to a contender, and the Celtics are ready to start from scratch and build an entire new team. With that being said, here are the top teams that would be most interested in Rajon Rondo as the trade deadline approaches (from

least likely to most):

6. Toronto Raptors: The Raptors are on the brink of their first playoff berth in a long time. In a lackluster Eastern Conference, Rondo could help this team make a leap as one of the top offenses in the East. The Raptors would have to give up draft picks, point guard Kyle Lowry, and another role player for this trade to even be considered.

5. Sacramento Kings: The Kings are one of the few teams that have already made an offer to Boston for Rondo. The deal was Ben McLemore, Isaiah Thomas, and a first round draft pick for Rondo, and two of the team's bench players. As enticing as the offer was, the Celtics turned down the trade. Rondo was reluctant to sign with the Kings, as they have been one of the worst teams in the West this season.

4. Houston Rockets: Last offseason, Rondo was linked to Houston to complete a championship caliber roster. Rondo could still be the final piece to a title in

Houston. The Rockets have some really great role players, including center Omer Asik, to help Boston with this rebuilding process. This move would be scary, as the combination of Rondo-to-Dwight Howard could be another "Lob City" just waiting to happen.

3. New York Knicks: There are so many rumors about Rondo going to the Knicks, people might think he's already been traded there. The Knicks have been trying to steal Rondo from the Celtics for many seasons now. However, the Knicks don't have the pieces or the draft picks to offer Boston a good deal for Rondo. Boston hasn't heard the last from New York about Rondo, as the Knicks hope to acquire him to keep Carmelo Anthony in New York.

2. Detroit Pistons: This deal would make sense for both teams. Detroit has to clear up a loaded backcourt, and Boston needs rebounding help. Forward Greg Monroe would give the Celtics the big man they need, and Rondo would be the point guard Detroit needs to help distribute the ball. A frontcourt of Rondo and Brandon Jennings, who is a great shooter, would be dangerous.

1. Phoenix Suns: Although the Suns are loaded at point guard, this is the only team that has the pieces to trade for Rondo. Phoenix has two first round picks available, and also has young role players that would fit in the Celtics' offense. If the Suns shipped off the two first round picks and one of their guards, Goran Dragic or Eric Bledsoe, this could be a move that would help the 7th seeded Suns become a legitimate playoff contender in the West.

Although the trade may seem unlikely, the Celtics moving Rondo could help another team become one of the best in the NBA.

2014 preview of the Red Sox's pitching staff

By Mark Gallant
Contributing Writer

One area where the Boston Red Sox have plenty of depth for this season and the future is starting pitching. Although this is good news for Sox fans, manager John Farrell will need to decide what five guys to put in the rotation, which may become increasingly difficult as the season progresses.

Jon Lester will most likely get the ball on opening day, which would mark the fourth straight time for the lefty. Lester posted 15 wins last season with a 3.75 ERA, and was the only Boston pitcher with over 200 innings pitched. However, his solid regular season pales in comparison to his postseason numbers, where he had a 1.56 ERA and won both games he pitched against the Cardinals in the World Series.

Clay Buchholz is coming off a season that could have been Cy Young worthy if he had stayed healthy, which should be his goal this upcoming year. A strained neck was the main cause of a three month stint on the disabled list, limiting him to only 16 starts on the year. Many questioned the 29 year old's toughness for taking off as much time as he did, so it will be interesting how he handles any injuries in 2014.

John Lackey will most likely be back in his number three role after a great bounceback season in 2013. Lackey, who was highly criticized during the 2012 locker room disaster, a year in which he did not pitch due to Tommy John surgery, showed up at spring training last year in terrific shape. The thinner Lackey had a



Boston pitcher John Lackey will look to improve upon his surprise 2013 season
(MCT Campus)

very solid return, posting a 3.52 ERA and a 4.03 strikeout to walk ratio, which was sixth highest in the American League.

The four and five slots could have a number of potential suitors after spring training is finished, but for now, Jake Peavy and Felix Doubront are the front-runners.

Peavy, who was acquired by the Red Sox in exchange for Jose Iglesias in a three-team trade on July 30th, is past his prime, but has the ability to be a top of the rotation quality pitcher. The former Cy Young Award winner for San Diego was inconsistent during his stay in

Boston, posting a 4.04 ERA in ten regular season games along with an unimpressive postseason, which included a loss to Detroit where he allowed seven runs over three innings. Peavy turns 33 in May, so he should still have plenty left in the tank despite declining numbers over the past few years.

Doubront will also be looking to solidify a starting job after a shaky end last year. The 26 year old lefty was very reliable for much of the season, including a stretch of 16 starts in which he did not allow more than three earned runs. However, the Venezuelan had a tough

go of things in September, allowing 17 earned runs in 15.2 innings, ballooning his season's ERA from 3.74 to 4.32. Doubront was a very critical asset during the ALCS and World Series, however, coming out of the bullpen four times and only allowing one run. Perhaps he is more suited for a long relief role, but Farrell could very well want a second lefty in his rotation to supplement Lester.

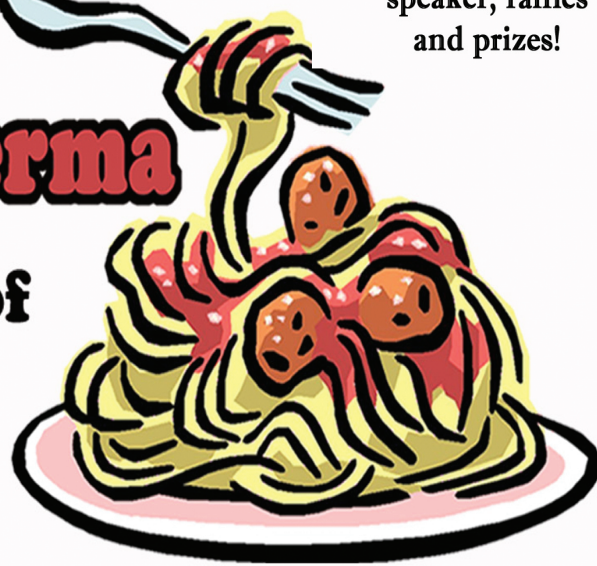
Several younger players and prospects will be trying to earn the occasional spot start and establish themselves in the big leagues. Brendan Workman did just that last year, making three starts and several relief appearances after being called up in July. Workman was his best in the playoffs, making seven appearances and allowing no earned runs.

Two prospects the Red Sox received from the Dodgers in the blockbuster trade two seasons ago will be looking for more regular playing time in Boston after having cups of coffee last year. Allen Webster wasn't great in his seven starts at the MLB level, but the 24 year old still has plenty of time to improve and should be more comfortable this year. Rubby De La Rosa, who saw bullpen work late last season, will be making starts during the spring and could also see starts later in the year if he can perform well in Pawtucket.

Other prospects include the highly touted Anthony Ranaudo, Henry Owens, and Matt Barnes. While we may not see all of them this season, these three youngsters all have bright futures and should be exciting to watch at Fort Myers.

Alpha Omicron Pi's 1st Annual Spaghetti for Scleroderma

**A Benefit in Loving Memory of
Wendy Coleman Frazier**
Please join the sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi
on February 28th at 5:30 in Papitto at the
Fisher Student Center at Bryant University
1150 Douglas Pike, Smithfield, RI 02917
to support the Scleroderma Foundation!



Event will include an
Italian buffet, comedian
performance, guest
speaker, raffles
and prizes!



The disease has touched each one of us in some way and would love the opportunity to open our hearts and help raise awareness and support for this tragic and incurable disease.

On May 20, 2013, our sister, Victoria Frazier, lost her Mom to a disease called scleroderma, a rare auto-immune disease that can cause hardening of both internal and external organs. Without warning, she lost her best friend, her hero, and her rock. She was only 51 years old.

Please Contact Victoria Frazier (vfrazier@bryant.edu)
or Lauren Colbath (lcolbath@bryant.edu) with any questions!

Tickets

Available on EventBrite
(using the QR code shown) OR
Feb 18th & 24th
in the FSC from 10-2
accepting cash, check or credit

Adults - \$25
Students - \$15
Children - \$10
Children under 3 free



Bryant University

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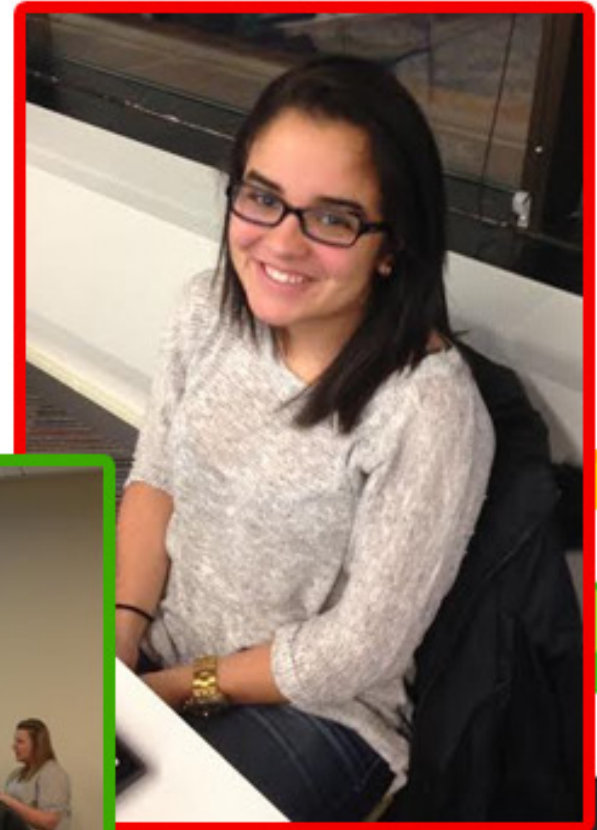


"WHAT OLYMPIC EVENT ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO?"



ABBY TEICHERT
SOPHOMORE
"SKI RACING"

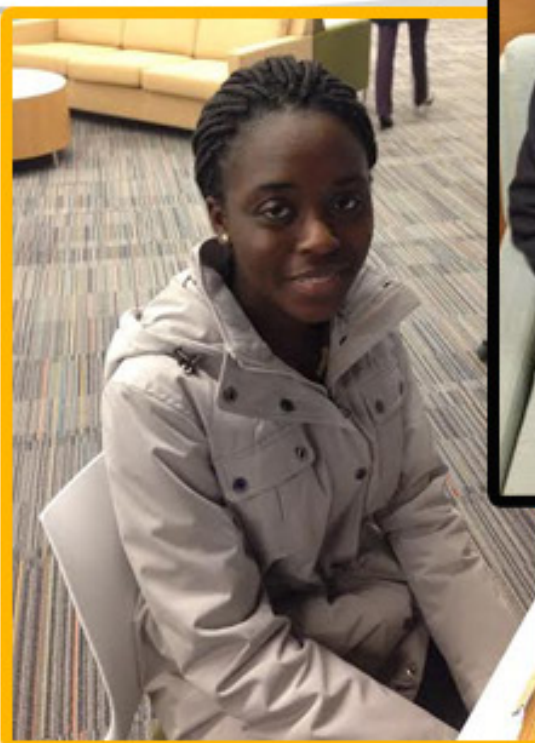
MARIANA CONTRERAS
SOPHOMORE
"FIGURE SKATING"



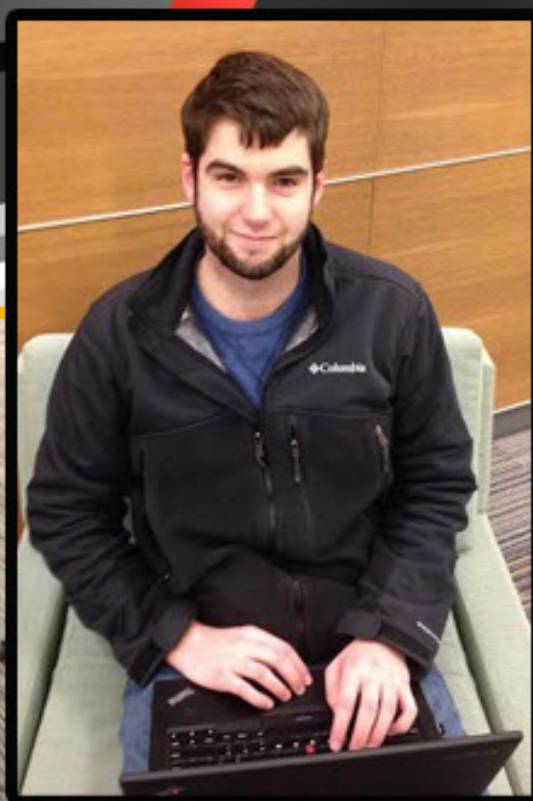
PARKER ZANGHI - CLARK
SOPHOMORE
"DOWNHILL SKIING"



PRISCA KAKAO
SOPHOMORE
"SNOWBOARDING"



STEVEN TOWNER
FRESHMAN
"SKI SHOOTING"



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Communication covers it all

By Christine Forte
Contributing Writer

Not knowing what you want to do with your college career is scary...just flat out frightening. How are you supposed to know what you want to do with your entire life up until retirement in just 4 years? ESPECIALLY when you're only 18 years old!

Those were my exact 18-year-old-self thoughts. I was completely lost and I had no idea whose advice to follow. I figured following my guidance counselor's advice was useless because I had no interest in being a guidance counselor. Why would I listen to my parents when they did not even have bachelor's degrees? How could I follow in my sister's artistic footsteps when I am not even half as good of an artist as she is?! These thoughts and questions were simmering inside my head.

Everyone seemed to know what they wanted to study right out of high school. If they were not going to college, they moved on to do some sort of trade that they were good at and could make money doing. Sometimes I thought about doing just that: train to be a hairdresser or beautician or something related - which is so incredibly unlike

me. Thank goodness I decided not to go down that route for the sake of my would-have-been clients, might I add. SO - the college visitation process began, as did the application process, followed by the acceptance letter anticipation.

Most of the schools I applied to were schools that my parents liked, schools that my friends applied to, or schools that gave me waived application fees. In my mind, I guess I just did not think I was incredibly talented or interested or passionate about any one particular thing.

Getting acceptance letter after acceptance letter gave me confidence: even if I was so completely lost that I could have been trekking through the Antarctic, I was still smart enough to be able to have options to choose my school.

Drum roll, please... OBVIOUSLY, Bryant was the final decision. I came into school undeclared and nervous about my future, and I eventually chose the communication field. It encompasses everything!

So, you want to be a marketing wiz? Okay, learn how make your marketing team effective. You've changed your mind and want to be an entrepreneur? Sure! Now try to appropriately tell your business

partner that you no longer want to be in business with them. You think accounting suits you well? How will you take social responsibility when a crisis befalls because of incorrect bookkeeping? Communication can inform you about all these issues - it can be applied to any field.

Although it may have taken me two entire years as a college undergrad to declare my major, making the decision to study communication was an easy one. How could I not choose the one area of study that would allow me to branch into so many other fields?

This, my friends, is what makes communication so beautiful and awesome: I learned that I am not restricted to just one interest in my studies. I have taken communication courses related to many different interests ranging from the interpersonal field to the mass communication field all the way to the studio production field. The most significant thing that communication allowed me to do was to be more independent and travel the world.

That whole semester that I spent studying abroad in Firenze, Italy was the absolute BEST thing I could have ever done. I was able to experience

communication on a completely different level as a foreigner: I observed, I learned, and then I acted. Discovering how a different country communicates, lives, and thrives as a culture is something everyone should be able to experience.

The personal stories I got to create as a study abroad student are the ones that I will tell for many years to come. Communication is the basis for the creation of these stories - without my knowledge of it, my experiences may not have been as fulfilling. Unless there are compelling reasons holding someone back from studying abroad, it really is a shame to not do it. Everyone deserves the experience.

I have come to mature at Bryant University through the communication department as a writer, a listener, a scholar, a friend, a sister and a daughter, a student, an employee, an athlete, and human being. Merging that list into the bigger outlook, I can say and know that I have become an efficient, effective, and successful communicator.

I learned through my communication experiences that not knowing what you want to do with the rest of your life is quite alright - I have met plenty of adults who have reminded me

that they are still unsure about what they want to do. . . even if they have been an auditor for the past forty years! This is the best news any person looking for opportunity in the world could hear.

Without purposely trying to sound cliché, there are so many paths for us to choose from in life. For me, going to college and studying communication are two actions that I believe were successful decisions for my future. Choosing the remaining paths to come my way may involve advice and guidance from others, but I have no reservations.

Every successful mentor that you encounter will remind you to have your 5 year plan ready for after graduation. Well...mine is still being tweaked in my head as I have come up with about twelve different 5 year plans. What I can tell you is that you can be sure I will never work a day in my life. I will find a career (not a job) and I will love every second of it as if I was born to do it. Most importantly, I will develop my communication knowledge through new, real-world experience.

The price of Valentine's Day

By Mallory Wilczynski
Staff Writer

Of the many stories behind February 14th, history frequently claims St. Valentine as a martyr from the fifth century. This man performed illegal wedding ceremonies under the Roman Catholic faith for certain soldiers who were forbidden from the sacrament. According to legend, the future saint was imprisoned for his actions and would send hand written, farewell, love letters signed, "Your Valentine". Centuries later and now the average American sacrifices their wallet in order to send or proclaim messages of love as a modern day Valentine.

Men and women alike take part in buying little chocolates and romantic red roses every year for Cupid's sake. The average in-love consumer easily spends over \$115 on gifts and holiday accessories. Is it really necessary to spend this money just to show a little affection for a special someone? Last Friday's retail spending results matched the past years in proving that although it might not be necessary, it is favored.

The total average annual Valentine's Day spending is \$13.19 billion. In recent years, though, this number has been closer to \$18 billion, according to a CNN study. This includes the whopping 196 million roses produced for the 61.8% of consumers that participate in Valentine's Day celebrations. While 73% of those flowers were bought by men, some single ladies embraced the holiday in good spirits by representing 14% of flower sales with roses bought to send to

themselves. Even with all those flowers being bought, themed cards were actually the gift most often given at 52.1% of all gifts. Candy comes second with 47.5% followed by a romantic dinner out at 34.6%. As a holiday just after New Year's and right before the sweet smell of spring, the nation loves an excuse to spend a little extra for the sake of love.

Here at Bryant, the average student follows suit. Popular Valentine celebrations for the couples on campus last Friday included a dinner out on Thayer Street, flowers for the lady and chocolates galore. When asked about how much a college student should spend for their Valentine, the response was varied. Some said it depended on the stage of the relationship while others proclaimed "go big or go home!"

Next to Christmas, Valentine's Day is the second most expensive holiday on the calendar. It can be looked upon as charming or sincerely over the top. In most cases, romance prevails. Billions of dollars go into things that virtually are only meaningful because of the way our society puts meaning into it. Teddy bears, hearts, chocolate, red roses, and jewelry define February 14th. So little of Valentine's Day is based on merit, but the spike in sales gives the economy and those in love a little extra something.

Many centuries ago, a religious man signed a letter and a holiday was born. Whether or not Valentine's Day has any true value is irreverent in this day and age. People find a reason to go out of their way for someone they care for, no matter the cost. As many Bryant students like to describe their spending for Valentine's Day, "it was priceless".

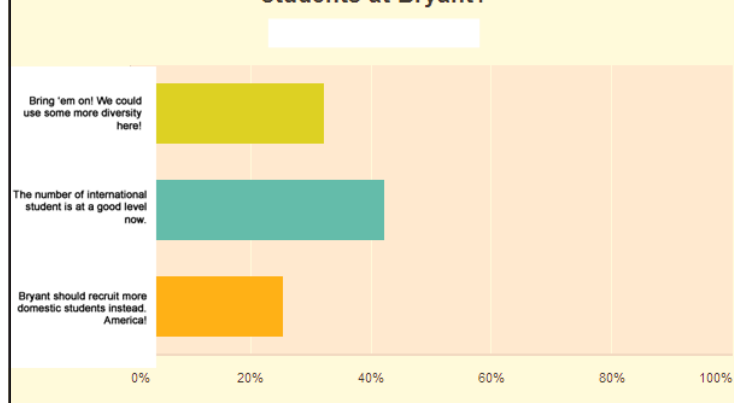


Real Talk.

Bryant students share their opinion on controversial topics that affect the community

By Brendan Barstow
Staff Writer

How do you feel about international students at Bryant?



Read me at
BryantArchway.com

Diamonds upon black velvet

By David Huestis
Contributing Writer

Look, up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane!! No, it's a bull! Taurus the Bull, that is. Taurus is an easy constellation to find, and it has several objects of interest for stargazers equipped with only binoculars or a small telescope.

On the next clear night go outside at around 7:00 p.m. and face south. About two-thirds of the way above the horizon to a point directly overhead (zenith), look for a V-shaped cluster of stars Or if you'd rather, look straight up and let your eyes drift slowly southward about one-third of the way towards the southern horizon. (See accompanying star map.)

That open star cluster is called the Hyades, and it forms the bull's face. The vertex of the V forms his snout, the orange star Aldebaran is his right eye, and two stars out beyond the V are the bull's horns. Aldebaran is a giant star approximately 65 light years away and about 44 times the diameter of our Sun. If it replaced Sol at the center of our solar system it would extend outward almost to Mercury's orbit. Aldebaran is also the 14th brightest star in our sky.

The stars of the Hyades all formed from the same nebula (dust cloud), and the cluster is

the nearest open cluster to our solar system at about 153 light years distant. Please note that Aldebaran is much closer to us and is not part of the Hyades cluster. It's simply a matter of perspective from our vantage point.

Need another clue to find the Hyades? There is another bright open cluster of stars called the Pleiades just above and to the right of the Hyades. This grouping of six stars resembles the shape of the little dipper (with which it is often confused), only on a much smaller scale. The Pleiades stars also formed from a common dust cloud, perhaps similar in appearance to the Orion Nebula today. They are much farther from the Earth at a distance of approximately 425 light years. Long photographic exposures show some dust surrounding the cluster, but it is now believed it is a dust cloud through which the Pleiades is passing, and not remnants of the original stellar nursery from which it formed. (See accompanying image obtained by Skyscrapers' secretary and past president Tom Thibault.)

Does the Pleiades open cluster look somewhat familiar to you for some reason? It should if you are an observant person. You see it every day as you drive down the highways and byways

of every city and state. It's the symbol for the Japanese car brand Subaru!

Still can't find this region of sky? You can download your own planisphere (starwheel) from Uncle Al's Sky Wheels on the Internet at <http://www.lhs.berkeley.edu/StarClock/skywheel.html> free of charge. I suggest printing it on heavy card stock paper so the starwheel remains rigid during use. Simply follow the included assembly directions.

Like most of the constellations, many diverse cultures have depicted Taurus similarly, usually giving it the attributes of an ox or bull. It may even be one of the oldest constellations. Why? From around 4000 B.C. to around 1700 B.C., the vernal equinox (beginning of spring) was in Taurus. This fact alone made it revered among ancient peoples.

In addition, let's examine what classic mythology says about Taurus. The god, Jupiter fell in love with the beautiful Europa. To attract her attention he transformed into a snow white bull. When Europa saw this beautiful animal, she climbed on top of his back. She may have been beautiful, but she wasn't very smart. Jupiter made off with her. Jupiter's exploit is commemorated in the sky as Taurus, and Europa had a continent (Europe) named after her.

Also, the prominent Pleiades have a mythology of their own. They were seven beautiful sisters who were pursued by Orion. They didn't like it one bit, so they pleaded with Jupiter for help. He changed them into doves and away they flew into the sky to find refuge among the stars. There the Pleiades dwell today, still being pursued by Orion to the east, with Taurus lying between them. Orion is too



Pleiades Thibault

busy fighting off the bull to even notice them.

Observing objects within Taurus can be quite rewarding with even low magnification optics. That includes both the Hyades and the Pleiades open clusters. While the more compact Pleiades look good to the unaided eye, a pair of 7 X 50 binoculars offer an even more striking view. Using a low-power eyepiece on a telescope so the entire cluster appears in the field of view will be very rewarding. The Pleiades remind me of diamonds scattered upon black velvet. What do you see?

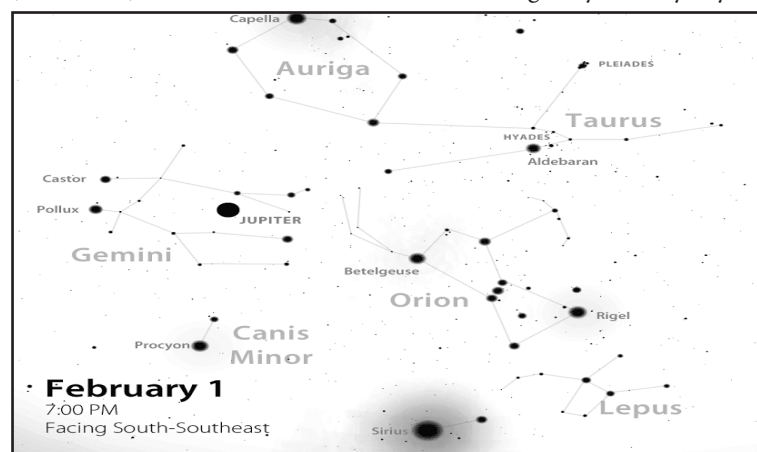
And last, but not least, Taurus contains the remnants of a supernova explosion. This smudge of nebulosity, called the Crab Nebula (also known as M1), can be seen with a three-inch or larger telescope. Dark skies are a necessity though. Larger telescopes show more intricate detail of the gases that were spewed out by the cataclysmic star explosion that occurred in 1054 A.D. A good star chart is required to find this beautiful object. Otherwise, ask one of the telescope operators at any of the local observatories to show this stellar remnant some 6,500 light years away.

While you're enjoying the beauty of Taurus and his star clusters, direct your gaze to the east (left). You'll see a bright

object nestled within the stars of Gemini. (See star chart again.) It's the planet Jupiter. Even a small telescope will reveal his four bright Galilean moons. If you don't have a telescope, visit an observatory to observe the banded belts and zones detail of Jupiter's cloud tops and possibly experience an event involving one of the moons.

So far this winter the extreme cold has kept many amateur astronomers indoors. However, once the temperatures moderate, spend some time out in the clear and transparent skies to marvel at the wonders of the universe.

In conclusion, please remember that the local observatories do remain open year-round to provide incredible views of the heavens with their wonderful telescopes. These facilities are unheated, so dress warmly. Seagrave Memorial Observatory in North Scituate is open every clear Saturday night. Ladd Observatory in Providence is open every Tuesday night. Frosty Drew Observatory in Charlestown is open every clear Friday night. Snow or ice can force closures, so please check the respective websites for any cancellation notices before venturing out for a visit. Currently the winter hours for Seagrave and Ladd are 7-9 p.m., while Frosty Drew begins at 6:00 p.m. with no set end time.



Oxidative stress and our aging body

By Kendra Hildebrand
Staff Writer

What's the secret to timeless beauty? People are always searching for a way to preserve youth and beauty; it seems that we all must face the inexorable fate of age at some point. After all, there is no fountain of youth or magical spell that can turn back the clocks. Or is there?

The answer lies in reducing oxidative stress. Oxidative stress is an imbalance in the body between free radicals and antioxidants caused by everyday activities such as breathing, eating, exercising, and sleeping. This inevitable and naturally occurring process transpires at the cellular level in which the body produces destructive particles called free radicals. These toxins damage cells and increase oxidative stress.

In order to combat free radicals, the body produces antioxidant enzymes SOD (superoxide dismutase) and catalase. The enzymes destroy the free radicals in an attempt to rid the cell of its detrimental components and ultimately reduce oxidative stress. Simply put, high levels of free radicals plus low levels of antioxidants equals oxidative stress.

Why is this important?

Scientists have been studying oxidative stress for years. Their research reveals that oxidative stress is linked to a myriad of "incurable" diseases such as cancer, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and cardiovascular disease. Furthermore, oxidative stress is the culprit in a process familiar to many of us: aging.

Picture a balloon. This balloon is a representation of a cell. Now imagine poking the balloon with a microscopic pin hundreds of thousands of times. The result is similar to the free radicals' damage to a cell. The miniscule holes wouldn't cause enough damage to pop the balloon, but it would be enough to slowly deflate it over time. High levels of free radicals cause cellular deterioration. Although the body does produce antioxidant fighting enzymes, it's not enough to fight the number of free radicals produced by the body each day: three-hundred sextillion.

One way to increase the number of antioxidants in the body can be accomplished by eating foods that are packed with antioxidants. However, it's impossible to consume enough antioxidants to counter three-hundred sextillion free radicals. For example, you would have to consume 375 oranges

daily to fight the number of free radicals produced in the body. Fortunately, the company LifeVantage made a revolutionary breakthrough by introducing its supplement.

Protandim is a supplement that slows down the aging process and repairs cells. Protandim is not an antioxidant supplement. Rather, through its unique blend of all natural ingredients, it uses Nrf2 activation to stimulate cells to increase the production of antioxidant enzymes as well as "survival genes". Not only does this stimulate optimal performance in the cell but also help the cell survive the attack of free radicals.

Five all-natural ingredients are synergized to create this supplement. Protandim is unique because of this patented synergy; although a small dose of each ingredient is used to create the supplement a very specific amount of each is used and combined to be effective. Taking the ingredients separately as supplements does not have nearly the same outcome; Protandim is 1800% more effective than taking each of the ingredients separately. Eleven peer reviewed studies published on pubmed.gov (funded by the National Institute of Health) show that Protandim

1:1, then done!

Each antioxidant molecule from dietary sources can eliminate just one free radical. It is not possible to consume enough to measurably lower oxidative stress levels.

87 glasses of red wine daily...	375 oranges daily...
11 pounds of blueberries daily...	120 vitamin C tablets daily...

Dietary antioxidants do not make an impact on oxidative stress (free radical damage to the cells & DNA)

The body produces millions and millions of free radicals daily! It's not possible to fight these numbers with dietary sources unless you consumed 375 Oranges, 30 lbs of Raspberries, 15 lbs of Dark Chocolate daily...

1:1,000,000 / sec.

Each of your body's enzymes eliminates free radicals in every cell of your body at a rate of 1 million free radicals per second, 24 hours a day for the life cycle of the enzyme.

vs.

Protandim reduces oxidative stress (free-radical damage) by 40%-70% in everyone in just 30 days. It is clinically proven to work for anyone of any age.

...or take just one Protandim™ tablet! Each antioxidant enzyme produced by Protandim can defeat one million free radicals per second 24/7.

No other antioxidant supplement can match Protandim's antioxidant power!

decreases oxidative stress by an average of 40% over a period of 30 days. Impressively, one Protandim tablet destroys one million free radicals per second throughout the entire day. This "miracle" supplement is the next step in revolutionizing the anti-aging process.

I started taking Protandim to see if I could reap the positive benefits the supplement offers. I'm a health enthusiast focusing on strength training as well as increasing my knowledge of fitness and health in general. I've been taking the dietary supplement for the past three months and can say that I am pleased with the results.

The most noticeable difference I've experienced is

an increase in the amount of energy I have. I've been able to decrease the recovery time in between lifting sessions as well. I also used to struggle with acne but since taking the supplement I rarely experience blemishes. Other benefits include a strengthened immune system and better sleeping cycles. Protandim helps me focus on my goals and gives me the energy to pursue them.

You don't have to seek out the fountain of youth to turn around the aging process. Instead, take Protandim, a small dietary supplement that slows the aging process and repairs cells by combating oxidative stress through antioxidant therapy.

Bryant Horoscopes

By Molly Funk
Staff Writer

Pisces (2/19 to 3/20)

A couple rumors may be floating around about you this week Pisces; perhaps you made a questionable decision over the weekend. Your friends may be reaching out to you to discuss the matter in depth, which could make you quite uncomfortable. Don't take these rumors seriously; there is little realistic value. Try not to get yourself involved—the gossip will dissipate quickly. These rumors shouldn't prevent you from having fun during the weekend ahead!

Aries (3/21 to 4/19)

It is important to be receptive to other people's emotions this week, Aries. You have the tendency to close others off unintentionally. You will find a sensitive attitude towards your close friends will be extremely profitable. You must be willing to work hard to fulfil your responsibilities and promises in order to achieve extreme happiness. Don't be afraid to say how you feel—it will be a pleasant change for those around you.

Taurus (4/20 to 5/20)

You have been trying to find a job after hearing some disturbing news about the world economy. You're worried, that is understandable. Don't stress about finding a job or you may settle for something unfavorable. The future is probably going to shape up far differently than you expected. With a little faith, your personal finances may turn upward.

Gemini (5/21 to 6/20)

You are very very very busy, Gemini. Whether it be with classes, internships, or your social life, you have quite the full plate. Take a few minutes to take a deep breath and relax. You may be feeling stress in extreme ways. Try an alternative like the gym, or a movie date with your BFF. Next week may be just as busy, but with a few simple techniques, you'll get through it safely.

Cancer (6/21 to 7/22)

You have lately taken charge of your romantic situation, Cancer and may be regretting taking such a strong stance. Stay true to your beliefs, and assure yourself you made the right decision. You might be afraid you came on too strong, but you will be respected for respecting yourself. Good things come to those who deserve them, no need to fret, Cancer.

Leo (7/23 to 8/22)

A roommate conflict may be in your future, but is easily solved! There has been miscommunication between you and your BFF, simply typical of those who live together. Don't get nervous, this is bound to blow over. Meet your roomie at Nick's and talk it out. If you share how you feel, and they do the same, the conflict will be resolved. It could be as easy as making sure you send a text before bringing a cutie home from the bar.

Virgo (8/23 to 9/22)

Cherish your peace and quiet, Virgo, you have had quite an exciting month thus far. Your wishful mind will encourage progress. Allow yourself to consider other people's fantasies, not simply your own. All this thinking will lead to amazingly creative ideas and opportunities.

Libra (9/23 to 10/22)

Your group project has been driving you insane, Libra, and its effecting all parts of your life. You've had some great past group experience, but this semester's project is just dragging you down. It's normal—with all the Bryant group projects there's bound to be a bad experience. Just remember to take a step back and recognize this group probably won't matter in ten years. As corny as it is, try to learn something from this experience, it'll make this stressful time worthwhile.

Scorpio (10/23 to 11/21)

You will be crazed with physical energy today, Scorpio. You're going to want to visit with friends, run around campus, and never stop! Embrace this surge of liveliness, you deserve it. You'll be happily tired at the end of the day, content to collapse into bed after a day well spent. Your friends will enjoy the excess energy as it will invigorate them as well. If you keep the positive energy, it could last for days.

Sagittarius (11/22 to 12/21)

You are going to have a great week, Sagittarius. Enterprises you worked hard for, involving your creative side (writing, speaking, drawing), are coming together nicely. Success is in the wind; embrace it. This reward will serve as a reminder to continue to pursue your interests. Who knows what the future will hold. Good luck Sagittarius!

Capricorn (12/22 to 1/19)

You're learning a new form of technology this week, Capricorn, most likely computer related. You're confused, that's understandable due to the modernism of the technology. Take it slow...let your brain relax. Learn the technology step by step, and take frequent breaks. Too much information at once will result in not being able to absorb any.

Aquarius (1/20 to 2/18)

You are strong and determined and more importantly, willing to do whatever it takes to get what you want. Take a few minutes this week to determine what your ambitions are and set a couple of goals. Your positive and goal-oriented attitude will help you accomplish these goals with little hardship and great success.



Bryant Said What?!

Compiled by Bryant Student

"Is he a nazi? Who doesn't like stuffed animals and chocolate?"

"Board games, buffalo chicken dip, and 3 bottles of wine. Adult snow day."

"Human society summed up in one sentence: girls are crazy but boys are dumb."

"If you really want to see me twerk, I have to put on my footy pajamas."

Profit and Loss



#6thfan #Bryant



Good luck to Bryant swimmers at NEC Championships this Wednesday and Thursday!



17 more days until Spring Break. Hang in there.



Start opening your books. Midterms are right around the corner.

Fighting obesity

By Madyson Milordi

Staff Writer

According to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 35.7% of U.S. adults are obese. Some of the leading causes of preventable death are heart disease, type 2 diabetes, stroke, and certain kinds of cancer, all obesity-related diseases. In turn, obesity has drastically increased the annual medical costs in the United States.

Although obesity has become rather common, those who battle obesity are still often scrutinized. Do you ever find it hard not to stare at someone who is very overweight? Are you ever curious to see what they buy at a grocery store, or what they order in a restaurant? Does it frustrate you that this particular group of people is causing your health insurance rates to rise? They are 'lazy', they 'did this to themselves', they should 'just stop eating so much', right? This common thought process has caused a stigmatization of obese people.

While, everyone makes their own choices about what to eat and whether or not they will exercise, our country has not made it very easy to maintain a healthy weight. The majority of our foods are highly processed, which strips them of their nutritional value, adds harmful chemicals and synthetic ingredients. Furthermore, as America is such a fast-paced country, we tend to seek food options that are quick, easy and readily available. Eating out makes it even more challenging to find healthy options, and there are virtually no truly nutritious fast food options. When eating out, so many people fall for the advertising scams of restaurants promoting meals under a certain amount of calories. Just because a meal has a low calorie count, doesn't mean it is good for you.

Not only is fast-food effortless, it is very cheap. Statistics have shown that lower-income Americans tend to have a higher obesity rate. The truth is eating healthy doesn't have to be expensive. Additionally, many immigrants have the tendency to face significant health issues when they adopt U.S. mainstream diets and lifestyles. Due to the unhealthy change in diet for immigrants, they face significant rises in diabetes, obesity, and heart disease. All a result of the high fat, highly processed and high food consumption lifestyle Americans lead. These are just a few examples of how challenging our country makes it to maintain a healthy weight.

For many people, once they start gaining weight it becomes more and more difficult to gain control over the situation. Today, for many Americans obesity began in their childhood. Since 1980, childhood obesity has increased by 11%, leaving the U.S. with an 18% obesity rate for children. More likely than not, obese children are stigmatized by their peers in school, being known as the 'fat kids.' For the most part, children are not in control of what they eat or how active they decide to be, nor should they be. Most children don't understand the importance of health, and that is why it is our duty to make sure they do.

Instead of looking down on people who struggle with the never ending battle against weight gain and disease, we should uplift them. It is also crucial to educate children and Americans about how to live a healthy lifestyle and the importance in doing so. Without education it is very difficult to see the criticality of leading a healthy lifestyle.

So the next time you see someone who is very overweight, think twice before you judge them. Health is something we have learned and perceived from our surroundings. America has not given us a very good guideline of what 'healthy' is. That may be why 35.7% of Americans are suffering through the struggles of obesity.

Don't let them ruin your gaming fun

By Nick Arabascio
Staff Writer



Remember to choose your gaming friends wisely! (MCT Campus)

Games are supposed to be fun; at least that's why I play them. You know what makes games even more fun? Playing them with friends. You know what ruins the fun? People who take them too seriously. If you've ever played a competitive multiplayer game, you know the kind of horrible person I'm talking about. I like to call them the popular internet term 'Try-hard.' When they are winning, the game is going perfectly and they insist you are being no fun. When they are losing, they insist that there is something wrong with the game, something about the game has wronged them. The excuses fly, and they decide that they do not even want to play anymore. You all know this person. Next time you're playing any kind of game, whether it be Call of Duty or even just Scrabble at a family party, here is your guide for dealing with (and having fun with) the try-hards that ruin the fun for everyone.

First you need to decide how you want to deal with the try-hard. This will depend on your current mood. Are you sick of them and just want them to shut up? Or are you in the mood for having some fun at their expense? Let's take a game of Madden NFL for example. You are beating your friend by a sizeable margin, but it's not over. Your friend is still holding out hope that he can make a comeback, until his running back fumbles and you recover it and run the ball in for a touchdown. Your friend erupts in rage, maybe he throws the controller at the wall. He calls the game cow droppings and claims it doesn't count. So how should you deal with this rage-quitting friend of yours?

If you're down to make this unfortunate situation fun for yourself, troll him. Tell him it's just a game and that he is over-reacting; he'll hate this. Nothing makes a poor sport more upset then telling him he's a poor sport. Say you could let him win if you'd like, or that you'll play the Jaguars and he can have the Seahawks. Keep trolling until

you've broken him down to the point of him shutting off the TV in rage and storming out of the room (only do this if your friend is not bigger than you; this method could get dangerous). Twist the knife a little bit and say that if he'd like he could write a letter to John Madden himself explaining his issues with the game.

Now of course, if you don't want to troll and escalate the situation for fun (which I live for, but I'm a horrible person), then maybe you should not take the aforementioned approach. Because you're a bigger person, you have decided that you will be responsible and mature when dealing with your friend. Let's continue with the same Madden NFL situation. After recovering the fumble and scoring, your friend's rage begins. He goes off the same way as in the last situation, but this time you're going to swallow your pride and calm him down. Tell him that you agree its cow droppings, and laugh about it. Try something like, "Hah wow man! That is rough, this game has it out for you." You know this is obviously not true, but it will calm him down and show that you are on his side. Offer to play again after it's over; maybe pick a worse team then he's playing. I'm not saying let him win, but go easy. It's painful to do, but you decided you were going to be mature about this, remember?

At the end of the day, the best advice I can give you is just don't play. Madden is supposed to be fun, but when playing with certain people it just isn't. You'll either be having fun at your opponent's expense (which, let's be honest, makes you no better than him) or you'll be forced to humor your opponent's horrible ways. So next time this friend asks you to play a game that will not be fun, just say you've got homework to do. If it's a Friday or Saturday night, make some other excuse up. Maybe your phone magically started ringing, or maybe you've got to go get ready to go out for the night. Or better yet, be honest and tell him no thanks because you're not going to have fun playing a Try-hard.



Need a new book? Check out Sarah's Key

By Sarah Rozenberg
Staff Writer

Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay entwines two stories separated by sixty years. The novel begins on July 16, 1942. This was a day in history forgotten by many, yet in 2002, when journalist Julia Jarmond receives an assignment to write, the story of that horrible day in Paris is discovered. The Vélodrome d'Hiver roundup occurred on that day.

The Vel' d'Hiv' roundup was a plan by the French to exterminate the Jewish population. During the roundup, many Jewish families were arrested, including the family of Sarah Starzynski. A ten year old girl at the time, she wants to keep her little brother Michel safe from being taken by the police with them, and decides to lock him up in their secret cupboard. She takes the key with her and promises him that when they are released, she will come back to rescue him.

Jumping ahead to the year 2002, Julia Jarmond is writing an article for the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Vel' d'Hiv' roundup. Her research for the article paired with the events revolving around her own life result in a remarkable

revelation. She finds out what happened that day in Paris and is shocked by what she learns. The story of Sarah Starzynski in particular captivates her and changes her forever.

Sarah's Key, a New York Times bestseller, is a very emotional book and will move readers to tears. It is filled with accurate information about the Holocaust, the Vel' d'Hiv' roundup, and the roles the French and the Germans had in the events. Tatiana de Rosnay does a beautiful job of connecting the reader to the characters. Although the characters are all fictitious, the events described are real. She makes you a part of the

story the whole way through, and you will feel as if you were standing on the streets in Paris on the day of the Vel' d'Hiv' roundup. The book will have you wondering what will happen next and you will not be able to put it down.

I recommend this book to anyone who is interested in learning about Occupied France in 1942, the Vel' d'Hiv' roundup, or anyone just interested in a fascinating story. It is the kind of book that you will be able to read in one sitting; not because of its length, but because of how intriguing a story it is. Tatiana de Rosnay not only informs you of the events that took

place in France, but also gets inside the mind of a girl experiencing the events firsthand. She does an incredible job of writing about such a difficult subject, and not only leaves you haunted, but also leaves you grieving for the characters. *Sarah's Key* will touch your heart and make you wish there was a way to change what happened in the end. Travelling from past, to present, to future, the story holds you in its grasp and will leave you a part of the story long after the last page is turned.



Uncover the mystery of Sarah's Key! Be sure to check out this phenomenal story. (MCT Campus)

2014 Oscar Nominations - Snubs and Surprises

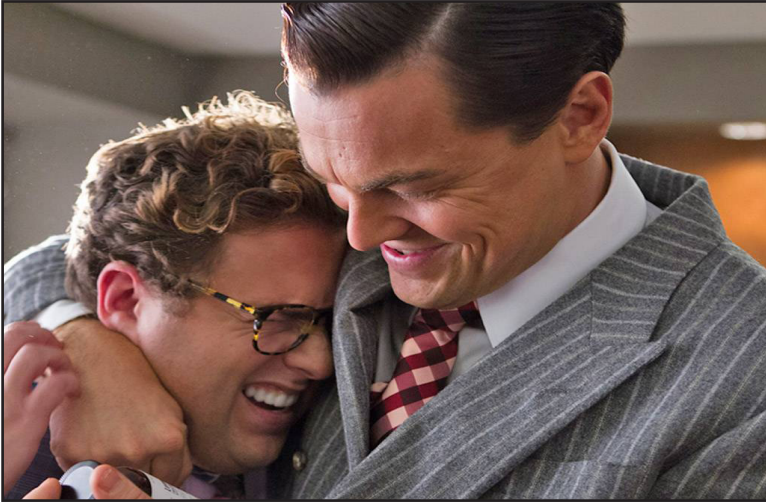
By AJ Beltis
Staff Writer

As expected, this week's announcement of the 2014 Oscar nominations raised a few eyebrows in Hollywood. Ranging from the foreseeable snubs for certain movies like *Mud* and *Don Jon* to shocking absences like Tom Hanks in *Captain Phillips*, several deserving names didn't make the cut for the 2014 Academy Awards ballot in exchange for a few unexpected nods.

SNUBS:

Tom Hanks for *Captain Phillips*

Seriously, Academy?! My love for *Captain Phillips* wasn't enormous, but I fully agree the biggest and most unexpected snub this year was for Tom Hanks. In the slowest parts of *Captain Phillips*, it was Hanks who kept me wanting to watch, and his acting in the final moments of the film should have been worthy of a nomination alone, not to mention his distressing character shift throughout the whole film.



Leonardo DiCaprio and Jonah Hill in *The Wolf of Wallstreet* (MCT Campus)

Joseph Gordon-Levitt for *Don Jon*

Don Jon didn't pick up much steam for awards season, but in my eyes Gordon-Levitt gave the best performance of his career, and his screenplay was near-perfect. I had hoped he would have been recognized in one of those categories, but no luck.

Carey Mulligan

She was the best part of both *The Great Gatsby* and *Inside Llewyn Davis*, but I guess the Academy didn't agree with me.

The Way Way Back

In an ideal world, we'd see nominations for its screenplay and for the impressive performances by Allison Janney and Sam Rockwell. Very ideally, we'd see one for Best Picture, too.

Mud

This isn't the first time you've heard this from me, and it's not the last. I'll keep it short this time. While most hope of Tye Sheridan being recognized for his powerhouse lead performance and for the film itself getting a Best Picture nomination was gone, I was crossing my fingers for a Best Screenplay nomination, a Supporting Actor nod for Matthew McConaughey, Best Music, or maybe even Cinematography. Nope. Nothing. Not one nomination for the best film of the year.

Pacific Rim

There's no way it would have won over *Gravity*, but *Pacific Rim*'s visuals were definitely worthy of a nomination.

Epic

I've only seen *Frozen* and *Despicable Me 2* on this list and how the latter somehow made it in over *Epic* is a disappointment.

Sally Hawkins for *Blue Jasmine* (and the whole mess of the Supporting Actress category)

In the movie she was just kind of there. What the Academy saw in her over Allison Janney, Carey Mulligan, Sarah Paulson in *12 Years a Slave*, Oprah in *The Butler*, and even Chloë Grace Moretz in *Kick-Ass 2*, or Julianne Moore in *Carrie* is a bit puzzling.

SURPRISES:

Leonardo DiCaprio and Jonah Hill for *The Wolf of Wall Street*

I was happy when Leo won a Golden Globe because I was almost certain the Academy would overlook him yet again. Thankfully, they didn't. Jonah Hill was another surprise and somehow edged in over predicted nominees like James Gandolfini.

Christian Bale for *American Hustle*

Didn't see that coming. His last performance in a David O. Russell flick got him an Oscar win, but many thought he didn't stand a chance at a nomination this year due to how tightly packed the Best Actor race was.

Blue Jasmine for Best Screenplay

So it didn't get its worthy nomination for Best Picture, but thankfully Woody Allen's script shows the Academy at least acknowledged his work.

Dallas Buyers Club

Everyone saw the nominations for McConaughey and Leto coming, but its nominations for Best Original Screenplay, and more importantly, Best Picture, were surprising to say the least, and if you ask me, extremely undeserved.

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THE POETRY CORNER

Contenders

By Brendan Barstow

We've been friends for four years
Yet never spoken a word
Only verse and chorus, sung and heard.

I helped make you who you are
And you returned the favor.
Sharing Sounds
when I was down
A naïve life saver.

We stand together,
Long-lost brothers
As a party of two in wild elation
and as soldiers surviving devastation
You'll attend my funeral
But we still won't speak
After lifetimes fulfilled
in attempts unique
You'll be terrified
and so will I
Scared to death to truly die
But in one final moment
before the future has rendered
we'll remember we were happy
Just to be contenders.

Providence's night life explored

By **Matthew Gillen**
Staff Writer

Sick of dealing with that creepy guy from your Marketing class everytime you go to Rentes? Or maybe you're tired of shaking off that girl you hooked up with two years ago when she "coincidentally" shows up to the same party as you every weekend. Whatever it is, you need a change of scenery. I'm not saying you're boring for only partying on campus and at the same two bars with the same people every single weekend, but... nope actually that's exactly what I'm saying. Campus parties, Rentes and Effins are fantastic, don't get me wrong, but you're severely limiting your potential for fun and adventure going to the same places weekend after weekend, semester after semester.

Providence may be small, but it is up there with Boston and NYC as one of the top party cities in the North East. Home to PC, RIC, RISD, Brown and JWU this city isn't messing around when it comes to night life. With all of those local colleges and a combination of over 100 bars, clubs and restaurants, what Providence Rhode Island provides is variety and a whole lot of new, interesting people to meet.

I've spent many, many nights doing investigative journalism in Providence. I'm here to highlight a hypothetical night out for you from start to finish and narrow down the host of choices it contains.

Start: Pregame Bar(s) – Empire Street/Washington Street – No covers

My favorite place to kick nights off is on Empire Street. There are a ton of bars in this area and there is a very rare, free parking lot on Empire. I'll usually start at,

Muldowney's Pub - a friendly Irish dive bar with a pool table and a karaoke machine. After a few drinks here I'll possibly bounce over to,

Finnegan's Wake – also on Empire Street. Saturday night at Finnegan's, college students get in free with their IDs. They have a pretty big dance floor and decent drink prices. I've met a lot of JWU and PC students here. Another option is to hop over to Washington Street which is perpendicular to this one. There we have,

Blake's Tavern – Similar to Muldowney's, a more low key bar, tables and chairs to sit and talk with your friends. Across the street is,

Local 121 – This is a bar with a medium sized dance floor, the crowd is older and it's always packed. It gets very tight and it's kind of hard to maneuver here. People love the DJs though.

These places are more of an appetizer but if you're having a good time feel free to stay for the rest of the night. If you're like me and have to keep moving we'll move on.

Main Course: Popular Bars/Clubs

Many options here but I'll narrow it down to the better ones. If you want to stay in

that first area there is,

Lupos Heartbreak Hotel/Roxy – This place is a hybrid, when it's in Lupos mode there are concerts with popular artists and bands, when it's in Roxy mode it is a huge club with 3 or 4 bars, and a gigantic dance floor.

Whiskey Republic – \$10 cover - Owned by the Dropkick Murphys. Off of the Gano Street exit. Whiskey is gorgeous and has a very big outdoor area on the water, which is better in the spring. Live bands every weekend and they make their drinks strong. Dress up if you're going here or

they will send you away at the door.

Fat Belly's – No cover - On Canal Street. Right next to a JWU Sophomore/Junior dorm and gets really busy. Downstairs is low key with the lights on and plenty of tables and booths. Upstairs is generally more packed, the lights are off and there is a DJ and small dance floor. From here you can walk or drive to,

Ri Ra Irish Pub – \$5 cover - Off of Memorial Blvd, Live bands every Saturday night. Medium sized dance floor. Kind of hard to get drinks here, the bars are tiny.

So those are just a few places to start you off. Next you are absolutely going to want to leave before last call and get some amazing food. You have so many options.

Thayer Street – Food!
Antonios – Pizza by the slice

Nice Slice – Same as Antonios
East Side Pockets – Sandwiches and Calzones

Shark – Sushi
Shanghai – Asian Quisine
Johnny Rockets – Burgers + Fries

Chipotle – Burritos
These are the known

favorites but there are about 7 other restaurants on Thayer.

I'll leave you with that. Do yourself and your friends a favor and branch out a little bit during your time here. By spending a night in Providence once and a while you'll be opening yourself to so many more fun, crazy experiences and new people. Finally, as always, please drink responsibly when you go out. Get a DD, call a cab or leave yourself plenty of time to sober up before driving home.

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