

photo by Cenn Hall

"Picnic" opened last night in the Hartmann Center and will run on Thursdays through Sundays until April 29. It is the Department of Theatre Arts' final show for the 2017-2018 season.

BY NELSON O. GUTIERREZ **Copy Editor**

The creative process in the performing arts isn't always a picnic, but for the theatre department at Bradley, the work is entirely worth

The Department of Theatre Arts closes its 2017-2018 season with the Pulitzer Prize-winning "Picnic," a show about a drifter who disrupts the simple lives of a Kansas town as residents prepare for their annual Labor Day picnic. Written by William Inge, the show will be performed at the Hartmann Center.

As the show prepared for its mid-April opening, Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts and Director Daniel with the cast and crew to bring the contemporary classic to life.

to the Bradley community and the Peoria community, because this is a classic for a reason," Matisa said. "We say all the time we're all in the empathy business in theatre, so it's sort of the actors' job to empathize with the characters and not judge them."

The 1953 play, having seen stages such as The Music Box Theatre in New York City and the the Belgrade Theatre in England, makes its way to Bradley's stage with a dedicated group of creatives both on and off the stage. One such member is Noelle Mefford, who plays the female lead, Madge

Mefford, a senior public relations major, was signed on as the female lead despite those roles typically Matisa has worked hand-in-hand being offered to theatre majors - a feat that is particularly rare.

"This production and role has "I'm really excited to give this meant so much to me because it's

one of the biggest roles I've had," Mefford said. "I also really relate to my character's journey through the play, so it's been so rewarding to be able to play someone I relate to."

While performers like Mefford typically find a cathartic joy to the performaning arts, the labors that go into such a feat are staggering. According to Mefford, her role as an actress was one of interpretation something that she said brought her conflict in the creative process.

"For me, the biggest struggle in bringing this show together was really coming into my character," she said. "I found it hard not to judge some of her actions, and so it prohibited me from really owning my character"

show for a paying audience requires will and dedication, but Matisa, Mefford, the cast and crew carry

out the labor of love with the hopes that the audience will step away

"I hope they walk away with an appreciation, first and foremost, of what a great playwright William Inge was, and how much he contributed, not only to American dramatic literature, but world dramatic literature," Matisa said. "I hope they walk away being moved by the story, but also being entertained."

"Picnic" opened in the Hartmann Center vesterday and will run through April 29. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays, with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sundays.

Tickets are \$5 for students, \$12 for faculty, staff and seniors and \$15 for adults For ticket info call 300-The art of putting together a live 677-2650, or go to www.bradley.edu/

Campus food pantry to open this fall

BY HANNAH SNIDMAN **News Reporter**

On Monday, Student Senate passed a resolution to open Lydia's Cupboard, an on-campus food pantry, that will start serving the Bradley community in September.

The idea for a food pantry at Bradley came from a Bradley graduate who won a campus pitch competition with Lydia's Cupboard. According to Cal Weisman, the 2017-2018 Student Senate Vice President of Student Affairs, the new director of the Lewis J. Burger Center for Leadership and Success Ben Wright also proposed the idea at a Bradley Fellows meeting.

A subcommittee, which includes freshman mechanical engineering major Emily Baima, sophomore psychology and political science double major Melissa Wyas and Weisman formed from the Campus Affairs senate committee to focus on the pantry's development.

"This was really a group effort in starting this," Weisman, a junior sports communication and management and leadership double major, said. "We're looking mainly for Senate to continue helping with the platform and application. It's going to take a theme across campus of help from Senate, student organizations, fraternities and sorority life, things like that as well."

A survey was sent to the student body and received 188 responses. Of the respondents, over 40 percent said there was a time as a student when they did not have enough food for themselves and 55 percent said they would use a food pantry if one were available on campus.

see **FOOD PANTRY**

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BRIEFS

Organization to host Working Women Expo

Student organization Women Who Empower will hold its second annual Working Women Expo tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Michel Student Center Ballroom.

The expo will feature various vendors including visual artists, local boutiques, fashion designers and more.

The event is free and open to the public. Anyone with questions can contact event organizer Andrea Morris at agmorris2@mail.bradley.edu.

BU Productions to premiere short films

Bradley University Productions, a student-led short film club, will debut two original short films made by students at 2 p.m. April 22 in the Student Center Marty Theater.

The premiere will screen the film "Project 7," and the trailer for the film can be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=65EosoZD6Vc. The other film set to premiere at the event is "Ryogo," and the trailer for the film can be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eGV_I-uyQCo.

For more information on the event, visit https://www.facebook.com/events/242728319606165/.

Student Senate to hold informational meeting

Those interested in becoming a 2018-2019 Student Senator are invited to an informational meeting from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. April 23 in the Garrett Cultural Center.

The meeting will provide information for students to learn more about the duties of being a student senator, who they will represent and more.

Attendance at the meeting is mandatory for those seeking a Student Senate position for the next academic year. If interested students are unable to attend, they must send someone in their place to represent them and gather information.

For more information or with any questions, students can contact Malini Wijesinghe, the 2018-2019 Student Senate Speaker of the Assembly, at mwijesinghe@mail.bradley.edu.

Student Organization and Leader Awards application deadline approaches

The Student Activities Office is currently accepting nominations for various student organization, student leader and faculty, staff and advisor awards. The awards being given include Student Organization of the Year, Program of the Year, Student Organization Advisor of the Year and more.

Nominations must be made by completing an online application. The deadline for the application is 4:30 p.m. April 23. Applications can be found at https://www.bradley.edu/campuslife/sao/events/leadership-awards/.

For more information, students can contact the Student Activities Office at 309-677-3050 or at studentactivities@fsmail.bradley.edu.



POLICE REPORTS

• A female university employee reported running a food service golf cart into Williams Hall at 2:55 p.m. April 11.

When officers arrived, the female said the accelerator of the golf cart got stuck, and she tried to steer the cart away from the building, but the steering did not work, either. The female said she then tried to brake, but that did not work either.

The crash caused minor damage to the building, but the female was uninjured.

 \bullet Officers received a report of two male contract employees fighting over a piece of wood at 7:45 a.m. April 12 at 1400 W. Main St.

One employee reported that he asked the second employee for a piece of wood that the second employee was standing on and said the second employee became agitated, told the first employee to "f*ck off" and kicked water and mud onto him. The first employee then said he pushed the second employee, but the second employee said the first employee punched him.

The second employee then spoke to officers and said he needed wood to stand on, and the first employee said he needed the wood as well. The first employee left, and when he came back, the first employee attempted to grab the wood from under the second employee, and the second employee got angry. The second employee said the first employee then punched him in the chest, and the second employee said he did not fight back.

Due to the incident, the supervisor of the two sent them both home.

• A female student complained to officers about a pile of garbage next to her vehicle at 10 p.m. April 13 at 911 N. Duryea Place.

The student reported that she found a spoon, two sugar packets, a Minute Maid frozen lemonade cup and a coffee creamer lid next to her vehicle on the passenger side. The student also said she noticed sugar crystals at the base of the windshield as well as on the hood of vehicle.

Upon further inspection, officers found no damage to the vehicle.

 \bullet Patrolling officers tended to an elderly female nonstudent who fell from church stairs at 2:08 p.m. April 14 at the 1100 block of W. Bradley Avenue

The female flagged down officers after she had fallen, and they asked her what happened. She explained, and officers noticed the back of the female's head was bleeding.

Officers called an ambulance, and the female was transported to Unity Point Health Methodist.

• Officers responded to the Campustown Starbucks after an employee tried to to notify a male nonstudent that he was banned from the coffee shop at 2:30 p.m. April 13.

When officers contacted the male, he claimed he was unaware of the ban, and thought there was only a minor dispute over the price of a refill. After speaking with the nonstudent, officers spoke with an employee who said the male was kicked out at the time of that particular event, but was now being banned due to suspicion of smoking cannabis in the bathroom of the shop.

The male was notified of the ban and was compliant.



Music professor promotes lifelong passion

BY AJ LAMB

Senior Copy Editor

As students pass by Constance Hall, they often hear pianos faintly ringing out of the windows as assistant professor of music John Orfe and his students hone their craft.

Since learning to play the piano as a child, Orfe has been around music for much of his life. Ten years ago, Orfe was called to teach at Bradley and has been able to use his lifelong passion for music to teach others.

"Although no one in my family is a professional musician, I felt called to music from a young age," Orfe said. "For as long as I can remember, I've always wanted teaching, performing and composing to combine in my

According to Orfe, he has been able to achieve all three aspects of his dream by teaching students at Bradley, performing nationally at concert halls and having other musicians perform his own compositions.

Professor of Music Performance John Jost has worked with Orfe since he started as a temporary instructor and said Orfe sets a professional tone for all of his students.

"He has very high standards," Jost said. "I think a lot of students really respect him very highly for those standards. I think some students may think his clases are difficult, but he

has high expectations."

In the classroom, Orfe said some of his favorite times in the classroom are the moments of clarity his students have after hard work.

"I live for those 'eureka' moments, when confusion dissolves and my students link the aural, visual, cognitive and kinesthetic aspects of music and draw connections between music and their other studies," Orfe said. "One challenge is to be patient and persistent in the learning process. Hard work done smart over time does

Orfe has even been able to spread his love for composition to his students with his courses, including composition and music theory.

"The [Peoria Lunaire concert featured] music by living composers including my composition class plus the seven students who wrote pocket concertos for the faculty group Peoria Lunaire," Orfe said.

This concert allowed Orfe's students to apply what they have learned over their college careers and have their works performed alongside established composers' pieces.

Beyond coursework, Orfe has also spent time performing at famous music halls across the country.

"[I've performed at] Disney Hall [in] Los Angeles, John F. Kennedy Center [in Washington D.C.], [and] major halls across the U.S. and abroad

including London, Moscow, Lima, Berlin, Amsterdam, Seoul ... [and] Beijing in May," Orfe said.

Additionally, Orfe has performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City several times, including once last month, as a part of his 20-member chamber orchestra, Alarm Will

Orfe has also composed several pieces for Bradley musical groups. As the director of choral activities, Jost said his groups have always loved performing Orfe's compositions.

"We've done quite a few of Professor Orfe's compositions with the Bradley Chorale, including probably the most ambitious piece of his that we did was the piece he wrote for the tenth anniversary of 9/11," Jost said. "It was supposed to be small scale, but it's very hard for him to work on a small scale ... and it was really an incredible performance."

Orfe's works have also been performed by famous orchestra's in the United States, including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Minnesota Orchestra and the Illinois Philharmonic as well as by several international groups.

"He is extremely intelligent and gifted - probably one of the most intelligent and gifted musicians I know," Jost said.

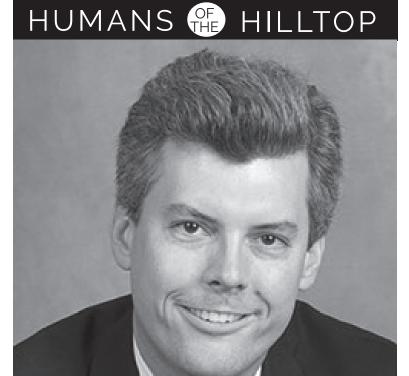


photo via Bradley University's website

JOHN ORFE

Assistant Professor of Music John Orfe has performed and played the piano at Disney Hall in Los Angeles, the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and other major music halls across the world.

Peoria Heights look So Chic

BY HALEY JOHNSON

Copy Editor

For events big or small, local boutique So Chic has gifts for them all. From party-planning supplies to gifts and relics, the business has been serving Peoria since March of 2017 and Morton since 2013.

After six years of event planning, owner and Bradley professor of consumer science Sara O'Shea said she decided to open the stores as a way to expand her event planning

"It was a natural transition. I was planning these great parties for clients, but we weren't buying our supplies locally. Nobody carried the unique party supplies, so we were buying them all online," said O'Shea. "I wanted to create a local outlet that gave the power to shop local and gave me an opportunity to connect and serve more people."

The shop is full-service, offering custom event planning, custom invitations, a rentable party room and a shop willed with bright and colorful party supplies.

'We try to make it pretty easy to mix and match things and for everything to have a unique feel, so each [party] can have its own personality," said O'Shea.

Sophomore public relations and marketing double major Natalie Konopka frequents the boutique whenever she can and described the atmosphere as unique and inviting.

"So Chic is full of life and instantly brings you to a 'what you wish your life could look like' kind of place," Konopka said. "Everything is so neat and cute; it makes you want one of

According to their website, So Chic carries a little something for everyone who walks in the door.

Freshman public relations major Ellie Weber said there are a lot of gifts and knick-knacks that she and other students would enjoy.

"They have stress-relief activities [like] coloring books and learning calligraphy," Weber said. "There's a lot of stuff to look at, so you can spend a lot of time there. It's bright

and covered in cute sayings in pretty fonts, and it's like you stepped into what Pinterest would look like if it

O'Shea said she feels the new location has been well received by the community and described her goals to increase its online presence in the future.

"Everything available in our store is available online, and that's a big source of what we're focusing on right now," said O'Shea. "I love our local stores, but we're going to hit a max capacity with what we can do

O'Shea also described her goals to expand services offered, like offering specialized classes at both locations. To hear about these upcoming events, she urges people to follow So Chic on Facebook and Instagram.

"We offer about 20 calligraphy classes per year and are hoping to offer more similar workshops this summer," O'Shea said.

So Chic is located at 4605 N. Prospect Rd. in the Peoria Heights. Store hours at both the Morton



photo by Kara Kamienski Photography

So Chic boutique has locations in Peoria and Morton and offers a variety of services including custom event planning and invitations.

location and in the Heights are 5 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to to 2 p.m.

Swant to hear from you! Submit your letters to the editor by 5:00 pm on Tuesday Email us at bradleyscout@gmail.com or visit us at bradleyscout.com

Dinner connects students, alumni

BY MEGHAN ANDERSON Off-staff Reporter

Yesterday, 10 Bradley students were given the chance to sit down and eat dinner with one of the Hilltop's distinguished alumni: Reid Hill.

Hill currently serves on the board of the Bradley Alumni Association and is managing director and head of healthcare investment banking for Mizuho Securities in Chicago. The dinner and networking event was organized by campus' Student Alumni Association.

Hill said he was excited for the opportunity to speak with current Bradley students and compare the Bradley experience today with what Hill knew when he was a student nearly 25 years ago.

"I think it's important for the

alumni to understand the key issues our students are facing today," Hill said

Brittney Richardson, assistant director of alumni relations, planned yesterday's program.

"We hope students find an opportunity to make new friendships, learn more about the university as a whole and really connect with alumni," Richardson said. "We hope that [students] see that not only are Bradley alumni successful, but also involved and invested in advancement of current and future Bradley students."

This year, the program randomized the selected students chosen to attend the dinner, rather than selecting only members from one department or one extracurricular activity.

"We want alumni to have a peek at

the current makeup of the university," Richardson said. "And we want students that wouldn't normally run into each other to come into contact."

Hill also said he hopes his involvement post-graduation serves as a good example for students.

"I would like to convey to the students the importance of staying engaged with your alma mater post-graduation," Hill said. "Bradley is a very special place, but it takes an active community of students, administrators, professors and alumni for our university to continue to grow and prosper."

According to Taylor Dorman, a senior marketing major who helped to plan as well as attended the event, it was an opportunity for students to communicate with other students as well as alumni.

"The main reason this event was created was to network. Not only do students get to meet and interact with other Bradley students that they might not get to meet otherwise, but they also get to meet an alum who is generous enough to host a dinner for us," Dorman said. "So, I hope that the students, as well as myself, take this opportunity to make new friends and build connections with each other and the Bradley alum."

This opportunity for Bradley students to come into contact with alumni poses a very important connection between past and present students.

"By students talking to alumni about their current Bradley experiences, it makes the alum feel more connected to Bradley and their time here even if it was many years ago," Dorman said. "Students and alumni can talk about similar memories they have both experienced on the Hilltop, as well as enlightening them on all the changes that have been made."

According to Richardson, yesterday's Dinner with 10 Braves event serves as a "launch" for future dinners with alumni. Beginning next academic year, Bradley's Alumni Association plans to host multiple dinners with alumni both semesters, open to all students.

"No matter what year you are, you're headed towards being a Bradley alum," Richardson said.

Student compositions performed by Bradley faculty

BY SARA FESSLER Copy Editor

Music, when performed, is more than just notes on a page. A few black lines and scribbles on some paper may appear to be a score, but it is only under the direction of a composer and musicians that this art can evolve into a story.

Just about every day, this translation of music occurs at Dingeldine Music Center, a fraction of campus behind Greek housing on Barker Avenue. While lesser known amongst much of Bradley, musicians from all over campus make their way to Dingeldine to rehearse and perform music by classical and contemporary composers alike.

Last Monday, however, Dingeldine saw a new side of music. The students of Assistant Professor John Orfe's applied composition lessons have been composing original pieces throughout all of second semester and finally got to see their hard work pay off.

These student composers were able to hear their pieces performed live by the Peoria Lunaire, otherwise known as the Bradley Faculty Chamber Ensemble, during the Bradley New Music Concert.

Typically, Orfe holds a New Music Concert every semester, and undergraduates perform various pieces written by student composers. This semester, however, was the first time students were able to hear professionals at Bradley perform their pieces.

"One of the ideas behind forming Peoria Lunaire as a faculty ensemble was to play currently written music by students as well as established composers," Orfe said. "[This concert] was the first large-scale realization of this part of the Peoria Lunaire's mission"

Among the student composers was Cole Faulstich, a freshman music business major who has been taking composition lessons with Orfe since last fall. Faulstich said it was surreal to hear his works come to life in the

"I feel like there is a difference when you hear your piece played by underclassmen ... versus when you're hearing it from professional musicians," Faulstich said. "It's gratifying overall, and I feel that with some of the emotional connections I had with the piece in particular, they came to life."

Faulstich said he got the inspiration for his piece when he was stressed out, looking for some solace in his music.

"It was after a particularly difficult week ... I was just playing piano trying to relax, and I came up with a few rhythms and melodies that I thought sounded really cool," Faulstich said.

Soon enough, he carried that same emotion and thought into his entire composition.

"In the [concert] program, I talked about not looking back after you've made a huge mistake," Faulstich said. "The piece is kind of trying to express the idea of taking what you did and moving on from it, which is why it's so dark at the beginning and why it gets a lot nicer towards the end."

Faulstich is just one amongst seven student composers who wrote an original piece for this portion of the concert. Freshman music composition major Conner Wittman also said he enjoyed the experimentation process of creating a new piece.

"When I was trying to come up with an idea for a piece, I was just messing around with the piano, and I really wanted to experiment with more contemporary ideas," Wittman said. "I came up with the idea to base my song around the musical interval of the perfect fourth, and from there, I just ... developed ideas based on the interval."

By the end of the performance, Orfe said he was highly impressed by his students' work.

"I was tremendously proud of my seven students. Their friends and family were, too," Orfe said. "The energy in Dingeldine at the end of the concert was hugely positive."

FOOD PANTRY

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"There's this huge misconception that if you have the money to go to college, especially one like Bradley, then you must have enough money to buy yourself food. But that's not always true," Wyas said. "There are students here who are on scholarships and work-study programs, or who have other financial assistance. However, especially once students move off campus and don't have a meal plan built into their tuition, paying for quality, nutritious food can become more difficult."

The pantry will open in the Markin Family Student Recreation Center Room 30 for one to two days per week in three to four hour time slots. Money and food will come from SABRC, crowdfunding and donations.

"[Lydia's Cupboard] will help anybody who really is in a position where they're struggling financially, where they're skipping meals," Baima said. "Even if they do have some money, and they're getting some food, hopefully we'd be able to provide them with things that are a little bit more nutritious than just the dollar store hot dogs or something."

In addition to food, Lydia's Cupboard will also provide students with basic hygiene items, such as toothbrushes and shampoo.

"Although the senate has been calling it a food pantry, in actuality, it is much more than that," LAS senator and senior psychology and political

science double major Gabe Beratio said. "Any non-perishable groceries, such as toothpaste and laundry detergent, are accepted by Lydia's Cupboard."

According to survey results, 86 percent of respondents said they would be willing to volunteer at the food pantry occasionally.

"Since Lydia's Cupboard is a student-led initiative, we're always looking for more perspectives and leaders to join in the fight against food insecurity," Wyas said. "Whether that takes form in being a member of the Lydia's Cupboard team, having a food drive, or volunteering at Lydia's Cupboard, there are a lot of ways for the student body to help out."



Students embrace their inner outdoor spirits in Adventure Club

BY DAN KAMINSKI Off-staff Reporter

Bradley is home to dozens of extracurricular activities and clubs for students to join. But if students want to get off the Hilltop to hike or hammock, there's only one option: Adventure Club.

According to Andrew Trocki, club president and senior civil engineering major, Adventure Club is designed to lead members to far away locations. "[Getting outside] as often as possible [serves] as a getaway from the routine of school," Trocki said.

Many of the clubs on Bradley's campus plan events frequently, but few have the potential to take their members to places they have never prepare the meals and make sure

been before to explore unknown areas of the country.

The Adventure Club has traveled across the Midwest and will continue to branch out of the region.

We've spent weekends in Iowa, Illinois, Missouri and even down in Texas for a backpacking trip," Trocki said. "I help plan trips with my executive board, then once we are on the trip, myself as well as the other executive members serve as aids. We are not there to show them around. we are there to explore together."

One important task of a trip aid is keeping everyone on the right track and making sure everybody is eating to keep their energy up.

"During the eating times, I help

everyone is accounted for," Trocki "But sometimes, general members have more experience with one trip and know more things about it, so I would let them [lead].'

Amanda Freund, club member and senior studio art and social work double major, said she has a handful of Adventure Club trips she looks back on fondly.

"I have attended two weekend trips to Maquoketa Caves in Iowa and Sand Ridge State park in Illinois," Freund said. "I also attended the Spring Break backpacking trip to Mark Twain National Park, which

Freund and Trocki said the club has more unique activities than

"Outdoor activities, backpacking and hiking, provide students with a refreshing change of pace," Trocki said. "That's one of the main appeals of the club."

According to Trocki, the club gives students a great way to break free from the distractions of school.

"I joined Adventure Club because I love to camp, hike and backpack," he said. "This club was a perfect outlet for me to do all those things while still handling school but having fun in my free time."

In addition to exploring nature, Freund said Adventure Club is also focused on bringing their members closer together on trips.

"We work as a team, include everyone and take anyone who is willing to adventure with us," Freund said. "We provide all the gear, knowledge and food. All the students need is to bring themselves, walking shoes and extra clothes."

Future club adventures will include a trip to Jubilee College State Park, just outside of Peoria, from April 20 to April 22, and a day hike during finals week, when the group will visit nearby Forest Park Nature

Those interested in joining can contact Andrew Trocki at atrocki@ mail.bradley.edu.

Students FUSE experiences for exhibition

BY KYLEE HIGGINS

News Editor

On April 28, Bradley's Department of Interactive Media will host its annual FUSE exhibition where students in the department can show off the work they've spent countless hours creating.

Working together with the Peoria Riverfront Museum, FUSE aims to showcase different mediums of work, including video games, apps, animation artwork and more.

Ethan Ham, chairman of the department, said in its fifth year, FUSE will have the same setup as previous years. However, the games change each time.

"Every year is different because the projects are different," Ham said. "I don't want to pick favorites, but there is some interesting stuff. We have a virtual reality game, which is very cool. We have a game that is voice-controlled; it's on Alexa, which is pretty neat. I like the arcade game this year ... There's a touch-table

While collaborating with the Riverfront Museum, the students involved are able to reach a wider audience while also getting off campus. According to Ham, this is the reason the event is hosted at the

'What [the museum does] is make it a free day, and lots of people come," Ham said. "Some of them come to see us and some just because it's a free day, but they're pleasantly surprised."

Despite being made by students, Ham said FUSE is not necessarily geared for students on campus.

"What we tell our students is that the target audience is fifth graders," Ham said. "We do a much bigger push toward the community, [and] we put out word to public schools."

On the student side, Brie Kastner, executive producer for FUSE, said helping run the exhibition gave her a chance to experience a more professional side of her major year after year. According to Kastner, her professional growth through FUSE makes the hard work leading up to the end result worth it.

"Remembering how it felt last

year, and then just getting to see all the small components ... They just all come together in this one really cool day where everyone gets to see these projects that so many of the students put hard work into," Kastner, a junior animation major, said.

Before she came to Bradley, Kastner said she attended FUSE as a community member.

"I heard about [FUSE] before I was even enrolled at Bradley," Kastner said. "I had gone to the show before my freshman year, and I went and checked it out. That made me fall more in love with the department

But for others, the experience is a step into the unknown. Freshman animation major Ruby Brown will experience FUSE for the first time with her group's game "Scrapyard Skirmish."

"I am nervous, I'd say," Brown said. "[I'm excited about] getting to show the work off like what we put all that work into, and it'll be fun to show the kids."

Before coming to Bradley, Brown said she didn't have experience in her major, but she has since grown.

"This is the first time I've ever owned a computer, so [becoming an animation major] was quite the leap," Brown said. "I've gotten the hang of it since, though."

Brown's enthusiasm for her major serve as an example of why Kastner said the anticipation for the exhibition is well warranted within the interactive media department.

"I think that something really unique about our department [is that] we all are really excited about what we create," Kastner said. "We're making animations and video games. People dream about doing that stuff, so it's never really hard to be excited about making these games. It's very tedious. It's a lot of hard work ... but I feel like we're all just so excited about our craft that we keep going."

FUSE will be run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 28 at the Peoria Riverfront Museum at 222 SW Washington St. For more information, visit https:// bradleyinteractive.com/exhibits.

Student Senate votes down gender inclusive housing resolution

BY COLE BREDAHL

Sports Editor

Student Senate voted on a gender inclusive housing resolution on Monday during its general assembly meeting, but it did not pass after receiving a 24-17 vote against. Monday's general assembly meeting was the final meeting for the 2017-2018 Student Senate cabinet.

The resolution was aimed at allowing transgender students to live in all dorms as the gender they identify as. This new resolution was would allow transgender student to live on all floors of all universityowned buildings, according to former

Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion and the incoming 2018-2019 Secretary of Finance Camille Sanders.

Last fall, Student Senate passed a resolution designating the first floor of Wyckoff Hall as a gender-neutral floor to sign up for.

Sanders said she was disappointed but not surprised by the resolution failing to pass on its first attempt at

"Basing it off of last year, when we did [the preferred pronoun resolution], it also didn't get voted in the first time either," Sanders said. "The topic of trans people in general makes people uncomfortable because it is foreign to a lot of people."

Senior English major Alice Allpow, an at-large senator and the first openly out transgender woman in Student Senate, said she is frustrated that the resolution did not pass.

"That was really, really disappointing to me, and I've been bummed out about it all week," Allpow said.

Despite the resolution not passing, Sanders said she anticipates the topic will reach Student Senate again in the future.

"This is not the only time Senate is going to bring something like this forward," Sanders said.

VIGIL HELD FOR NASJAY MURRY



photo by Lisa Stemmons

Students attend a vigil held for Nasjay Murry, a freshman biomedical science major who died in an off-campus shooting April 8, in Michel Student Center Ballroom.

Editorial

Student Senate should pursue gender inclusive housing further

This past Monday, Student Senate voted on a resolution that would allow all transgender students to live in housing that corresponds with their gender identity. But the resolution didn't pass – it didn't receive the two-thirds majority it needed.

We understand Student Senate resolutions work as proposals that need to go through far more rounds of administration and University Senate before anything is officially passed. But this is not a good sign for Bradley.

Alice Allpow, a senior English major and outgoing member of Student Senate, explained best why this should be a concern to the campus community.

"Trans people are on this campus," Allpow, a transgender woman, said. "You're prioritizing baseless fears that cisgender people have over the actual violence and discrimination that transgender people face. That's the biggest problem that I have with it all, and that kind of sucks."

She's right. If Bradley waits any longer to pursue something like this, the university will find itself behind the curve. That's not a place it should want to be on topical issues, and it certainly doesn't show support

or respect for the entire campus community.

There are only a few weeks left of this academic year, and the new Student Senate cabinet has already transitioned to their roles. As students who are supposed to represent the Bradley students, we hope they make an effort to educate campus and pursue this issue further.

THE SCOUT

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All letters to the editor must be

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

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

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

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

Senior Column

'Road work ahead?!?'



mgehling@mail.bradley.edu Editor-in-Chief

When I was little, I used to play this game during car rides.

I'd close my eyes real tight and try to feel where I was. I knew what it felt like to turn off the Northwest Arterial and onto Highway 52. I knew the exact bumps that signaled my bus had turned onto the loose Mud Lake Road gravel, telling me I was almost home. I could time the trip into town based on when we'd slow down for stoplights and when we'd make right turns. I knew my mom's driving from my dad's.

The game kept me occupied in long car rides, and knowing where we were at all times made me feel important and smart. That sense of direction gave me comfort when I felt anxious on long trips or late rides home. It helped me when I learned to drive that 2003 Toyota Camry in the John Deere parking lot my sophomore year of high school – and it's helped me in college, too.

It took me about three years of school and four months of a summer internship, but I eventually developed that wayfinding ability in Peoria. I'm confident I could get to the Ice Cream Shack on N.E. Adams Street with my eyes closed, or that I could lead a friend to the Fondulac Drive overlook in East Peoria in a blizzard any day. I could walk backwards, blindfolded and from anywhere on campus and still make my way to The Scout office, where I spent so many of my favorite hours with my favorite people in the world for the last three years.

But then my friend Rachael and I got into a bad accident on the way to an Iowa football game in September, and it completely wrecked my car. I jacked our insurance rates up. I made my family worry. I put my friend in danger.

I started to white-knuckle car armrests whenever I rode in the

passenger seat with anybody else. I didn't drive anywhere for a solid month after the accident out of fear.

And when I went home for Fall Break this year, I found myself thinking twice about which turns to take and what routes would be the fastest ones. I felt lost in my hometown for the first time in my life

It made me anxious, not feeling confident behind the wheel and not remembering the roads I had been driving for years. Was I becoming less Wahlert Catholic High School? Less Iowa? Less daughter of Joel and Tammy and older sister of Emmie and Lizzie?

Less Maddie?

I started hearing back from graduate schools a couple months ago, and when that happened, a new anxiety sank in. Wherever I decided to go, I would have to learn a whole new map, a whole new city gridline. I would be the odd one out. I would get lost. I wouldn't be able to go anywhere with my eyes closed.

I'm not scared of being alone, being in new places or being in unfamiliar settings. But I am scared of losing control – and for the past 22 years, that's all I've had. It's why I push myself so hard in classes. It's why I reach for leadership positions in student organizations.

I'm going to Purdue University in the fall to get my master's in English literature. I'm going to have to figure out what makes West Lafayette, Indiana, tick – I think there's a river, and it's not too far from Chicago. I'm going to have to learn the layouts of new academic buildings and sidewalk mazes of a campus much, much larger than Bradley, but I'm going to try to do that without forgetting what I already know.

So, to get from my house to the Mississippi River's Edge Plaza: Drive on Mud Lake Road until you run out of Mud Lake Road to drive on. Turn left onto Highway 52, and follow it until you turn left onto 5th Street. Drive for a few minutes, and turn right onto Bell Street. Stick your toes in the muddy river.

From Bradley University to Dubuque, Iowa, my hometown: University Street to I-74 West. After about an hour and a half, avoid the Quad Cities by getting onto I-80 West. Merge onto Highway 61 North and drive another hour and a half to White Street in Dubuque. Watch the sun rise over the Mississippi.

From Bradley University to Western Hearts Ranch: University Street to I-74 West. Drive about 10 miles until Exit 82 for Kickapoo-Edwards Road. Be sure to stop at Jubilee Café for lunch, then turn right onto W. Dubois Road. Follow it until you get to N. Kramm Road. The horses love peppermints.

From where you are to The Scout office: Head to Bradley University's Michel Student Center lobby. Take the elevator up to the third floor, and walk through both sets of doors to Sisson Hall. Head all the way to the end of the hallway, to Room 319. You're home.

Letter to the Editor

'It is never too late to seek help'

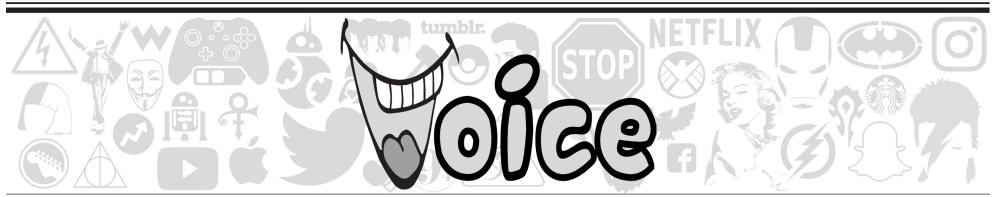
Dear Members of the Bradley Community:

I want to salute AJ Lamb for his courage and insight shown in his senior column in the April 13 issue of the Scout. According to multiple sources including the National Institutes of Mental Health, depression is the most common health problem for students in college. The damage that depression does to success in school, in work and in relationships as well as the internal pain and suffering that it causes is so sad and unnecessary.

As a college instructor for more than 20 years and as a clinical social worker seeing college students in my counseling practice, I am almost daily confronted with the negative effects of depression on students. A study by the American Psychological Association found that as many as one-third of college students had experienced symptoms of depression in the past year that interfered with their functioning. So, Mr. Lamb is certainly not alone.

And, he is right; treatment is the answer. Depression is a health problem. It is treatable. It is not a personal failure. It is never too late to seek help. Talk to the Bradley Counseling Center, to a physician or to another mental health professional. We do owe it ourselves as Mr. Lamb says so well to not neglect our mental health.

Nancy Amos, Ph.D. Social Work Program amos@fsmail.bradley.edu April 20, 2018 THE SCOUT



'The Standups' - Crosswords - Sudoku

Internships ARE worth the hype

BY MACKENZIE NEWMAN

Off-staff Reporter

Summer is almost upon us, ladies and gents. While for some that means sun, fun and heading home, others are gearing up for a taste of the professional world. These three months off are prime time for college students to put themselves out there for companies to typically use as free labor and call it "experience."

Currently, lots of students are beginning to make housing and financial plans for their upcoming opportunities, while others are waiting with bated breath for company responses. But no matter where you stand, there's a high likelihood you've wondered about the importance of internships at some point. Are they worth the hype?

Well, if you ask Bradley students, it seems so.

Melissa Wyas, a sophomore psychology and political science double major, said internships are a great way to explore what careers are available.

"It's nice to test the waters of what you might want to do after graduation," she said.

Interning in your desired field is an inside look at the profession you believe you want. Studying a field and truly immersing yourself in it can be two very different experiences. Wyas can attest.

"I've had experiences where I've left thinking, 'This is not at all what I want to do," Wyas said. "It helped me get one step closer to figuring out my path after graduation."

Once you know where you want to be, internships become a great way to get your foot in the door.

"They are a great chance to step out of your comfort zone and even begin networking," senior marketing major Jayce Espinosa said.

Whether it's a simple LinkedIn connection or a new letter of reference, meeting individuals in your line of work could make a world of difference. As the saying goes, "It's not what you know, it's who you know."

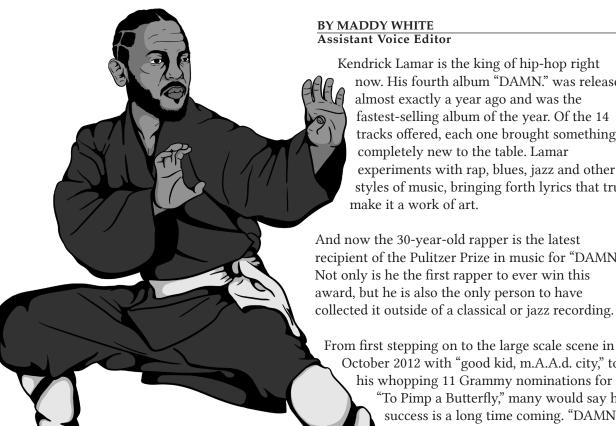
If someone established can vouch for the work you do and the way you do it, you've put yourself ahead of the graduates nobody knows. Internships give you a distinctive quality over your fellow recent grads who are vying for the same entry-level position. Internships are real experience. They're beyond the classroom work with people you aren't paying to tolerate you.

That means internship references are based on what you can practically do in the workforce opposed to how well you can pass classes. People you've interned with can attest to your work ethic and capabilities alongside academic references makes you more than just a student, but an actual member of the professional community.

Having these connections could be the one thing that sets you apart from the potential hundreds of other applicants with the same degree.

Strengthening your resume with applicable work experience, gaining contacts that can give you nonacademic praise, and figuring out if you're really studying what's right for you makes internships a great option during college. With potential payoffs like reference letters or even job opportunities, it sounds like internships can back up their hype.

Well, DAMN, Kung Fu Kenny is a Pulitzer Prize-winner



BY MADDY WHITE **Assistant Voice Editor**

> Kendrick Lamar is the king of hip-hop right now. His fourth album "DAMN." was released almost exactly a year ago and was the fastest-selling album of the year. Of the 14 tracks offered, each one brought something completely new to the table. Lamar experiments with rap, blues, jazz and other styles of music, bringing forth lyrics that truly make it a work of art.

And now the 30-year-old rapper is the latest recipient of the Pulitzer Prize in music for "DAMN." Not only is he the first rapper to ever win this award, but he is also the only person to have collected it outside of a classical or jazz recording.

October 2012 with "good kid, m.A.A.d. city," to his whopping 11 Grammy nominations for "To Pimp a Butterfly," many would say his success is a long time coming. "DAMN." was just the cherry on top.

> The song "DNA" talks about predetermined forces making a stronger impact on our lives, instead of what we are each

capable of. In "XXX," he talks about the reality of growing up in America these days.

The song "HUMBLE," which graced the top of the charts longer than any other off the album, only speaks to Lamar's character and how he is the same person he was before his career skyrocketed. Not only was "HUMBLE" the go-to acapella rap-along song of the summer, it was also voted Best Rap Performance, Best Rap Video and Best Rap Song at the Grammys.

People argue Lamar was cheated by his Grammy loss last year because the album was so objectively vibrant and creative. No one deserved Album of the Year more than Kendrick Lamar this past year, but I guess that's none of my business.

Lamar tells stories through his music; just listen to his words. Sure, his songs get a little dark at times, but so does life. Keeping it real is something Lamar has no problem doing, which is why his fan following is so vast.

The world is changing, and Lamar is rapping. He is leading hip-hop toward a new direction where problems are not only addressed, but also more widely received and discussed. These risks are working in his favor, and a movement is upon us.



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bradley.edu/summerclasses



Sit down and watch 'The Standups'

BY LISA STEMMONS & SCOUT STAFF Voice Editor

I love a good underdog. And while the comedians featured on Netflix's series "The Standups" may not exactly be considered underdogs, their half hour sessions are an ideal platform for experiencing different comedic styles.

Yes, they landed a gig on Netflix, which is a massive accomplishment in the comedic world in and of itself, but it's safe to say these performers would have otherwise not received the mass recognition they so desperately deserve. None of these comedians were well known enough to be on the other comedic endeavor of Netflix, "Comedians in Cars getting Coffee."

Honestly, all stand-up should be in this format. To

pull off an hour of comedy, even if you're touting a big name like Hart, C.K., Silverman or Schumer, is plain difficult. These mini specials allow Netflix cheaper payouts, and the more booked comedians, the merrier.

I won't pretend to be a historian of all things comedy. I've always enjoyed SNL, I've read Judd Apatow's "Sick in the Head" and have spent a fair amount of time consuming Comedy Central shows, but that is the extent of my expertise.

When it comes to stand up, I'm typically not a laugh out loud kind of viewer. When I saw Chelsea Handler live, I laughed out of respect and expected norms. However, you'll know I'm truly amused if I have a smile plastered on my face rather than forced fake laughter to fill the air.

A lot of these comedians could hold their own with longer stage time, but they are also more niche. That being said, while I did thoroughly enjoy the majority of episodes, there is still a lot to learn and appreciate from watching a comedian that doesn't tickle your fancy.

I've watched Beth Stelling's episode so many times, I damn near have the thing memorized. Meanwhile, Rachel Feinstein wasn't my cup of tea, but with the low commitment of a half hour, I was still able to watch the whole thing and think about it more objectively.

With a dozen half-hour sets to choose from, you're bound to fly through them. Here's a run-down of a few of our staff's favorites:



1. Brent Morin

While there isn't anything overly original about Morin's routine, his energy and personality shine through his entire performance. From his drunken alter ego to dealing with a break-up, Morin's set is relatable and simple, which makes him enjoyable for a diverse audience.



2. Kyle Kinane

Kinane's humor is not for the faint of heart or the easily offended. His jokes center on a lot of sensitive topics but he makes them work with his quick and lively delivery. He is dark, twisted and honest.



3. Nate Bargatze

Bargatze's style is very easy-going, delivering deadpan jokes with punch lines that sneak up on you. Whether it's touring a reptile house on vacation or fighting with his wife at 3 a.m., Bargatze's comedy always focuses on the humor of everyday life.



4. Joe List

In a routine riddled with self-deprecation, List recounts his awkward middle school bullies, discusses his confidence issues around others at the gym and his disdain for surgeons.



5. Fortune Feimster

Her entire routine relies on being a raging lesbian, but simply getting up there and sharing her lifestyle works. I believe she is stronger in bits than stand-up, but I still appreciated the weed and Southern jokes.



6. Deon Cole

With paper in hand, Cole checked off his jokes as he completed them, a style I've never seen done for humor rather than a comedian simply being an amateur. While he catered to racial stereotypes to get laughs, his overall set was enjoyable. Cole will be in Peoria this weekend at the Jukebox Comedy club.

DISTRACTIONS

Crosswords

Across

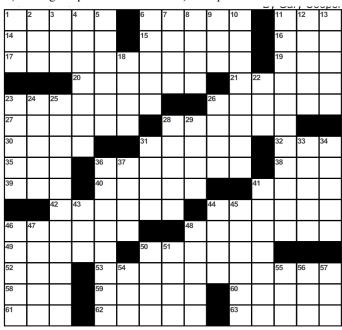
- 1) Gift ideas for prisoners?
- 6) African language 11) Drill attachment
- 14) Doofus
- 15) With all one's strength
- 16) "We're number ___!"
- 17) Men's underwear
- 19) Poem of praise
- 20) Little piggy's place
- 21) "___ Care of Business" (rock classic)
- 23) Planetary reflections
- 26) Colorful perennials
- 27) Linen place
- 28) Schoolmarm's rod
- 30) New Mexico art community
- 31) Carpentry joint
- 32) Expansive grassy area
- 35) Mantra sounds

Sudoku

2

36) Sailing for pleasure

- 38) Permit
- 39) Filthy rodent
- 40) Word with "fire" or "transit"
- 41) Fresh-mouthed
- 42) Overplayed one's role
- 44) Spain and Portugal
- 46) Quiver contents
- 48) More unrefined
- 49) Brick worker
- 50) Wide of the mark
- 52) Numerical ending
- 53) Gyrations in a bowling alley
- 58) Prefix with "classic"
- 59) Assistants
- 60) Greek underworld river
- 61) Bug-killing ecohazard, briefly
- 62) Sand product
- 63) Antique auto



Down

- 1) Barbecue offering
- 2) "Much ___ About Nothing"
- 3) Half a dozen
- 4) Well-versed woman?
- 5) Stretched one's legs?
- 6) Money from Thailand
- 7) Andy's radio partner
- 8) Not any, country style
- for tat
- 10) Deprived of composure
- 11) Barnes & Noble and competitors
- 12) Like some films 13) New drivers, typically
- 18) Chimney accumulation
- 22) Feel awful
- 23) He might be in a cast
- 24) Andean animal
- 25) Follow-up vaccination
- 26) Golf-bag item
- 28) Noisome
- 29) Author Bagnold
- 31) Old VCR insert
- 33) Creepy
- 34) Oil from flower petals
- 36) Common lunch holder
- 37) Some feed on a farm
- 41) Apothecaries' tools
- 43) Cow's sound
- 44) Ayatollah's country
- 45) Type of bracelet or anklet
- 46) Change the Constitution

4

6

4

- 47) Assessed
- 48) Salad garnish
- 50) Icelandic epic
- 51) Baker's offerings 54) Lubricate
- show time!" 55) "
- 56) That girl 57) Whammy

Classifieds

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

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Senior Column

I'm crying in the club



It feels like it was just yesterday when I walked into The Scout office for the first time. I started my first day on-staff in the same manner in which I start most things: quiet, shy and reserved. It took me a whole semester to finally warm up to The Scout office before I showed my true self.

Managing Editor

I chuckle when I think about the stark contrast between that version of me and who I am now. The Scout staff practically begs me to stop blaring trap remixes on office computers, to stop talking about my Marvel movie theories or to stop making Vine references (you can take the Vine app off of my phone, but you can't take the Vine references out of my soul). I owe so much gratitude to my Scout family

for unconditionally loving me and allowing myself to be the quirky, loud and spirited individual that I am.

Last week, Scout staffers were looking at the first articles we wrote for the paper. Mine came during the first week of my sophomore year as an off-staff sports reporter. It was a small recap of a men's and women's golf tournament, and it barely covered a quarter of a page. By all means, it was nothing impressive, but to me, it was the first time I had something published. It was, and still is, one of my greatest accomplishments.

I think the changes I went through in my Scout experience are an analogy to the journey I went through during my college experience as a whole. My freshman year was marked with melancholy as I trudged through classes for a major that I hated. I wasn't involved, I wasn't outgoing and I had no direction. I soon changed my major to sports communication and began putting more effort into my classes in addition to participating in extracurricular organizations. I grew through this involvement into the person I am today.

There are also people that I have to thank, both on and off of the Scout staff, who have helped me grow in one way or another over the past four years.

First, to Maddie: whether you knew it or not, you were perhaps one of the biggest teachers during my time here at Bradley. I've learned about the world of journalism first as your Copy Editor, then as your News Editor and now as your Managing Editor. Thank you for guiding me through my Scout journey and for your patience in my journalism education (and for when I have to ask you how to save PDFs every week on InDesign).

To (Chris) Kaergard: I want to thank you for inspiring me to be dedicated and passionate towards a career. Your mentorship over the past three years is something that I will carry with me throughout all of my future endeavors.

To Lisa and Kylee: who have

always shown me what true support is. During my most stressful times on staff, Lisa has always managed to put a smile on my face through her humor and genuinity, and Kylee is always willing to help me, no matter what time of the day or night it is.

To AJ: you are one of the only people who was around me during my quiet freshman days (and throughout high school), and you've been brave enough to stick around me during my zaniness (both in and outside The Scout office). Thank you for your constant friendship.

To Molly: your friendship has meant so much to me and is one of the reasons I have gained self-confidence. You are a true leader, and I've been inspired by you to do my best every day. Thank you for all of our memories.

To Mom and Dad: this past year has been one of the most transforming for our family. What you have shown me during this time (and throughout my life) is that it is never too late to better ourselves. We can always grow and change to become the best versions of ourselves. I'm not sure what kind of higher being, fate or destiny gave me you as parents, but I know that I am the luckiest person to have your support and love. Thank you for everything.

To my brother, Vinny, and my sister, Jenna: there aren't enough

words. This is the first time in our lives when we are not heading in the same direction. After spending 21 years together, I think it is time that we start to choose our own paths, but please know how much our life together has meant to me. We have shared so much, from our childhood marked by matching outfits and outnumbering Mom and Dad, to high school, where our different personalities began to come forth. Vinny is the kindest person I have ever known. He has the ability to unconditionally accept people without judgment or prejudice. Jenna is the most passionate person I know, and she has taught me that it is OK to show my feelings and be vulnerable. I know you both will continue to add so much love into this world. Thank you for a childhood packed with three times the love, laughs and memories.

I could name many other people who have touched my life during the course of my Bradley experience, and to them, I also extend my gratitude. I have come to learn over my past four years at Bradley that it is not only experiences that shape a person, but the individuals that you come into contact with through those experiences as well. I've been blessed to be surrounded by people who have allowed me to grow and to be happy. I will forever be grateful.

Senior Column

LISA STEMMONS
lstemmons@mail.bradley.edu
Voice Editor

I explicitly remember freshman year, staring at the list of newspaper dates posted on the door of Sisson 319, thinking about how sad it was to see the remaining numbers dwindle. I was a different person then, and my experience in the newsroom every year since has been vastly distinct.

But the staff has always been family. I know this because even when they don't love me back, I still love them. Growing up, I had the Warriors family, my brother's travel baseball team, but I was always envious because that was much more his experience than my own. I wanted to belong somewhere, too.

This is my 84th paper with the Bradley Scout. I think it's safe to say my passion for writing led me to a place where I do belong.

First and foremost, I have to thank my family. To my late Papa, who used to tease me about the Trib scouting me straight from college, I love and miss you daily. Grandma, thank you for always believing in me as well, as evident by my first article with the dreaded "& SCOUT STAFF" byline framed in your home.

To my most faithful readers: my parents. My father, who is a very intelligent man in his own right: thank you for doing everything in pursuit of making sure I'm happy

Have a life

and educated. My mother, who is the most selfless woman I know: thank you for teaching me how to write. I am forever indebted to you both. And Scott, who I know has never given a damn about reading a single thing I've written, unless of course, it was an essay I wrote for him: I still love you

Thank you, Nikki, for making my transition into college so smooth by being the greatest freshman year roommate a girl could ask for. When we reflect on our days in U Hall it feels like ages ago, but at the same time our time pursuing the glory of higher education truly did fly by.

Thank you, Kristin, for allowing me to follow you around like a puppy dog during my freshman year. When Sam wrote on my Facebook wall approving of what would be my first-ever Voice article, I know you were responsible for convincing her to allow me to join staff. Both of you will forever be my role models and single-handedly made my Bradley experience worth it.

Thank you to Alpha Chi Omega for allowing me to unapologetically be myself without fear of judgment and for letting me use chapter as a platform to practice some colorful commentary (as if you had a choice).

Thank you, Jenna, for making LA the best experience and proving it's

never too late in your collegiate life to make a best friend. Our shared love for all things music, movies, books and writing has fostered a mutual respect for one another, and we can always count on each other to stay out partying at all hours of the night.

I'd also like to thank the communications department for allowing the third floor of the GCC to feel like home. You are all a bunch of characters and deserve your own sitcom

To everyone I didn't explicitly name, but who have endured my outbursts, my impulsiveness, my ugly days – thank you.

Unlike many of my peers, I don't have a crazy freshman year to reflect on. I consistently have wild moments from each of my four years here, which will serve as material for my standup in the near future.

Many of those moments are from within the Scout office, where over the four years I've gotten to witness people come out of their shells and find a genuine love for writing the history of this school, no matter how menial the event. It's a beautiful thing, and these diverse humans are beautiful. Much love to all.

I also feel the need to touch on my genuine love for school. My eyes

well up when I think about never again participating in discussions, executing creative projects or taking an exam. I remember each and every one of my teachers from the five lovely institutions I attended, and I can't help but marvel at how long of a life it seems I have lived.

When you're in junior high, college students seem so grown, and you think you have everything figured out. Nostalgia and uncertainty are a common thread amongst all senior columns, yet we all had different experiences. I'm even prideful of a lot of my less ideal moments, such as probably writing the most pieces to warrant letters to the editor. Life itself just seems crazy, but I digress.

My all-time favorite phrase, which will be inscribed on my graduation cap, is "Have a life." I may not have gained any unworldly insights, or am even remotely certain about my identity and what my future self has in store, but I am not so naïve to be incapable of recognizing the fact that life is a fickle bitch. People love to say, "have a nice life," but it's unrealistic. Life will have its ups and downs, so the only thing I wish for those I love is to "have a life," in all of its glory.

SCOUT THE STREET





What is your pinned Tweet?

"NCT - Touch" (Kpop music

- Paige Holland, freshman chemistry major

"Back to school and ready to finish out the semester surrounded by the greatest, most supportive friends and some awesome music. Let's do this."

> - Maggie Mitchell, freshman music education major





"God has a very weird way of throwing trials and tribulations into your life that will shake you up only to prove there is a reason why."

- Adelayo Oyewo, freshman chemistry major

"It only gets better from here." (and three pictures of herself from the summer)

- Jocelyn Anaya, freshman criminal justice major



BY TIRZAHSPRIGELA CHRISTOPHER Off-staff Reporter photos by Tirzahsprigela Christopher design by Amy Trompeter

Students invest in extracurricular activities

BY ZANE JUD Off-staff Reporter

Meeting for the first time today, the Investment Club started as many other clubs or start-ups do: with a group of close friends. Brothers Kage and Klayton Kowalski and friends Josh Seelye and Jon Jellison all are co-founders of the club.

Investment Club began with an idea from Klayton, a release from the organization stated.

"Despite his incredible work in computer science, [Klayton] wasn't making sick gains; and surely, that's all that matters in life," the release said. "So Klayton had an idea. He thought to himself: 'I'll open a stock account."

The club's executive board strives to be laid back, but each one still has a passion for investing. This was by

and gaining large "Losing

of time in a volatile market isn't normal for university students, and it can be stressful," Kage, a senior computer science and philosophy double major, said. "To help counter this, we take a lighthearted approach to investing, making fun of our losses and celebrating our successes."

One of the most important aspects of the club is teaching students about investing and preparing them for potential risks or setbacks that may occur. Treasurer Jon Jellison, a junior electrical engineering major, said that information is the club's top priority.

"It is important to everybody, whether you plan on investing in the actual stock market or using the knowledge in other aspects of life," Jellison said.

Klayton, secretary for the club and a sophomore computer science major, said anybody can join the club.

"Investment Club is open to all udents, regardless of major or amounts of money in a short span experience," Klayton said. "The club

will help students learn about the art of investing and give tips on how to succeed."

Although the group plans to stay focused on teaching members about the process of investing, there is still room for a little competitive fun at weekly meetings.

"We also plan to have a hall of fame and a hall of shame both monthly and annually," Klayton said. "This should be a fun way of keeping track of who's made the best decisions and the worst decisions regarding their stock portfolios."

The club has already set forth goals for the future, including a shared stock portfolio for the members of the club, as well as establishing a place for experienced and novice investors to meet and discuss topics, according to Kage.

The Investment Club will meet Friday from 6:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. in Bradley Hall Room 100.

Engineering professionals provide industry insight

BY SARA FESSLER Copy Editor

Typically, the fastest route to the engineering industry is through internships with Caterpillar. But last week, engineering professionals met at the Michel Student Center for a Peoria PTC Technology user group.

Kalyani Nair, associate professor and mind behind planning the event, said students were able to learn more about their future careers, as well as meet professionals in their field.

"[The event] gives [students] better exposure to see what's happening in [the] industry," Nair said. "It gives them a good networking opportunity ... and when they meet other users, they can learn about things they didn't do before."

The event included presentations on Creo, a design software that many engineers use to produce three dimensional models. Beginning their freshman year, engineering majors at Bradley begin learning how to use Creo. However, according to Nair, what students learn in class about the software is not extensive.

"Class is quite limited," Nair said. "We cannot cover all the tricks that Creo is capable of doing. We probably do like 20 percent or 30 percent of the software, so [students] get to see parts of the software that they aren't able to see [in class]."

According to Nair, this event may even connect students with future

employers.

"[Students got] to meet a lot of professionals who use this software, and they [could] bring resumes along with them, so [it was] a very good networking opportunity," Nair said.

This is Bradley's first year hosting the event, and while it is occuring on campus, it is open to all users in the surrounding area. Planning for the event began after Design Engine reached out asking if Bradley would be willing to host a PTC user group.

"I just hope that students [were able to] benefit from it, and I hope the professionals also who come here are excited by what we can do for them," Nair said. "I hope as they interacted with our students, they realize the potential of our graduating students. We do provide them good quality students, so when they interacted with our students, I hope they [were] impressed."

Sara Fessler is a freshman biomedical science major from Algonquin, Illinois. She is one of The Scout's Copy Editors. Contact her at sfessler@mail.bradley.edu.



SPORTS



Junior John Pollifrone is one of Bradley's experienced players returning to the team next year.

photo by Cole Bredahl

Soccer experiments in spring game

BY COLE BREDAHL

Sports Editor

The Bradley soccer team used its spring game against the University of Nebraska-Omaha Saturday to try out different players in crucial roles.

The Braves were supposed to play Omaha and Southern Illinois Edwardsville in Evanston over the weekend, but the round robin was cancelled, and Omaha travelled to Peoria instead.

The first half of the match re-

mained despite Bradley's many scoring chances, which included five corner kicks. Early in the second half, the Mavericks poured it on by scoring three goals in under 10 minutes. Head Coach Jim DeRose said the team fell behind due to a few slip-ups.

"We made a mistake on the first goal and a couple different errors," DeRose said. "It was a challenge for us against a really good team."

The Braves got one goal back with eight minutes left from Gerit Wintermeyer, but it was too late, as the Mavericks won 3-1.

DeRose said the team is challenged by losing some of its top defenders.

"For us, we are kind of unique," DeRose said. "We return a lot of our attacking players, but we lose our goalkeeper and three of our starting back four. The only returning player with experience is [senior] Alex Ciaramiataro."

One of the biggest players lost for the Braves is defender Jacob Taylor and his long throw-in.

"It is a weapon. I can't count how

many goals we have scored off of it directly or indirectly," DeRose said. "Being a defender is a lot about getting in critical individual defending moments maybe only three or four times a game, but if you don't have a lot of experience, you have to learn that in game situations."

DeRose said he utilized the scrimmage to give unexperienced players a chance to get quality minutes.

"[In] each of our games, we have had a different starting line-up," DeRose said. "I always say your best recruiting class is the one you already had from the year before."

As far as next year's recruiting class goes, DeRose said they have not finalized their full group.

"We are still waiting on a couple of international players," DeRose said. "We will hopefully have an announcement in the next couple weeks."

The team continues their spring schedule Saturday with a 1 p.m. match at North Park and a 7:30 p.m. game at Aurora.



	Friday, April 20	Saturday, April 21	Sunday, April 22	Tuesday, April 24	Wednesday, April 25
Baseball		vs. Robert Morris-Springfield Noon	vs. Robert Morris-Springfield Noon	at Illinois 6 p.m.	at Chicago State 3 p.m.
Softball		vs. Southern Illinois 12 p.m. doubleheader	vs. Southern Illinois 11 a.m.	at Illinois State 5 p.m.	
Tennis			vs. Valparaiso 10 a.m.		
Track	at Brian Clay Invitational 3:30 p.m.				

SPORTS

Softball pushes through MVC play

BY RONAN KHALSA Off-staff Reporter

pushed back to Thursday.

The Bradley softball team struggled against the elements this week with a series shortened due to rain and a Wednesday doubleheader

The Braves dropped both games of the shortened series by scores of 8-7 and 3-0 to the Missouri State Bears in Springfield. The team then returned home for a Thursday doubleheader against rival Illinois State where they split the games.

The Braves have consistently started games strong this season. Bradley's offense propelled junior pitcher Julie Kestas to a 4-0 lead by the fourth inning. Missouri State battled back though and took advantage of a costly Bradley defensive miscue. But with two outs in the seventh inning, sophomore Kealia Wysocki delivered a three-run long ball to bring the Braves within one, but could not complete the rally.

Head Coach Amy Hayes said Bradley's hitters come ready and typically put runs on the board early, but she also said she knows they need to be reliable all game.

"We have done a fairly good job starting games off well," Hayes said. "We need to be consistent and have good at-bats throughout."

Hayes said Wysocki's home run was big for team morale, but she stressed that the defense needs to keep the team in the game.

"We should not have been

down 8-4, honestly," Hayes said. "[Wysocki's] homer gave us a lift."

In order to be successful moving forward, Hayes said the batters must constantly calibrate to the pitchers.

"We need to trust ourselves that we are good enough to make adjustments against anybody," Hayes

The Braves' coaching staff has switched to a new infield after shortstop Gabby Stoner and second basewoman Elizabeth Leonard's struggles. Three freshman started at second, shortstop and third base with sophomore slugger Alison Apke at first base. Freshman Jillian Navarro has seamlessly moved to her natural position of shortstop after playing much of the season in center field.

Hayes said the staff switched their infield defense around to become more reliable.

"Jillian was a shortstop for her high school," Hayes said. "We needed to make a switch and get a little more consistency at short."

Navarro is also contributing offensively, boasting an OBP of .393 with four home runs thus far this season. Navarro said the team is learning how to continue to get better every day.

"I believe the key to our success this season is staying positive and working to adapt to diversity," Navarro said. "Sometimes failure is necessary for the team to recognize their weaknesses and capitalize on them at the next practice so that we can be even better in the next game.

It's not easy, but nothing Bradley softball does is easy. Our coaches find a way to challenge us every day so that we can become a collectively stronger team."

In the second game of the doubleheader, sophomore pitcher Emma Jackson threw a complete game in a losing effort by scattering four hits. The Bears scored three runs in Jackson's first inning on the mound returning from injury. Her Missouri State counterpart, Erin Griesbauer, allowed five hits and zero runs.

Hayes said she knows the bats must be consistent each game for success to come.

"Emma is doing a good job for us, and we cannot ask any more from her," Hayes said. "We outhit Missouri State, but Griesbauer is a top pitcher in the Valley. We are a better hitting team than we showed and need to make adjustments."

Bradley dropped the first game against ISU 3-2 on Thursday. Jackson put up a complete game while allowing six hits and three runs in the loss. In the second game,

Mahaffy got early run support when the Braves put up five runs in the first two innings. Bradley hung on

The Braves will continue their five game home stand by hosting Southern Illinois for a three game series. The first pitch on Saturday is scheduled for noon at the Louisville Slugger Sports Complex.

One-on-one

What MLB team is off to the hottest start?

New York Mets

VS.

LA Angels

While the weather says otherwise, baseball season is in full swing. Rebuilding teams such as the Angels, Braves and Pirates have surprised the league with hot starts. However, no team is hotter than the New York Mets.

As we enter mid-April, the Mets boast a 12-4 record. Led by a phenomenal pitching staff anchored by flame-throwing superstar Noah Syndergaard, the Mets have shut down opposing offenses all season. Along with Syndergaard, Jacob DeGrom, Steven Matz, Matt Harvey and Zach Wheeler combine to form one of the most formidable pitching rotations in all of baseball.

New York's offense has complemented the pitching all season, coming up with clutch hits. Slickfielding Asdrubal Cabrera has blasted four home runs and leads the Mets in batting average. Yoenis Cespedes has a team-high 13 RBIs. Off-season pickup Todd Frazier is leading the Mets with a .420 on-base percentage.

The Mets also have a strong bullpen led by closer Jeurys Familia. He has seven saves on the season already and hasn't allowed an earned run. The bullpen also features former Marlins closer, AJ Ramos, who has a 2.70 ERA in 10 appearances.

While Jack will tell you that the Angels are the best team, he isn't looking at their whole team. Mike Trout is the best player on the planet, and Ohtani has been a revelation, however, the Angels lack deep hitting and pitching after those two players.

New York's pitching staff is far superior to any team, capable of shutting down any potent offense. Provided the team stays healthy, don't be surprised if the Mets end up winning the pennant this year.

- KEVIN LINDGREN

The Los Angeles Angels are off to the hottest start of the 2018 MLB season. They stand among the top three teams in the entire league with a record of 13-3. They have also gone 9-1 in their last ten games and have the longest winning streak in the league right now, at seven straight. The Angels are just a half game back of the Boston Red Sox for first place in the league, the New York Mets. Records aren't everything, though. There's more reasons why the Angels are off to a better start than the Red Sox, Mets or any

The Angels are off to a blazing start offensively. They lead the league in runs scored with 103. That's 14 higher than the next closest team, the Red Sox, and 38 more than the Mets. They also lead the league in hits with 174, which is 27 more than the Red Sox and 59 more than the Mets. The Angels are tied with the Colorado Rockies for first in home runs with 26. The Angels also lead the league in RBIs, OPS, batting average and slugging per-

Not only is their offense on fire, but the pitching and defense for the Angels has been great as well. They are top 10 in runs scored against, but have the best run differential in the league with at +48. They are top-10 in the league in ERA and also boast the second most quality saves in the league.

Centerfielder Mike Trout has been his usual stellar self, and Shohei Ohtani has proven that he is well above average at the plate and on the mound.

While the bats may be a tad more hot than the defense and pitching, both have been good enough to provide balance and give the Angels one of the most well-rounded teams in the MLB.

- JACK SIMZYK

Opinion

BUSHIDO BASEBALL

BY AUSTIN SHONE

Assistant Sports Editor

On MLB Opening Day in 2001, a young, spindly Japanese sensation set foot into a major league batter's box in Seattle. A heralded prospect from Japan's Pacific League, the player now known simply as Ichiro was a mystery. He was trying to become the first successful everyday player from Japan in Major League Baseball. He hit a bouncing ball just past Oakland pitcher T.J. Matthews, up the middle for a routine single.

In his first ever plate appearance, on the first pitch he saw, baseball's newest Japanese phenomenon connected on a bouncing base hit through the right side of the infield in Oakland. In his first start on the mound, he logged six innings while giving up three hits, earning his first win. At 23, Shohei Ohtani is baseball's great white whale. A player so perfect, so elusive, that Babe Ruth was the last to do what he's attempting.

There's something to be said about trying to accomplish something no one believes you can do. It's interesting, it's exciting, and it's a struggle. There's nobility in pursuit. From Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier to Pat Vinditte pitching with both hands, there's something special about breaking through with something new. If there's one thing about firsts, especially in sports, it's that people show up. They come in droves to witness greatness, and they

go home in awe. This year, they've hopped in their cars decked out in scarlet jerseys with rally monkeys in

When I was six years old, my dad went on a business trip to Seattle and brought me back a #51 Ichiro T-shirt. That thing was my prized possession. I slept in that shirt so many times that the heat-transfer vinyl worn out, and you could hardly read the number on the back. I was Ichiro for Halloween. I practiced his batting stance and tried to hit left-handed. When we went to Texas Rangers games, we tried to pick the games against the Mariners so we could watch Ichiro.

There's something about Japanese baseball players that intrigues me, and evidently, a whole lot of people. Maybe it's their focus or their attention to detail. Ichiro carried his bat to the ballpark in a humidor every day and swung the bat for ten minutes every night before going to sleep. Before games, he eats two pieces of toast, the first toasted for precisely two minutes, thirty seconds, the second piece for one minute, thirty seconds, to account for leftover heat in the toaster.

Maybe it's the way they play baseball with respect. Ohtani touches the brim of his cap and bows ever so slightly every time the umpire throws him a new ball. He repeatedly thanks his teammates for making plays on defense until they acknowledge him. It's a posture and an attitude of honor that Americans are never taught, yet it's unquestioned. We respect it.

There's the challenge of coming to a new country, speaking a new language and the mystery of whether or not their dominance in the Japanese leagues can transfer to America. For every Hideki Matsui, for every Ichiro, there are 10 Kazuo Fukumori's.

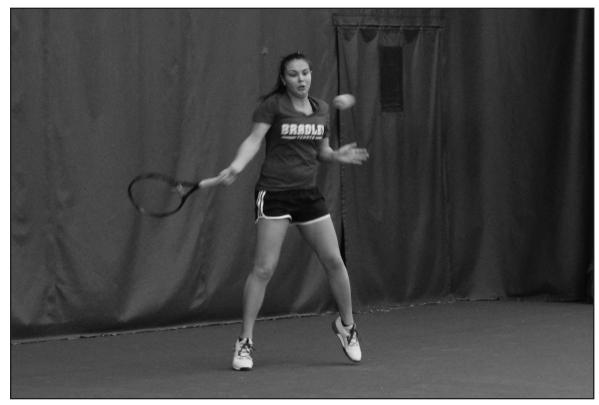
Ichiro and Ohtani could not be more different players in stature. Ohtani stands at six feet four inches with broad shoulders. For every game Ohtani pitches, he hits for three. Ichiro has maintained his slim, cut, five-foot nine-inch figure, his sleek, silky-smooth thrust of a swing and an outfield arm with laser-like accuracy. But their mindset is eerily similar, from the way they calmly interact with the media, to their Bushido mentality and humble personality. Their goals large, yet believably attainable.

Ichiro has gone on to record more professional hits than any player ever, including over 3,086 in Major League Baseball. He set the record for hits in a single season (262), and has continued to extend his career into his 18th

As for Ohtani, there's no saying how far he'll go, but I hope that young kids all over get to experience Ohtani's greatness, like I did with Ichiro. Ohtani might just be the best thing to happen to baseball in our lifetimes. For now, we should all embrace the mania, and respect the struggle and just wait to see how the ball bounces.



SPORTS



Freshman Kinga Kovacs picked up her first collegiate victory against UNI.

photo via Scout archives

Tennis wins first conference match

BY BEAU WOODCOCK Off-staff Reporter

Bradley tennis split a pair of weekend matches in Iowa this week, defeating the University of Northern Iowa 4-3 on Saturday and losing 6-1 on Sunday to Drake.

Freshman Victoria Gonzalez was the only Bradley player to win both matches, winning twice in the five position. Freshman Kinga Kovacs clinched the win Saturday with her first collegiate win by defeating UNI's Savanna Hunt in the sixth position.

Kovacs said it was relieving to get her first win, since joining the team in January.

"Winning my first college match this weekend was an amazing feeling," Kovacs said. "It was a bit difficult to get used to everything here, so I was struggling a little bit, especially at matches. Luckily, everyone was very supportive and helped me to improve."

The Bradley win over UNI was the Braves first conference win of the season, and Head Coach Matt Tyler said he was impressed with the younger team members.

"To get that first conference win is tremendous, a lot of credit going to our freshman. All three freshman came away with wins that day," Tyler said.

Bradley has relied heavily on their freshman and sophomores this year, providing ample opportunity for development. According to Tyler, the team has also been able to develop leadership qualities for future contributors, despite the struggles the team has undergone this year.

"I think that for all four of those players with three freshmen and Natalia Barbery, a sophomore, going into the rest of their careers, remembering the struggles that we've had, I think that will serve them well," Tyler said.

Drake's victory over Bradley on Sunday clinched them a share of the Missouri Valley Conference title and knocked Bradley to a 1-3 record in the Valley. Bradley plays their final conference match at home on Sunday against Valparaiso, where they can potentially finish in the top four in MVC play with a win.

TRACK SETS RECORDS AT MUSCO TWILIGHT INVITATIONAL

BY JUSTIN LIMOGES

Sports Reporter

The Bradley men's and women's track teams competed at the 19th annual Musco Twilight Invitational hosted by the University of Iowa on April 12. The Braves secured recordbreaking performances, in addition to multiple top-10 finishes.

Redshirt freshman Alec Hartman and sophomore Jake Hoffert highlighted the meet with second-place finishes that broke previous school records.

Hartman finished second in the men's 800-meter run with a time of 1:50.75, surpassing a 26-year-old record formerly held by Dave Dundas. The redshirt freshman secured first in the Missouri Valley Conference rankings with his time in the 800.

Hartman said while his performance was good, he and his team must improve before heading into the Bryan Clay Invitational in Azuza, California.

"[The team and I] went out to Iowa and ran well," Hartman said. "I'm looking forward to the upcoming meets and improvements that can be made. I thought my individual performance was all right, but I believe I have room to improve."

Bradley Head Coach Darren Gauson also said Hartman's run was impressive but needs to be slightly faster in order to qualify for the NCAA regionals.

"I thought [Hartman] ran really well," Gauson said. "That's always huge for us, when the team is trying to go out there and compete. We just need him to go a little bit quicker, so we can qualify for the NCAA regionals. If he can go quicker at California, he'll be set."

Hoffert also finished in second place in his respective 3,000-meter run, with a time of 8:29.60. As a

result, he set a new record, which was originally set by Chase Coffey (8:29.66) in 2014.

Senior Taylor Floyd Mews won the 1,500-meter run with a careerbest time of 3:47.02. While beating his 2017 personal best of 3:49.61, Floyd Mews obtained the second-fastest time in the MVC this season and the third-fastest time in Bradley history in the 1,500.

Junior Haran Dunderdale notably finished fourth with a time of 3:53.97 in the 1,500. Additionally, junior Niamh Markham placed second in the women's 800 with a time of 2:09.94, putting herself at fourth-best in Bradley history. Markham currently holds onto third in the Valley.

Redshirt freshman McKenzie Altmayer also finished with a fourthbest time at Bradley in the 3,000-meter steeplechase, with a second-place run of 11:11.78.

Junior Kathryn Adelman and sophomore Emma Makowski both finished with season-best times in the women's 800, with runs of 2:14.08 and 2:16.20, respectively. Nine other women in the Bradley track and field team finished in the top 10 at the Musco Twilight.

Gauson said the women prepared and competed well for Iowa and plan to do so at the meets to come in California.

"We've trained pretty hard [lately]," Gauson said. "We played fairly hard through the Iowa meet as well, so we're easing back as we prepare for California. The team will be more rested and ready to go."

The Braves will be heading to compete in the Bryan Clay Invitational and Mt. SAC Relays in California on Thursday. Bradley will be looking to qualify for the NCAA Midwest Regionals.

Golf finishes fourth in MVC Championship

BY ANTHONY LANDAHL Assistant Sports Editor

Team effort and a spectacular individual performance placed the Bradley women's golf team fourth out of 10 teams in the Missouri Valley Conference Championship at the par-72 Sand Creek Station Golf Course in Newton, Kansas. Bradley finished with a score of 909, the third-best conference final score in school history.

The Braves shot 320 on Sunday, battling 30-degree temperatures and 25 mile per hour gusts. At the end of the day, they were tied with Northern Iowa for seventh place. According to head coach Mary Swanson, the team focused on making specific adjustments to improve on the second day.

"There were a couple of holes that we just threw strokes away on, and we specifically discussed strategy on those holes," Swanson said. "There was a stretch where the golf course was more susceptible to the wind, and we also talked about different strategies there and having a little more [coaching] support there for the players to help them make their decisions."

On the second day, junior Frankie Saban had a historical performance, shooting 4-under-par 68, the second-best round in program history. The Braves as a whole shot 26-strokes better than Sunday for a score of 294, ascending to fourth place in the standings. Saban said focus powered her performance.

"During Monday's performance, I felt extremely thankful," Saban said. "I kept the hole at hand in focus and did not get ahead of myself thinking about the results."

During Tuesday's finale, the Braves shot another consistent round of 295. This time, sophomore Taylor Ledwein led the way with a teambest 2-under-par 70. The Braves finished at fourth place, four strokes behind Southern Illinois. Defending champion Missouri State secured their title again, creating a distant gap from the rest of the field at 887.

Swanson said each Brave contributed to the team's turnaround success, and now it is time to focus on offseason improvements.

"We need to find a way to start better," Swanson said. "We need to figure out a way to put three rounds together on a tough golf course and tough conditions."

Swanson said she was optimistic about next season despite losing seniors Ally Scania, Grace Henderson and Abby Wellens. She said players on the current team will enter new roles smoothly.

"I think Frankie took things up a notch," Swanson said. "I've told her she could be the top player in the conference. Between her and the other two juniors, we're going to have a great senior class and a great group of leaders."



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SPORTS

Gonzalez leads tennis

Freshman Victoria Gonzalez won both her matches last weekend to lead her team to its first conference victory.

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BASEBALL KEEPS PACE IN CONFERENCE WITH SWEEP

BY NATHAN NUNEZ

Off-staff Reporter

The Bradley baseball team completed a weekend sweep at Evansville, taking all three games from the Purple Aces to win a third consecutive conference series.

The Braves racked up 12 hits en route to nine runs scored in Friday's opener. Freshman left fielder Eli Rawlinson accounted for five runs scored, driving in three and scoring two of his own. Rawlinson finished 2-3, with two walks and a bases loaded two-run single that got the Braves on the board.

"My approach at the plate was the same this week," Rawlinson said. "I just got my pitches in the counts I wanted and made the most of my opportunity."

The nine runs were plenty for the Braves' pitching staff, as they struck out 10 batters and limited the opposing offense to just four runs. Junior lefthander Cole Cook improved to 4-3 after the game one victory.

Bradley's offense was stagnant through the first seven innings of game two. The Braves managed only two hits as the Purple Aces flirted with a shut-

On the brink of dropping game two, the Braves scored four runs to make it a one-run game.

Down 5-4 in the ninth, sophomore Dan Bolt led off with a game-tying homerun. J.F. Garon reached third base on a throwing error and scored on sophomore Luke Shadid's sacrifice bunt, giving the Braves their first lead of the game. Junior Nick McMurray and sophomore Brendan Dougherty drove in the final two runs, and the Braves were on top with an 8-5 lead heading into the final half inning of the game.

Senior Alex Gray shut out Evansville in the bottom of the ninth, securing the comeback and picking up the win, improving to a team high 6-0 on the year.

"Our pitching coach [Larry Scully] just told me to get my outs and try to keep the team in a position to win," Gray said. "I got a lot of run support. Our hitters do a phenomenal job. I get picked up more times than it seems by

the hitters. I just want to keep winning games for the [team]."

The Braves took care of business in the series finale, run-ruling the Purple Aces in seven innings.

Redshirt junior Sam Lund and right hander Matthew Richey held the Purple Aces to three runs in Sunday's win. On offense, the Braves erupted for 14 runs, with every starter reaching base at least once.

With the sweep, the Braves have won each of their three conference series to start conference play. With a 7-2 conference record, the Braves sit in third place in the Missouri Valley Conference standings, behind Dallas Baptist University and Missouri State. Sunday's game three victory also marked the Braves seventh conference victory, surpassing their overall conference win total of six from a year ago.

Head Coach Elvis Dominguez credits this year's success to a more experienced lineup and a team-first mentality.

"We started so many players last year that were freshman, and [they] are now sophomores," Dominguez said. "The upper-class senior leadership has been very strong. A lot of upperclassmen who may not be playing very often have accepted their roles and understand that it is all about the team and winning."

The Braves returned to Peoria on Wednesday evening after a four-game road trip to host the Western Illinois.

Western Illinois scored two in the top of the first off Braves starter Mitch Janssen, but Bradley scored nine unanswered runs to win 9-2 and sweep the season series. Junior first baseman Luke Mangieri went 3-5 at the plate, with three RBI including his second home run of the year.

The Braves will have a break from conference play this weekend as they host Robert Morris - Springfield. The two games will take place at noon on Saturday and Sunday at Dozer Park. After the Saturday game, the Braves will shave their heads to raise money for childhood cancer.



Sophomore Brendan Dougherty knocked in 3 RBIs last weekend.

photo via Scout archives

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9 Month Leases For 2018-2019



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Tweet of the week

"Just realized that if Lebron and Paul George go to Houston this offseason... Starting lineup first names would be Chris Paul Lebron James... last names would be Paul George James Harden."

-@dannydevan



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