



Emergency preparedness a BUPD priority



photo by Nelson O. Gutierrez
Lt. Sean Savage leads a presentation on emergency protocol for campus.

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BY NELSON O. GUTIERREZ
Copy Editor

After just over two weeks since the Parkland, Florida, school shooting, campus safety is currently one of the many topics at the forefront of national conversation. That conversation is continuing on Bradley's campus in an effort to be prepared for emergency situations if they should arise.

Bradley students had the opportunity to receive lessons on safety protocol last Friday, Monday and Tuesday when Bradley University Crime Prevention Lt. Sean Savage delivered tips and information regarding contingency plans in the event of an emergency situation on campus. Savage stressed the importance of being knowledgeable of how to conduct oneself in a crisis, from safety alerts to how to deal with an active shooter scenario.

"[BUPD has] county-wide jurisdiction," Savage said to the audience. "We are in an understanding with the city, since they surround us basically on every bit of our patrol area ... If you dial 911, you're actually going to get [Peoria police] and then transfer over here. That's why we ask

that you program our [309] 677-2000 number into your phone; that's our direct line."

In 2016, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention reported nearly 90 percent of public schools created a written plan for the event of an active shooter, while 70 percent of those schools had active shooter drills, according to Campus Safety Magazine.

"[Based on our drills,] within two to three minutes of an active shooter being dispatched to one of us, it is estimated that between 20 and 25 law enforcement officers will be on our campus immediately within two to three minutes," Savage said.

Savage guided the audience through a history of active shooter emergencies on college campuses. He played recordings of phone calls to the police during the 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary school shooting, using it as a platform to talk about the importance of accuracy when calling the police. Being able to describe weight, height, distinctive features, even the weapon being used are all important in locating the active killer and saving lives, according to Savage.

Savage also stressed the importance of understanding

different methods of reaction.

"Noise, confusion, screaming, alarms ... it's going to sound like a train," Savage said. "Improve your chances by planning. Play the 'what-if' game. Discuss it with others you trust. Have a plan."

Savage then proceeded to hold up his hands.

"Keep your hands visible," he said. "[The hands are] most likely where active shooter threats are. I know who you are, I see your faces pretty regularly, but the city officer that shows up right behind me isn't familiar with our student body ... I'm looking to stop the killing, and that is my number one goal, and I know that killing comes from [the hands]. And if you're going to kill me or the people I love on this campus, then most likely it's going to start with [your hands], not with your face. And I'm probably not going to pay attention to who you are."

More information on safety awareness as well active emergency alerts are posted at <https://www.bradley.edu/emergency/> with regular updates. Students can sign up for ForeWarn text messages for instant notifications in the event of

Student transfer rate on the rise

BY KYLEE HIGGINS
News Editor

While the college experience is usually seen as enrolling in a four-year college as a freshman, others take the route less traveled by transferring into a four-year college after a certain period of time or transferring from one college to another.

At Bradley, the number of transfer students coming to campus has increased in the past two years. In 2017, the overall number of transfer students has been 272, while in 2016 and 2015 it was 234 and 228, respectively, according to Enrollment Management.

Vice President for Student Affairs Nathan Thomas said the retention rate, defined as the period between freshmen and sophomore years, was 87 percent for 2016. Additionally, Thomas said the retention rate for the past five years as well as the past 10 years is similar to this year's.

"Our national peer-set by how we get classified with other universities, we're above the national average, which I think that national average is ... 81 percent," Thomas said. "When we look at our peer set, and we have identified peers that we fall into, we're kind of in the middle, and that's why we want to do better."

According to Vice President of Enrollment Management Justin Ball, the reasons why students transfer vary, but one of the most common reasons is students coming from community colleges.

"We have a large group of transfer students who begin their college education at one of the community colleges and then transfer to Bradley," Ball said. "This includes our largest group of transfer students who come from Illinois Central College."

Because such a large amount of transfer students comes from ICC, Ball said Bradley puts in extra effort to reach out to potential transfer students to provide them with information they may need.

"Staff from the Office of Undergraduate Admission are

regularly at ICC and many other community colleges working with students who are interested in transferring, as well as staff and faculty, so they all can understand the value of a Bradley education, what programs we offer and how to best use the courses available in the degree programs at their college before transferring," Ball said.

As for why students transfer out of Bradley, they leave for a number of reasons, according to Ken Harding, director of employer testing services at the Smith Career Center.

"I would say as an advisor who has worked with a variety of Bradley students as well as students from other colleges who want to transfer, [the reason they transfer] is often related to their desired major," Harding said via email. "Sometimes students will realize that they want to prepare for a career that isn't a great match with their school's programs - that happens at all schools."

Additionally, Harding said the reasons for leaving could just be because of a difference in expectation.

"Sometimes students just find that their college or university doesn't have the same feel to them as it felt when they first visited or applied or arrived," Harding said. "We have some students who leave Bradley for reasons like this, and we have other students who transfer to Bradley from other schools for the same reasons."

Executive Director of Student Support Services Anne Hollis said from the exit surveys students fill out when transferring, the most common reasons are because they want to be closer to home. They typically transfer to a community college for a few years, change their major to something not offered at Bradley and then want to attend a different sized school and for financial reasons.

To aide in retaining students, Thomas said part of the Strategic Plan includes goals to identify reasons why students stay at Bradley, and figuring out how to increase the

see **TRANSFER**
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BRIEFS

Wyckoff to implement gender-neutral floor

Beginning next fall, students will be able to register for an open housing floor – a residence hall living space for students of all gender identities.

The floor will be located in Wyckoff Hall and will feature communal bathrooms. Students of any year can request to be roommates with students of any gender.

To register, students should select the open housing floor option when registering for housing. For more information, visit <https://www.bradley.edu/campuslife/reslife/housing/open-housing/> or contact housing@mail.bradley.edu.

Smith Career Center to offer paid internships

The Smith Career Center is currently accepting student applications to become a Career Peer Advisor. This is a paid position focused on helping students develop job search skills. CPAs also assist the Smith Career Center with student and employer outreach as well as event planning.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 19. For more information, contact Hannah Ramlo at hramlo@mail.bradley.edu. Students interested can apply through their Bradley netWORK accounts or by visiting <http://bit.ly/2CykRSs>.

Hilltop Safety Cruiser to change hours for break

The final day of operation for the Hilltop Safety Cruiser before Spring Break is March 9.

Safety Cruisers will resume operating March 18, when the dorms reopen for students.

Students in need of safety escorts during Spring Break can contact the Bradley University Police Department by calling (309) 677-2000.

Student housing to accept applications

Sophomores and upperclassmen are able to apply for Main Street Commons and St. James Apartments. Main Street Commons is located at 1109 W. Main and began accepting applications Feb. 2.

St. James Apartments are located at 1103 W. Main and began its open leasing process on Feb. 8 for all juniors, seniors and graduate students.

Applications are accepted on a first come, first serve basis until all apartments are full. For more information visit liveatmain.com and <https://www.bradley.edu/stjames/>.

POLICE REPORTS

- Officers were dispatched to Cullom-Davis Library due to a male nonstudent viewing inappropriate images on a computer at 8 p.m. Feb. 26. The officers arrived at the library and slowly walked up behind the male. The officers saw the male looking at pornographic images on the computer.

The officers asked the nonstudent if he was viewing the images, and he admitted to it. The male was asked to leave.

No charges were pressed.

- Officers were dispatched to Markin Family and Recreation Center due to a male student having a seizure at 12:52 p.m. Feb. 25.

Before they arrived, the student was shaking and fell on his face on the basketball court in Markin. The male was alert when officers arrived and said he has had a history of seizures.

The student was transported to OSF Saint Francis Medical Center.

- Officers were dispatched to Markin Family and Recreation Center when a male student fell nine feet while coming down the rock wall at 6:05 p.m. Feb. 20.

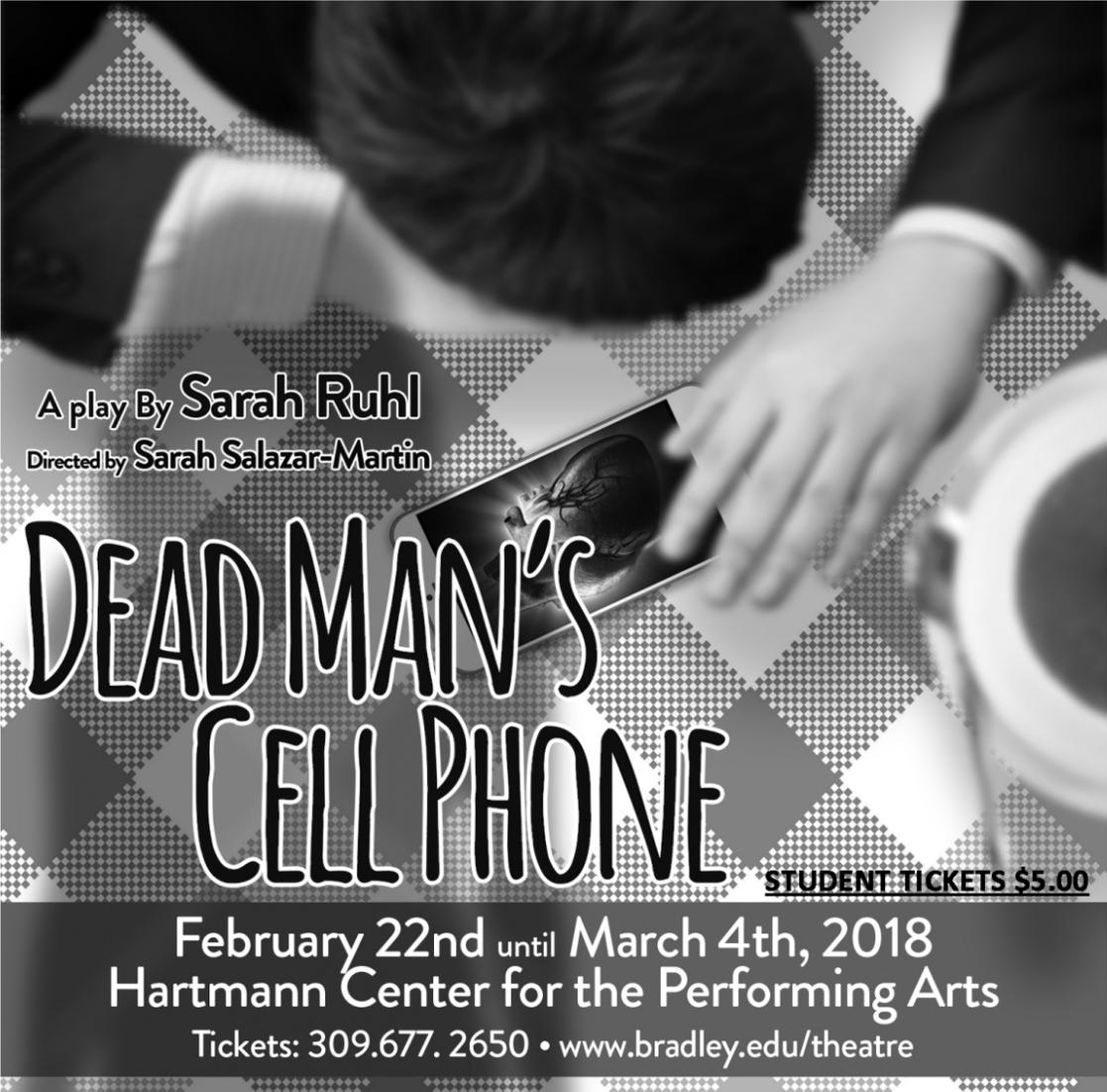
The student who was in control of the safety rope lost control of the rope, which caused the male to fall. The student said he did not know how the rope malfunctioned.

The student said he was experiencing back pain from the fall, and AMTs transported him to UnityPoint Health – Methodist.

- Bradley maintenance supervisors reported fencing and fence posts missing at 9:13 p.m. Feb. 23 at 1307 W. Bradley Ave.

The supervisors reported five to six posts taken from MacMillan Hall as well as two pieces of fence. The value for the stolen fencing is around \$110.

No suspects have been identified.



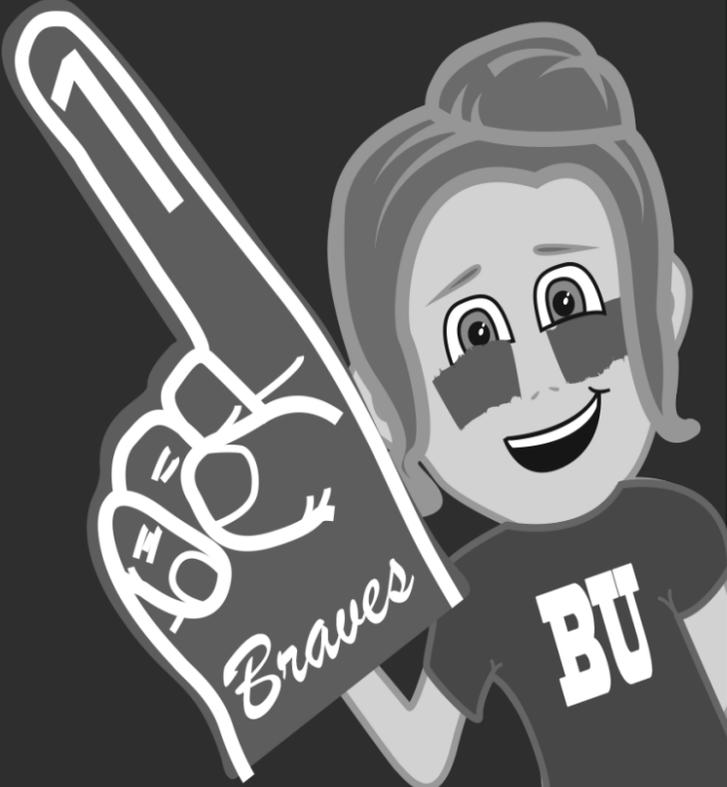
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NEWS

Women's and Gender Studies professor 'ideal' for Bradley

BY DAVID DEMEO
Senior Copy Editor

Amy Scott, associate professor and director of the Women's and Gender Studies program, came to campus 12 years ago. Since then, Scott has had the chance to increase both her own involvement in activism events on campus as well as that of Bradley students.

According to Scott, her role in the program was unexpected, but also very gratifying.

"I never really imagined myself as a Women's and Gender Studies director, but it has given me the opportunity to be an intellectual and to engage with activism," Scott said. "You get to interact with students who want to access that theory [of activism] and figure out 'How does this help me make change in the world?' That's why it's so fun [to be a part of the program]. I like the energy of the students that have that activist mindset, and really it's the energy of the students that drive the program."

In addition to her work with the program, Scott is busy outside of Bradley with a variety of research plans.

"I've got a few projects going," Scott said. "I'm working on two books ... [One is] a history of lifestyle liberalism in Boulder, Colorado. On my sabbatical, I started a project on the history of urban farming. I'm looking at the different social philosophies that caused people to want to farm, [and more specifically], how people in rust-belt cities are using farming in cities to address the question of food scarcity."

Being one of the people responsible for hiring Scott, history Chairperson and Associate Professor Brad Brown said the 12 years he's worked with

Scott have been extremely enjoyable.

"Amy Scott is an example of a scholarly teacher, which is the Bradley ideal," Brown said. "[She] is exceptionally easy to work with, she takes anticipation in problems and takes personal responsibility solving them, and she has a great sense of humor."

Brown said Scott has not only been a great coworker, but also an extraordinary researcher as well.

"I have immense respect for Dr. Scott's research agenda," Brown said. "Her work on understanding the city of Boulder in the post-work period [and] her recent article 'Suburbs, Cities, the Sunbelt, and Rural America' on changes in city and suburban life during the Eisenhower administration was written exceptionally well."

According to Brown, Scott makes a visible commitment to her students through the work she does outside of the classroom.

"The thing I admire most about Dr. Scott is the enthusiasm she brings to the Director of the Women's and Gender Studies program [position]," Brown said. "Professors get more credit for publications than they do for service to students, so when you have someone like professor Scott who goes out of her way to put students first, it is an incredible testimony to her character."

Scott said her goal for the program, although still in the early stages, is to bring a Women's and Gender Studies major to Bradley's campus, if the demand for it continues on campus.

"It's been an idea to offer Women Gender Studies as a major," Scott said. "It [will] depend on whether or not the university administration, and the faculty senate and other departments will support that idea. So, we have to collaborate and get cooperation

and support for creating that major. And we have had a lot of support traditionally at Bradley [for the Women Gender Studies program]."

Associate professor in management and leadership Jennifer Robin has worked closely with Scott in the Women's and Gender Studies program. She said Scott is a valuable asset to Bradley as well as the program.

"Bradley is very lucky to have [Scott] as a professor. [She] cares about her students and is as interdisciplinary focused as she is," Robin said. "I think [Women's and Gender Studies] is certainly applicable to anything you go into. I think it can be beneficial exposed to certainly the content, but also the [analyzing] mindset students get into."

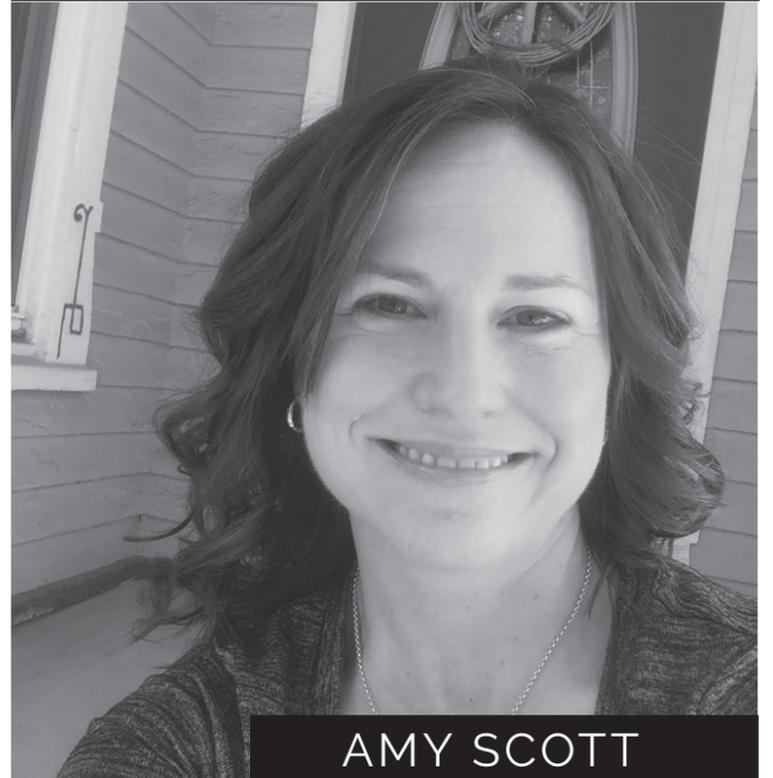
In addition to professors, students also hold high praise to Scott's character. Of those is senior sports communication major Desteny Castaneda, who said Scott has given her general guidance throughout her college career.

"Dr. Scott has been one of the few professors that [has] helped me pave my way through my years at Bradley," Castaneda said. "She offered me a helping hand in life and in my educational career. If I needed someone to express something outside of class work, she would make the extra time and listen to me."

According to communications major Annie Schuver, Scott is always there to help students learn, even if it means helping with research for a different class.

"Dr. Scott is very centered around helping students and contributing to the Bradley community," Schuver said. "She definitely invests a lot of her time beyond the classroom,

HUMANS OF THE HILLTOP



AMY SCOTT

photo via Amy Scott

Amy Scott, associate professor and director of the Women's and Gender Studies program, is currently working to publish two books.

obviously in [directing] the Women's Gender Studies program, but also by guiding students in career decisions and giving us advice on how to do research. The current project I'm working on with the help of her and another professor is my research project, so she's been giving me feedback and helping along with my [work]."

Schuver said Scott clearly shows an interest in the futures of her students.

"After class earlier today, we had

a discussion about my future career plans, and she gave me a lot of solid advice reflecting on her own decisions and [information from] her expertise," Schuver said. "It really helped having her stay after class, we were probably there for 40 minutes after everybody else left. She was just talking to me about my career decisions. She's been a big mentor for me throughout my years here."

University to update campus protest policy

BY MADDIE GEHLING
Editor-in-Chief

Bradley is planning on updating its campus-wide protest policy – though it isn't certain when those changes will be approved.

Nathan Thomas, vice president for Student Affairs, said plans to alter the university's Emergency Operations Plan are in the works, though they haven't been solidified yet.

"We've talked internally about it and gathered some ideas from other schools," Thomas said.

Thomas said additions or updates to the plan would provide clearer outlines on how students are able to protest, and how to prevent demonstrations from getting out of hand. They would also address how protesters at campus speakers and events are handled. Thomas referenced Patrisse Cullors, co-founder of the Black Lives Matter movement, who spoke to campus in February 2017.

"Envision that presentation is going, and there's a group – not necessarily of students – during the middle of the presentation, and they keep chanting, 'All lives

matter, all lives matter' throughout the presentation," Thomas said. "It is within our purview to create some guidelines, like, 'If you want to protest, you can protest up until the speaker takes the podium, when they leave.' What parameters might be around that?"

Thomas said campus' Emergency Operations Plan was created by and is implemented through Student Affairs, though the office often works in conjunction with BUPD.

"We have OK policies, but as [protests have] happened at big state schools or big universities and chaos has just broken out, they have policies that are really just detailed protest plans," Thomas said. "[BUPD Chief Brian Joschko] and I want to do something a little bit more."

As the plan progresses, Thomas said drafts will likely be presented to University Senate, Student Senate and the Student Advisory Council.

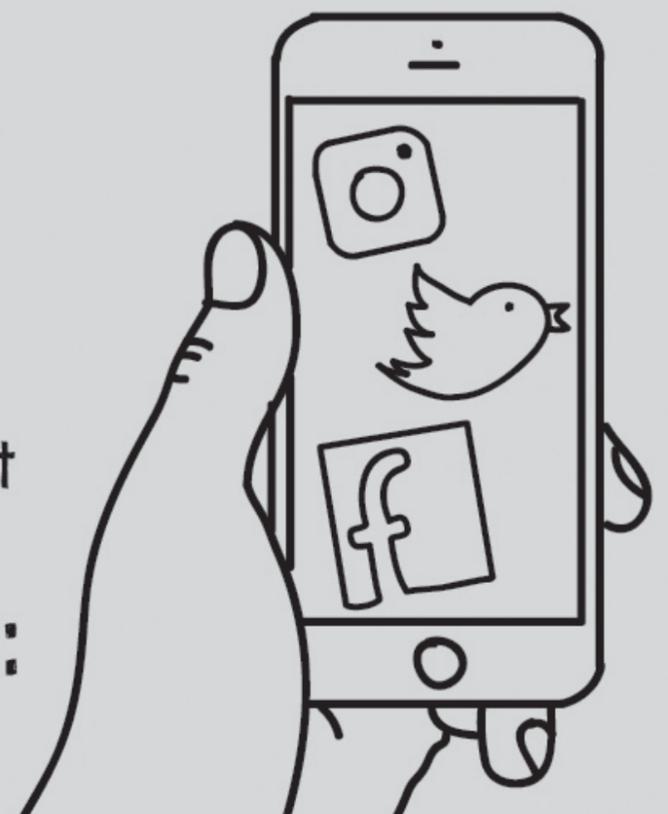
More information on Bradley's current policies can be found online at <https://www.bradley.edu/dotAsset/59039a39-cefd-4717-8d36-1024bf8b2890.pdf>

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NEWS

40 years of flowers for the Peoria area

BY AJ LAMB
Senior Copy Editor

Just off War Memorial Drive in Peoria Heights sits a quaint little flower shop that has been a part of the Peoria community for nearly 40 years.

Gregg Florist has provided floral arrangements and decorations to the area since 1953, but has been under owner Dan Callahan's management since 1978.

"We purchased it from a family that had started the business about 10 years before, and their last name was Gregg. It was a simple, easy name to pronounce, we thought why not just keep it simple and leave it that way," Callahan said. "That was 40 years ago next month. [On] St. Patrick's day, it'll be 40 years."

The Peoria-native pursued his college degree in Champaign before coming back to his roots to buy the shop.

"I grew up right in the neighborhood of the store here. I went to [University of Illinois], and my goal was to get a master's in architecture, but I ended up stopping at the end of having my bachelor's and decided that this was the career I wanted," Callahan said.

Since buying the business in 1978, Callahan said he's seen a myriad of changes occur in Peoria and the shop itself.

"It has been a revolution in every way, shape and form," Callahan said. "[When we opened], we had very few gift items; the silk flowers we



Gregg Florist, located at 1015 E. War Memorial Dr., brings in shipments of tropical flowers from countries around the world. *photo by AJ Lamb*

had in and artificial things were just light years more primitive and lower end than what we do now. [Now], we have our flowers come weekly from overseas ... To get daffodils and tulips and hyacinths and lilies from Holland every week, that was unfathomable back in that day. [The store is] also wildly different. What we do is primarily service now and high-end design work ... [where we're] working with the people about their themes and logistics and creative ideas. It's the world of pinterest."

According to Callahan, he takes pride in his products' ability to enhance big life moments.

"Nowadays, whenever you invite a girl out to a prom or homecoming, or whatever, there's some kind of specialness about it, the venue or how you announce it," Callahan said. "Well, every one of our flowers, we like to think, is one of those portals to a relationship or some [special] experience."

Throughout his time servicing the community, Callahan said he's

had the opportunity to display his products for huge events like the Patti Labelle concert a few years ago and every Peoria Symphony Orchestra performance as well.

"They contacted us from the Civic Center for flowers for Patti Labelle's concert, and we thought they were going to have them in her dressing room," Callahan said. "So we made a beautiful bouquet - they wanted them to be all white Casablanca lilies. Well it turned out there were thousands of people in the audience,

and [the bouquet] was on stage ... so that's probably one [of our proudest moments]."

While Callahan said he appreciates other shops and their products, he believes that his shop's creativity and history bring people back.

"There are lots of talented people, I hope there always are in every field," Callahan said. "Why someone would come here as opposed to another place is because of that familiarity thing. We've been in the same spot for almost 50 years. So when they walk in the door, it's kind of like 'Cheers.' Everybody knows your name."

As Gregg Florist continues to move past its 40-year anniversary, Callahan said his biggest goal now is to introduce the shop's experiences to the younger generations.

"I think what we would like to do is re-introduce, or introduce for the first time, the younger generation to the joy of using a local source for something that's meaningful in their lives," Callahan said. "Our number one thing is to get [the younger] generation into the store and to feel what it's all about."

Gregg Florist is located at 1015 E. War Memorial Dr. and is open from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturdays.

Interfaith Collaborative encourages students to discuss religion

BY DAN KAMINSKI
Off-staff Reporter

Bradley's campus is home to a number of different religions and denominations. If students want to learn more about them, they can take classes in the religious studies program, or they can get involved in the Interfaith Collaborative, which centers around discussion between different faiths in the student body.

According to the group's official Facebook page, the Interfaith Collaborative is a part of a nationwide movement toward cooperation between different religions and is a member of the Interfaith Youth Core's Better Together Student Network.

This group brings together all sorts of religions from across the Hilltop, including Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Sikh and more, in an effort to bring members of these faiths together and build relationships between students by religion, according to club president Atika Malique.

"I hope after attending, students will be able to walk out being more informed about other faiths," Malique said. "I also hope that this event can help people learn how to discuss topics such as interfaith since it

happens to be a subject many people shy away from."

The Interfaith Collaborative has five leaders: Malique, a freshman biomedical science pre-med major, junior psychology major Hannah Snidman, junior mechanical engineering major Isaac Main, junior sports communication and marketing double major Ronan Khalsa and senior religious studies and history double major Shiva Lennon-Ross.

These students took on the administrative role in the group because of their interest in learning about other faiths and how interfaith is "such an important topic and wanted to embrace it and teach others about it," according to a statement on the group's Facebook page.

On Friday, the Interfaith Collab will be hosting a hangout at 7 p.m. in the Romeo B. Garrett Center. Students who attend will experience 90 minutes of interesting conversation, new perspectives and, of course, food. A positive atmosphere is something Malique said she hopes to foster for students who attend.

"Putting on a safe place for discussion and socialization between students of different faiths is really what the hangout is all about,"

Malique said. "Bradley is a more diverse place than most people realize when they take a look at it, and this is one way we can display it."

Though faith is the center of the group, conversation is not limited to just religion. Discussion of faith, ideology, philosophy and worldview are also encouraged in the group's meetings and hangouts, according to their Facebook.

"Faith is a central part of what we do here, but we do not want to limit what our conversation is about," Malique said. "We encourage discussion of all sorts of topics that can be traced back to faith."

The Bradley Interfaith Collaborative holds weekly meetings every Sunday at 5 p.m. in Michel Student Center Meeting Room 2.

Want to write for the SCOUT?

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NEWS

Fashion forward: Retail merchandising students shape style

BY MEGHAN ANDERSON
Off-staff Reporter

It's easy to wander through the quad, tap someone on the shoulder and find a student studying electrical engineering or nursing. At Bradley, those are popular majors. But far less common are the 19 students who claim retail merchandising as their field of study.

Under the generalized umbrella of Family & Consumer Sciences, retail merchandising prepares students for careers in the retail industry. Bradley's program is primarily business-oriented, emphasizing the buying or selling of goods more than the creating or designing of those goods. Retail merchandising students are also required to pair their major with a minor in marketing or management & leadership.

Assistant Professor Carmen Keist, who joined Bradley's staff this year is one of only two professors in the retail merchandising department, said people often wrongly assume retail merchandising is all about "high fashion."

As Keist puts it: "Runway models are not the only people wearing clothes."

Rather, the classes start with the basics, teaching about the industry as a whole and then branching out to cover a wide range of topics, and allowing students to obtain skills along the way.

"Retail is such a huge industry ... there are so many outlets to get into," said Anna Gavalick, a senior retail merchandising major. "I've worked jobs in retail and had internships that covered event planning, editorial work, photography, merchandising, tracking inventory and much more."

Visual merchandising classes promote creativity, according to Keist. In these classes, students learn the elements of design and create displays for real companies. For example, Keist's students are working with a local Goodwill location this semester. Using the elements of design, they develop an "expensive" outfit, then recreate the look for less money, using only clothing found at Goodwill.

Keist stresses hands-on practice and experience in her classes. Students may have to bring in an article of clothing and explain how it was constructed. Students actually sew various items themselves. Representatives from Von Maur

are hosting an interactive buying simulation in the near future.

By graduation, students will have worked through courses focused on textiles, properties of fabrics, garment construction, buying, global issues and the history of retail. And with class sizes averaging around eight students, the learning is notably personalized to prepare students for life after graduation.

Within six months of graduation, the goal for most graduates from Bradley's retail merchandising program is to pursue graduate school or work in the industry of companies such as Marshall Field's, Walt Disney Co. or Von Maur.

Commonly, many retail merchandising students aim to reach a career as a buyer, according to Keist. Buyers determine what products their company sells, so students must understand how to evaluate products and negotiate business deals.

"What Rachel Green does in 'Friends,'" Keist said. "That's the easy way to explain [retail merchandising]."

Students pursuing degrees in retail merchandising become the workers who control individual stores and the fashion industry as a whole,



photo by Cenn Hall

The retail merchandising program displays "Spring Trends of 2018" on the ground floor of Bradley Hall.

impacting everyday consumers.

"We all wear clothes," Keist said. "You can't tell me that you

don't engage in fashion. Even your indecision is a decision."

Muslim Student Association raises Hijab awareness

BY HALEY JOHNSON
Copy Editor

Many stereotypes and misconceptions surround the Hijab, so the Bradley Muslim Student Association set out to educate students and faculty about the article of dress and Islam culture itself last Wednesday.

Rahmat Na'Allah and Aisha Basith, two Muslim activists from Peoria, provided insight on the subject matter through presentations and conversations with audience members.

"We hope to place facts back into their context," Basith said. "We hope to give new insights and perspectives."

The word "Hijab" technically means "barrier" or "cover," but according to Basith, the true meaning for those who wear them is deeper than any direct translation.

"It serves to identify us as Muslim women, we see it as protection and respect, and [it] gives women control over how much is seen and how they're seen," Basith said.

The Hijab is perceived as a restriction for women, but instead, it is seen as protection in Islam culture.

"If the physical body is covered, you don't make a physical judgement right away. Instead, you see a woman with integrity," Basith said. "She's saying you'll have to divert your judgement to her character and to her intellect."

Na'Allah also touched on women's rights in Islam, and cleared up some common misconceptions.

"Islam does give rights to women. They have the right to express themselves, to own property, buy, sell, inherit and the right to be educated," Na'Allah said.

She also discussed how their religion itself promotes equal rights.

"A woman's spirituality, in respect to God, is the same as a man's," Na'Allah said. "He puts men and women on the same playing field."

The discussion also shifted toward the Muslim ban and the discrimination being faced as a result. Basith described dealing with this kind of prejudice, in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, attack.

"When 9/11 happened, I was so busy preparing for speech class that I didn't watch the footage or really know what was going on. During class the next day, the guy who went before me gave his speech on the attack, and I was to go next, and my speech was over Islam," Basith said. "My confidence and trust in my faith gave me the ability to deliver the speech without fear."

To those who are unfamiliar with Islam culture or the Hijab, Na'Allah said she believes involvement overcomes the cultural barrier.

"Engage [Muslims] in a discussion. Ask them why they wear the Hijab, ask them what their viewpoint is," Na'Allah said.

Bradley releases statement for prospective students

BY MADDIE GEHLING
Editor-in-Chief

After the Feb. 14 shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, a number of high school students across the country began to organize school walk-outs and lie-in protests. Later, some high school administrators notified parents that their children may be suspended if they participate in any activities like these.

In the world of college admissions, this led to concern over whether students' admission to universities would be impacted negatively.

A number of universities across the country published statements showing their support of prospective students, and on Feb. 26, Bradley posted its own statement on its various social media accounts. It said:

"Bradley University is a community that strongly supports the responsible exercise of free speech rights and encourages both current and future students to contribute meaningfully to understanding and resolving the issues confronting our society. We would like to assure students that their admissions offers will not be negatively affected by school disciplinary actions resulting from participation in peaceful, non-disruptive protests or lawful expressions of their beliefs. Bradley supports a student's right to engage in peaceful, non-disruptive protests regardless of their position on a subject."

The Office of Public Relations sent The Scout an email yesterday; it said this statement was released because the issue was raising the concerns of many admitted and prospective students.

"We became aware of a significant debate in the press and on social media, so we felt it was appropriate to respond accordingly to ensure our stance on the issue is clear," the email said.

Before the statement was released, a number of Bradley students were left wondering if the university would join the growing list of other universities across the country who released similar statements, including Illinois State University, Northeastern University and Brown University.

Ryan Lutker, junior elementary education major, wrote an open letter Feb. 25 to University President Gary Roberts requesting Bradley release a similar statement.

"We as a Bradley community must show them we're listening - and that every voice matters here," Lutker's letter said.

After the statement was released, Lutker said he was content with the message conveyed by the university. However, he wondered why it took Bradley longer to release the statement than it did other universities.

"I am so frustrated with Bradley's slowness to respond to any issues that affect current or prospective Bradley students," Lutker said.

Sophie Honeyman, senior

journalism major, said she was proud of Bradley for releasing the statement.

"It seems common sense, but even the act of putting it out there is a bold move in today's political climate," she said. "Regardless, it shows incoming students that their voices will still be represented and prioritized."

Honeyman noticed the walk-outs taking place across the country, which were originally organized by the Women's March. She decided to create a Facebook event for a Bradley walk-out, which will take place March 8 at 10 a.m. for 17 minutes in remembrance of the 17 victims of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting last month.

"When I realized we were technically on Spring Break during the [national walk-out on March 14], I wanted to make sure Bradley students could still participate and declare their stance in support for gun control reform," Honeyman said. "So now we may not be protesting with the entire country, but we're walking out of our classes on our time and making our opinions known."

For The Scout's take on this, read "Standing with students an important step for Bradley" on page A6

OPINION

Editorial

Standing with students an important step for Bradley

Since the Feb. 14 shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, the national reaction regarding gun control and campus safety has been nothing short of bold and dynamic.

Survivors of the shooting have spoken up through the media, organized rallies and protests, as well as challenged the American public to get involved. They've organized lie-ins in the nation's capital, as well as school walk-outs across the country. Now, some of these students are facing the repercussions by being suspended from their schools.

However, multiple universities across the country have ensured that the students' suspensions will in no way impact their chances of admission into the colleges. Some of the first schools to take part in this action include Yale University, MIT,

Brown University and Northeastern University.

This week, Bradley followed suit. On Feb. 26, the Bradley University Twitter account sent out a statement proclaiming the university "would like to assure students that their admission will not be negatively affected by school disciplinary actions resulting from participation in peaceful, non-disruptive protests or lawful expressions of their beliefs."

Yes. We're pleased that the university is deciding to support this cause, and that students who are working to make a positive change in this country will not be prevented from attending the college of their choice, including Bradley.

But it was disappointing to see that Bradley waited days after other universities announced they are taking this course of action. Some

schools published statements as early as Feb. 22, so why did Bradley have to wait four days to make this statement? It's as if our school is the fair-weather friend of a group of more progressive schools in America, and we aren't sure how well that sits with us.

We would rather see Bradley make its own bold statement rather than wait to see what the majority of other universities do before making its own move. Despite this, we still commend the university for taking part in this movement.

The Bradley community is also hosting its own National School Walk-Out event on March 8, during which students are invited to peacefully protest by walking out of class at 10 a.m. for 17 minutes in support of the 17 students who lost their lives in the Parkland shooting.

The voices and actions of the Florida survivors are being seen by legislators and media across the country, and their message is clear. This is a great opportunity for Bradley students to do the same.

The Scout hopes to see many students taking part in this event as it is an opportunity to express to lawmakers the changes that we want to see made while also showing support for the victims of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas shooting.

While the issue of gun control can be quite polarizing, it is encouraging to see Bradley come together and align itself for such an important cause, and we hope the students participate in the walk-out on March 8 (see "Bradley releases statement for prospective students" on page A5).

Column

Appreciate 'The Beautiful Game'



JUSTIN LIMOGES
jlimoges@mail.bradley.edu
Sports Reporter

When it comes to being a sports lover in the United States, I fall in the minority. I grew up kicking a ball rather than throwing one; I grew up as a die-hard soccer fan.

Don't get me wrong, I love watching the NBA, NFL, MLB and NHL but not as much as I enjoy skipping all afternoon activities to

watch the UEFA Champions League or getting out of bed early on a weekend morning to catch matches in the English Premier League.

A lot of criticism falls to soccer fans like myself, especially on social media. For example, you could go on any soccer post created by ESPN, and I'm sure you'll find ignorant comments stating soccer is "not a sport," "a boring sport" or that "nobody cares." I'm sure you get the point – soccer isn't appreciated in the U.S. like it is in every other country around the world.

Fortunately, this country is warming up to "The Beautiful Game." More and more mainstream sports fans are welcoming soccer. The MLS is bringing in more teams to its league and sports icons and news outlets around the world are promoting the sport.

Ironically, I love soccer for a lot of the reasons why Americans don't: The games are typically low-scoring, 90 minutes long and involve a lot of what may seem like pointless

running.

Why would I enjoy a low-scoring sport? Well, when goals do happen, it's way more exciting. When you're there for that specific moment during the game, it's special. And when you're lucky enough to watch a game that has multiple goals, you're even more fortunate.

Soccer is obviously not a sport entirely focused on when the ball goes into the net. And for a person who watches basketball regularly, where points are scored on most possessions in-game, I can see the frustration in watching an average soccer match during which scoring may not even exist. Trust me, when a game ends in a 0-0 draw, I'm not pleased either.

When it comes to the timing of the game, I'm a huge fan of 45-minute halves and one 15-minute halftime break. Why? No commercials, The only commercials I get to see are during the break. The clock is also continuous and doesn't stop, which keeps the continuity of the game,

even when the ball goes out of play.

The "running around" bit can be boring for a lot of people. But since I've played soccer my entire life, I see the things non-soccer fans probably don't. I see how the players are moving, making runs on and off the ball, finding better positions and preparing to score. It's amazing to see how impressive the players are when executing those things.

Soccer is not for everyone, but it doesn't deserve to be criticized the way it is in the U.S. as "not being a sport" when it's the most beloved sport everywhere else in the world.

The World Cup is coming this summer, and with the U.S. men's national team sadly failing to qualify, now may be the best time to find a team to temporarily, or even permanently, support.

Letter to the Editor

On Feb. 14, 2018, a gunman rampaged through Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. Fourteen children and three staff members were slaughtered. Now, students who survived the shooting have had enough, and they're taking action.

Standing with them are thousands of students across the country who, like the students at Stoneman Douglas, are tired of feeling unsafe in their schools. They are tired of hearing about children their own age being killed and Congress doing nothing to stop it from happening again. Many of these students are partaking in a national "March for Our Lives" on March 24, a nationwide protest of gun violence and a second demonstration on April 20, the

anniversary of the Columbine High School massacre.

While some school and district administrators have responded with words of support, others have discouraged their students from participating in these non-violent demonstrations. In a letter sent to parents and guardians, Peoria Public Schools Superintendent Sharon Desmoulin-Kherat wrote: "All Peoria Public Schools students and staff will remain in school. We will not be participating in the national protest events." While well intentioned, these schools are discouraging their students from speaking up about an issue they care deeply about.

Universities across the nation, including MIT, the University of Virginia and Illinois State University,

have promised high school students that if they are suspended or otherwise punished for participating in non-violent protests against gun violence, it will not affect their college admission chances. I am so proud of Bradley University for joining this long and growing list of universities who support these courageous students.

These students are speaking their truth and should not be silenced. The students who participate in these demonstrations are tomorrow's leaders, and we should be so privileged as to have them join the Bradley University community. I ask students, faculty and alumni of Bradley University to stand with these students and show their support.

The tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School could be a turning point in our nation's history. This is an opportunity to create change we so desperately need. Students have noticed. They're speaking up. We as a Bradley community must show them we're listening – and that every voice matters here. When these students see the change they are demanding, we should be so proud as to say that Bradley University stood by their side.

–Ryan Lutker
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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.

'Dead Man's Cell Phone' answers the call

BY MACKENZIE NEWMAN
Off-staff Reporter

Everyone knows when entering a theater, it's time to turn your phone on silent and disconnect from the screen. But after watching Bradley's Department of Theater Arts' production of Sarah Ruhl's "Dead Man's Cell Phone," the audience may never want to turn their smartphones back on.

Running until March 4, this show shines a light on the good, the bad and the deadly of constant connection with technology through humorous and unusual moments.

This play centers on a main character who attempts to craft a better version of life from behind the screen of a cell phone. Timid and socially awkward Jean, played by senior theater arts major Rebekah Farr, discovers Gordon, played by senior music business and marketing double major Zach Olson, who has died in a café. Taking personal responsibility for his ever-ringing cell phone, Jean begins her journey in this surprisingly dark romantic comedy.

Through Jean, the audience sees the effects of always being on a mobile device. Jean finds herself living at the hands of unknown numbers and strange requests that put her in scary and rather confusing situations.

Having seen Olson in several roles on Bradley's stage before, his performance in "Dead Man's Cell Phone" was striking. I wasn't expecting much from the dead guy, but when he rose from his chair to give a five-minute monologue, I was impressed with how much he made me hate his character. With the stage to himself, his narcissistic delivery made me want to wipe the smug look off his face. I wish there would have been some redeeming quality to his character that could make up for the extent Jean goes to make Gordon into a beloved man.

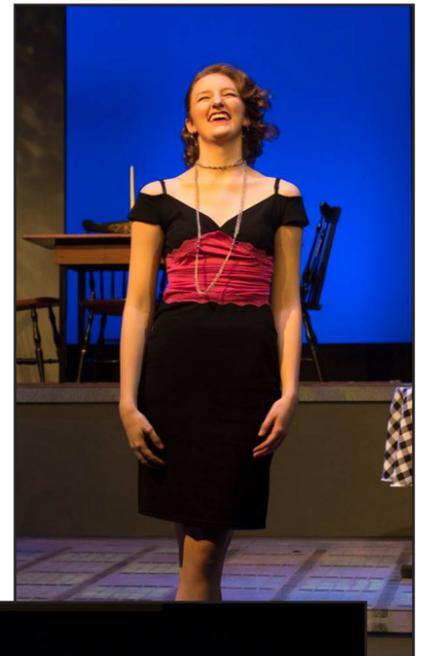
The contrast between Jean and Gordon was strikingly like a comic book villain and hero. As much as I hoped to find more depth in these two, it seemed they were just as they appeared throughout much of the performance – the good and bad sides of a coin.

The rest of the cast takes this weird journey to a new level with their enthusiasm and the occasional shouted obscenity. The role of Gordon's widow, Hermia, is played by junior public relations major Hannah Gustafson. Along with Gordon's mother, Mrs. Gottlieb, played by freshman television arts major Jody Holtz, these two characters are full of dramatic and cringe-worthy lines, accompanied by the comedic timing and bravery of the actresses.

In fact, Mrs. Gottlieb may be the best character in the show because I never knew what was going to come out of her mouth. In the moments she was overcome with grief, I expected to hear the cries of a loving mother. Instead, there was a lot of shouting and some very aggressive insults thrown at her son's widow. A character this out there can be easy to overdo, or worse, fall flat on. But Holtz's performance never ceased to awe me. She stole the spotlight, no matter who else was on stage with her. I almost felt sorry for the rest of the cast because nothing could keep me from watching in anticipation when this mother of terror was on stage.

Mix the bold with the sweet moments of Farr's Jean and her love interest Dwight, played by sophomore history and theatre arts double major Jake Winkle, along with the dripping narcissism and uncaring attitude of Olson's Gordon, and these characters make this eccentric story one worth paying attention to.

Get ready to truly immerse yourself in a world full of the unexpected because one blink, and you could miss the dark undertones of what's really going on. Just remember, the theater is no place for a cell phone.



Photos via Department of Theater Arts' Facebook page

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Spring breaking expectations

BY MADDY WHITE
Assistant Voice Editor

Spring Break is debatably one of the most memorable weeks for a college student. People make it out to be this magical week of parties and alcohol, while dancing poolside while “Shots” by LMFAO plays in the background.

However, along with traditional Spring Break expectations comes the pressure to get your body “Spring Break ready.”

We’re all a little guilty of allowing some slack throughout the winter months when it comes to staying in shape under all those layers, but that doesn’t make it OK to body shame yourself when you finally come out of hibernation in the spring.

“It’s not realistic to change your body for one week,” Audrey Roney, a sophomore music business and marketing double major, said. “Work on it all the time, so you can always have the body you want.”

Don’t get me wrong; certain days we are FEELING OURSELVES. You know what I’m talking about, the ‘Look good, feel good’ days. Other days, we wonder why middle schoolers these days are significantly more attractive than us. It’s really a trade-off between the two.

Trying to stay in shape year-round makes the first



week of March leading up to Spring Break a lot less stressful and keeps your goals in an achievable area of your mind with room for slip-ups because we’re human.

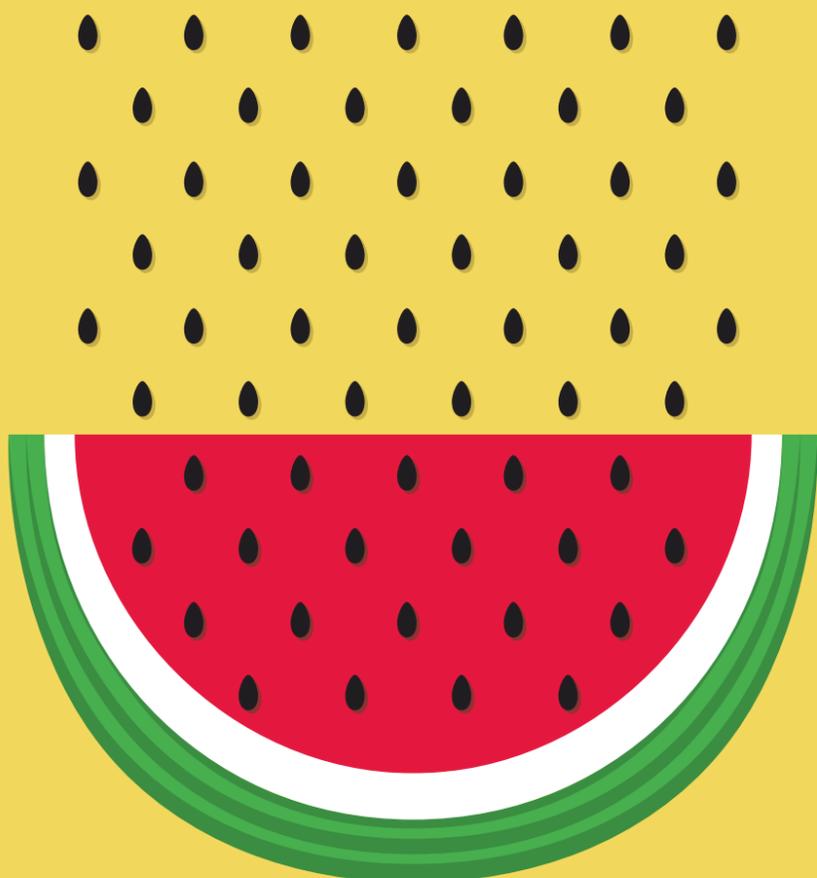
“I do it because I like staying fit and active, but in terms of everyone else, Spring Break puts a lot of pressure on people to look good for vacation and being on the beach, which can definitely test

self-confidence,” Miles Juarez, a junior business management and leadership, sports communication double major, said.

Unfortunately, the alcohol does run out, the playlist has a last song and the week of avoiding responsibility comes to an end. Bottom line: Spring Break isn’t that serious and isn’t worth a diet or crazy workout routine.

Hello

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Questions?

Contact your advisor.
Or call the Office of Summer and Interim Sessions (309) 677-2374.

DISTRACTIONS

Crosswords

Across

- 1) Oral hygiene tool
- 6) Cut the turkey
- 11) USNA student, briefly
- 14) Result of labor?
- 15) "Once more!"
- 16) Words of protest from Yoko?
- 17) Not offensive
- 19) Cartographer's construction
- 20) Comstock find
- 21) Kiltie's headwear
- 22) Dir. opposite of WSW
- 23) Takes place
- 27) Estranged (Var.)
- 29) "Don't mind if ____"
- 30) Jazz quintet's home?
- 32) Denomination
- 33) "Fie" homophone
- 34) Place to lounge
- 36) Pretenses
- 39) Opera singer Lily
- 41) Key place?
- 43) Two-tone cookie
- 44) Santa's reindeer, sans Rudolph
- 46) Sounds angry
- 48) Down with the flu
- 49) Sharing word
- 51) Change totally
- 52) Hawaiian necklace
- 53) Alter in tone
- 56) Rotted
- 58) Pit-stop place, briefly
- 59) Word before "so!" and "not!"
- 60) Park one's carcass
- 61) Clock face number
- 62) Proverbially newsworthy headline
- 68) Hail, to Ovid
- 69) Underdog's dream
- 70) A sad thing to be in
- 71) Natural moisture
- 72) Hammer parts
- 73) 1945 Allied conference site

Down

- 1) G-man's org.
- 2) Artist Maya
- 3) Grp.
- 4) Display a posture problem
- 5) Support, as with props
- 6) Common house pet
- 7) Khan's title
- 8) Bob Marley was one
- 9) Blood pressure, heart rate, etc.
- 10) Foes
- 11) For an instant
- 12) Absurd
- 13) Drugged, as a racehorse
- 18) Word with 1-Across
- 23) Tutu wearer in "Fantasia"
- 24) Kind of committee
- 25) Angle
- 26) Grilled Thai dish
- 28) Cave phenomenon
- 31) Hatchet man's counterpart
- 35) Cast an amorous eye toward
- 37) Wild fight
- 38) Nonliquid state
- 40) Fellow named Bellow
- 42) Firstborn
- 45) Concoct
- 47) The "S" in SPCA
- 50) Minor knee injury
- 53) Trojan War epic
- 54) Not street-savvy
- 55) Like a close game, usually
- 57) Where to find whales
- 63) Uncle of rice fame
- 64) Belonging to a thing
- 65) ___ segno (from the repeat sign, in music)
- 66) Plate crumb
- 67) Government procurement org.

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71			72						73			

Sudoku

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

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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SOLUTIONS POSTED ONLINE

NEWS

Relay for Life ‘loves to hate cancer’

BY TONY XU
Graphics Editor

Students gathered in the Markin Family and Recreation Center last Saturday in an effort to raise money for cancer research, as Relay for Life hosted their annual celebration.

According to Lauren Neustadt, president of the organization, Relay for Life works with different student groups to raise money for the American Cancer Society throughout the year. The accumulation of their efforts is the Relay for Life event itself, something they do to celebrate all the money they have raised alongside all fundraisers and cancer survivors.

Bradley Relay for Life operates alongside a staff partner from American Cancer Society to plan all fundraising events, including the one held on Saturday. This year, the theme for this year was “Love to Hate Cancer” because of its proximity to Valentine’s Day.

For Angela Leontyev, attending the event was a way to show support for the cause.

“I think everybody has some connection with [cancer],” Leontyev, a senior biology major, said. “Unfortunately, I think we are living in a world to where we at least know

somebody [who has cancer], but that’s what the event is for.”

According to Neustadt, Relay for Life is a donation-based event, and many of the foods were provided by local businesses. Various student organizations also joined Relay for Life to help raise awareness, including Bradley Fencing Club, Dynamix a capella group and Orchesis dance troupe, who performed at the event.

“Originally, what Relay [for Life was] ... was walking to raise money,” Neustadt said. “[It’s] a gathering of people to just recognize and spread the awareness for cancer.”

Another activity at the event was Lap Beads, where people walked around Markin’s performance court and collected one bead for each lap they completed, according to Neustadt. The beads included a variety of colors, each representing a different type of cancer.

One of the activities at the event was virtual lap, an opportunity for students’ families or friends to join the event though technology.

“People can call or FaceTime their family members and do the laps together,” Neustadt said. “We turn all the lights off in here ... and we do a remembering lap and a survivor lap.”

Emily English, a junior mechanical engineering student, was one cancer



photo by Tony Xu

Members of the Dynamix a capella group performs at last Saturday’s Relay for Life event.

survivor in attendance. She said she enjoyed the idea of Bradley’s Relay for Life.

“I think it’s really cool that it involves [clubs] on campus, and it’s reaching older students [and] young adults,” English said. “I feel a lot of

them don’t know cancer outside of like, ‘Oh, my grandma had it,’ ‘Oh, my grandpa had it’ or ‘My friend’s grandma had it’. They just seem removed from it.”

As of Wednesday, Bradley Relay for Life has raised \$4,907 for

American Cancer Society. To learn more about the national organization, visit www.RelayForLife.org.

A ‘super’ mind-blowing conference

BY HANNAH SNIDMAN
News Reporter

For many Bradley students, the closest connection to a physician on campus is Health Services. But last Wednesday, students had the opportunity to meet world-renowned physicians and researchers as Bradley hosted the third annual Super Brain Summit.

The theme for this year was “Change Your Brain, Change Your Life: Understanding Trauma,” which took place Wednesday in Hayden-Clark Alumni Center’s Peplow Pavilion and featured two keynote speakers.

“Super Brain Summit is a conference where renowned speakers are brought in to discuss interesting topics pertaining to the brain and its functions,” Christy Haeffele, program coordinator of Continuing Education, said. “It is the vision of Dr. Lori Russell-Chapin, Co-Director of the Center for Collaborative Brain Research (CCBR) and benefits the research and initiatives that the CCBR is tasked with.”

The themes and speakers change each year, with last year’s focus on neuroplasticity. There were many ways participate including attending in person, streaming from a computer through Live WebEx or watching the recorded sessions, which will be available by the end of March.

“One of the missions of a university and the CCBR is to disseminate new knowledge and new research,” Russel-Chapin, professor

in the Department of Leadership in Education, Nonprofits and Counseling in the College of Education and Health Sciences, said. “Understanding the brain and its functions allow people to have the opportunity to live healthier lifestyles. This year’s theme ... offers participants essential information about our brain and the impact of trauma.”

This year’s Super Brain Summit welcomed Daniel Amen, a double-board certified psychiatrist, physician, professor and 10-time New York Times best selling author, to present during three sessions of the summit.

“Every year we try to bring in a different speaker that can focus on a slightly different theme,” Haeffele said. “Dr. Daniel Amen will discuss an overview of the brain systems and their impact on everyday life and how to optimize them; ADHD, PTSD, TBI and Memory Rescue.”

Bessel van de Kolk delivered the keynote opening speech via a livestream. He is a psychiatrist and author, whose talk discussed implications for helping professionals on understanding trauma.

“Neurocounseling is changing the field of mental health,” Rachel Banaszewski, graduate assistant in the Leadership in Education, Nonprofits & Counseling Department, said. “It is very exciting to have such great researchers presenting at Bradley University, and I consider myself lucky to be able to attend.”

All proceeds of the event are given to the CCBR.

TRANSFER continued from page A1

“One of the [ways we try to increase retention] is through the Academic Success Center, and that’s launching this year,” Thomas said. “The other one ... that’s also attached

to the Academic Success Center is the Student Success Collaborative.”

For students who have transferred to campus, Thomas said Bradley has the Office for Transfer Student Assistance and utilizes a transfer student orientation, transfer aides and a specific section of a course, EHS 120, which is designed for transfer

students to help integrate them into the Bradley community.

“If we’re getting [a student] here, we want [them] to stay and graduate from here as well,” Thomas said.

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NEWS

SCOUT ON THE STREET

Do you think America should impose stricter gun laws?



Pierre Paul

"Yes, I do. It does not need to be permanent, but based on the state the United States is in, I think people need to ask themselves if their right to own a gun is more important than somebody else's right to life."

- Peirre Paul, Sophomore political science major



Hannah Wehr

"Absolutely. If 18-year-olds with little to no professional training or legal provision can obtain an AR-15 or any other assault rifle in a very short amount of time, that is one very large problem."

- Hannah Wehr, Freshman criminal justice major



Devon Swafford

"Yes. The rest of the civilized world has implemented stricter gun laws. Surprisingly enough, less people get shot."

- Devon Swafford, Freshman theatre arts major



Becca Meier

"Hell yeah, we need more gun regulation."

- Becca Meier, Freshman creative writing major

BY ZANE JUD
Off-staff Reporter
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Column

That's not love



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Now that all of the Valentine's Day consumer craziness has died down, I think it's time to talk about the holiday's real purpose: love.

What first comes to mind may be the mushy, butterflies-in-your-stomach, dancing-in-the-kitchen kind of love, but not every relationship looks like that. No relationship is perfect, but there are several scary things in the world disguised as love. We need to make ourselves, and those around us, aware of those things.

There are various organizations and foundations committed to raising awareness for relationship abuse with things like Domestic Violence Awareness Month and Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. But the conversation shouldn't be left only to those months, because it happens all the time.

If you know me, you might be surprised that I have personal experience with an abusive relationship - the scary, invisible kind: emotional abuse. I've never opened up too much about my

experiences because they're not something I like to reflect on, but it's important to share, especially when given a platform to do so.

In high school, I got into a relationship with my first boyfriend. Over the course of the 15 months we were together, I lost my closest friends and stopped doing things I enjoyed. My grades suffered, and we broke up six times. Looking back, I see red flags at every turn, but those signs were difficult to see in the moment.

The relationship started off fine: he took me to prom, gave me flowers, bought me dinner, hung out with my friends and even went to church with my family. After that, it all went slowly downhill. He began dictating who I could hang out with and convinced me that my best friends were bad influences. He even started monitoring my texts and conversations because he said

he "cared about me and my safety."

Every time he hurt my feelings, told me I couldn't do something, canceled my plans or threatened me, he convinced me it was out of love. Afterwards, he would break down and apologize, promising to change. I convinced myself I was OK with that.

As a junior in high school, I was on the starting lineup for my varsity basketball team when we won the state title and was then selected as a state all-star. Many of my teammates had plans to play basketball in college, but I didn't. He told me I couldn't.

After escaping the relationship, I felt lost. I was a senior in high school with large aspirations and no direction, and while I could sit here looking back, wallowing in self-pity and what-if's, it would be a waste of time. Even though it still haunts me from time to time, I've moved on and

learned from that relationship. I'm so grateful for the place I'm in now. I have several great friends, a loving relationship of over two years and I'm studying what I'm passionate about.

I'm forever grateful for my friends who stood up for me and stood by my side. I strongly encourage you to be that friend, no matter how hard it may be, and to educate yourself on the signs of emotional abuse. I recommend checking out the One Love Foundation's website - joinonelove.org - for lots of great resources on relationship abuse. It's time to #LoveBetter, and it starts with one person at a time.

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SPORTS

Women's basketball's struggles continue on the road

BY JUSTIN LIMOGES
Sports Reporter

Bradley women's basketball continued their season-long struggles on the road after losing to Missouri Valley Conference leader Drake University, 77-71, and the University of Northern Iowa, 63-50. As a result, the Braves now fall to a 12-16 overall record and to seventh place in the MVC.

The Braves took on the undefeated Bulldogs on Friday in a thrilling game at the Knapp Center. Drake scored the first six points of the game to go up 6-0 after tipoff. The Braves went on a small run with points coming from both sophomore forward Chelsea Brackmann and freshman guard Gabi Haack.

Brackmann put up three straight baskets of her own to make the game level, 6-6, while Haack followed her teammate's conversions with a 3-pointer to go up 9-6. The Bulldogs remained undeterred and held a slight 20-18 advantage at the end of the first quarter.

At the start of the second quarter, the Bulldogs extended their lead to nine points, 27-18. The Braves responded with a 10-0 run to keep the score close, 31-29. The half ended with a last-second layup from Braves junior guard Shunseere Kent to take the lead 39-37.

The Braves continued their strong performance into the third quarter with huge points coming from Haack yet again. Haack was able to land another 3-pointer and Bradley eventually ended the third quarter up four points, 59-55.

The fourth quarter proved to be the most exciting with seven lead changes. This time the Bulldogs started the quarter out hot, scoring the first seven points. The Braves came back, and held onto a 68-67 lead

with under three minutes left to play. Bradley's small advantage dissipated in the final two minutes of the quarter after Drake went on a 10-3 run to lead 75-70. With only 1:26 remaining, junior forward Vanessa Markert provided a glimpse of hope for the Braves after making two shots, but it wasn't enough.

The Bulldogs were able to pull out one of their hardest earned victories of the season, 77-71, to improve their undefeated conference record to 37 straight wins.

Head coach Andrea Gorski said she believes her team played the best they have all season against Drake and hopes that same strong mentality continues into future games.

"The last couple games our mental toughness has been the best it's been all season," Gorski said. "If we take that same mental approach, focus and determination [we had this past weekend] into the tournament, you'll see a different team."

Both Haack and Markert had impressive offensive performances, with Haack notably going 6-for-12 beyond the arc, dropping in 22 points and five rebounds, and Markert putting up 17 points and seven rebounds.

Haack has had an amazing start to her career as a Brave. She currently holds the No. 1 position in points scored for Bradley, averaging at 10.3 points per game. Haack gave credit to her teammates for that success.

"We've been working really well together; the team was really welcoming at first," Haack said. "So it made it easier for me to feel comfortable in our games and to play along with them."

On Sunday, the Braves travelled to play in their final road game of the regular season against Northern Iowa at the McLeod Center.



The Braves lost both of their road games this weekend and look to win their final game against Illinois State on Saturday.

photo via Scout archives

The start of the game was filled with a plethora of points as UNI led 19-14 by the end of the first quarter. The second quarter looked like the complete opposite, though, as both teams combined for 15 points total with Northern Iowa leading 25-20 at the half.

The Panthers continued to extend their lead, 37-25, into the third quarter by taking advantage of Bradley's poor shooting performance early on. The Braves made a 15-5 run to bring the score within two points, 42-40, however, by the end of the third quarter.

The final quarter saw action

quickly, as Markert scored to tie the game at 42-42. The Braves would continue to trail the Panthers for the remainder of the game after failing to score another basket after the first six minutes of play, Markert scored a pair of free throws in the final four minutes but it wasn't enough, as the Braves lost 63-50 against Northern Iowa.

Markert grabbed another double-double, racking up 16 points and 8 rebounds.

The Braves will conclude their regular season in an I-74 rival game against Illinois State University this tomorrow. The winner of the game

will clinch the No. 6 seed for the upcoming MVC Women's Basketball Tournament.

Gorski believes that if the Braves bring the same mentality they did against Drake and Northern Iowa, they'll be able to win.

"ISU is different team than the last two teams," Gorski said. "[We] got to win the rebounding battle and got to get every loose ball. ISU is a very physical team, and it'll be a large task. But if we bring the same mentality that we did last week, we can accomplish that."

The Braves will host ISU at the Renaissance Coliseum tomorrow at 2 p.m.

  <h1 style="text-align: center;">THE WEEK AHEAD</h1>  					
	Friday, March 2	Saturday, March 3	Sunday, March 4	Tuesday, March 6	Wednesday, March 7
Men's Basketball	MVC Tournament vs. Drake 2:30 p.m.	MVC Tournament	MVC Tournament		
Women's Basketball		vs. Illinois State 2 p.m.			
Baseball	at Belmont 4 p.m.	at Belmont 1 p.m.	at Belmont 1 p.m.		
Softball	vs. Louisiana-Monroe 11 a.m. vs. UMKC 3 p.m. in Memphis	vs. UMKC 9 a.m. vs. Memphis 3 p.m. in Memphis	vs. IPFW 9 a.m. in Memphis		vs. Illinois 6 p.m.

SPORTS

Softball struggles against top teams

BY BEAU WOODCOCK
Off-staff Reporter

The Bradley softball team competed in the Citrus Classic in Kissimmee, Florida, at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex this past weekend.

They finished the weekend with a 1-4 record, losing three of their games to ranked competition. Their lone win was a 4-0 shutout of Purdue thanks to a complete game by sophomore pitcher Emma Jackson.

Head coach Amy Hayes said Jackson really impressed her in the win.

"[Purdue] struggled with her, and they just could not find a way to get to her," Hayes said. "She threw, I think, her best game of her career so far."

Losses to ranked opponents No. 24

South Carolina, No. 22 Minnesota and No. 23 Kentucky soured the weekend for the Braves. The Braves were able to put up six runs on Kentucky and only lost due to a six run seventh inning by Kentucky to win 11-6.

Despite the losing record on the weekend, Hayes said there is a benefit to playing quality-ranked competition to help her team realize they are not far from these teams.

"I think it's important for [players] to understand that they're right there," Hayes said. "Sometimes it's the outside talk of thinking you're a mid-major rather than just thinking you're a ball player like everybody else that gets in the way."

Moving forward, the early season challenges for the Braves helped highlight opportunities for growth. According to Hayes, Bradley is

hoping to improve in the key area of hitting in their last two preseason tournaments before progressing into conference play.

"We've always been able to hang our hat on hitting, and I think we're a little young in that sense offensively," Hayes said.

The Braves started with a 4-6 record for the season so far. Five of those losses have come against nationally ranked competition, with Bradley suffering two losses to the No. 4 Washington Huskies.

Bradley is traveling to Memphis, Tennessee, for the River City Classic this weekend for five games. They start today against Louisiana-Monroe at 1 p.m., followed by a 3:30 p.m. game against University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Braves excel at MVC Championships

BY NATHAN NUNEZ
Off-staff Reporter

The Bradley men's and women's track teams capped off an impressive season with a top-five finish and multiple broken records at the Missouri Valley Conference Championship this past weekend.

On Saturday, junior Michael Ward finished first in the 5,000-meter event with a time of 14:49.53. Ward's first place finish marked the first victory for a male in the 5,000-meter event in Braves history. The men's distance medley relay team also placed first in their event with a time of 10:01.72.

Earning points for the women was senior Natalie Burant, who placed fourth in the 5,000-meter with a time of 17:30.09. The women's DMR team also earned points after a time of 12:15.29 earned the team a fourth place finish.

At the end of day one, the men's team stood at fourth in the standings with 28 points. The women were sixth in the standings with 10 points of their own.

On the Sunday, Ward continued his individual success after winning the 3,000-meter run with a time of 8:17.31, becoming the first Brave to do so. Ward became the first male in program history to win multiple individual championships at the MVC.

According to Ward, motivation and determination led to his success in distancing himself from his opponents.

"The incentive of my first individual title and needing to do my

part for the team helped me find that gear," Ward said via email.

Senior Daniel Gagne also earned his first individual championship finishing first in the mile run with a time of 4:23.75.

The men's team ended with their best finish since 1970. After placing fifth in the standings. The 78 points scored by the men is the most in program history. The previous mark was held by the 1970 men's team with 70 points.

Head coach Darren Gauson credits his team's success to experience in major races.

"A lot of them are just older and have been in that championship three or four years," Gauson said. "Having years of training also prepares them."

For the women's team, senior Hannah Witzcak finished sixth in the 3,000-meter with a time of 9:59.27. Junior Niamh Markham finished seventh in the 800-meter in 2:14.06, and Brooke Nauser finished seventh with a time of 5:03.06 in the mile.

The women finished eighth with 17 points, improving on last year's ninth place finish at the MVC Championships.

Both teams will have their longest break of the season before competing in their first outdoor meet at the Bill Cornell Spring Classic in Carbondale on March 24.

Women's golf finishes fourth

BY JACK SIMZYK
Off-staff Reporter

The Bradley women's golf team teed off their 2018 spring season on Monday and Tuesday in Florida at the Amelia Island Collegiate, where they placed seventh out of 15 teams.

Unfortunately for the Braves, junior Chloe Horton could not finish her final round due to illness. Despite playing a golfer down, Bradley still finished in the top half of the event. Sophomore Taylor Ledwein led the Braves in Florida, tying for 23rd overall and finishing with a 12-over 288.

The Braves competed in their second tournament of the week in Arizona at the Rio Verde Invitational, where they had better results and

finished in fourth place as a team. Bradley was in fifth after day one and in seventh after day two but turned it up on day three. The whole lineup shot scores of 79 or better to move the team to fourth place behind Seton Hall, Akron and Arkansas State.

Once again, it was Ledwein who was the Braves' top golfer. She tied for fifth place overall and shot a 72 on the third day, which was her lowest round of the season. Ledwein said she enjoyed how she and the team played this week.

"We met our goals as a team, and that shows us that we are moving in the right direction," Ledwein said. "As for myself, I was happy with how I played the whole week. I didn't finish well my last round at Amelia, but I

bounced back with my finish at Rio."

Head coach Mary Swanson said she was also proud of the team's effort this week. It was the best finish in the tournament throughout Swanson's eight years as coach. She looked on improving the team's performance by securing victories when faced with a small deficit or lead.

"If things are going well, it can be relatively easy, but if things are going down, we need to be great at short game and recovery shots," Swanson said. "We will continue to work on them."

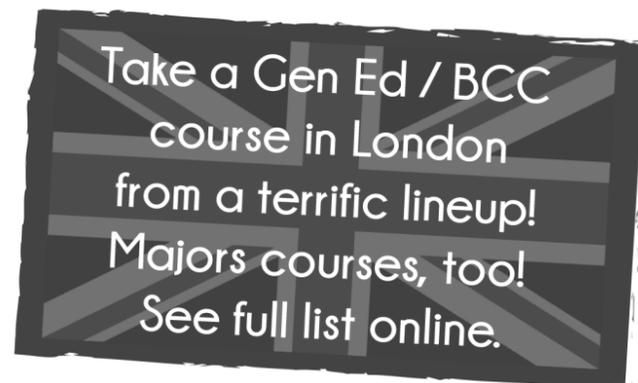
The Braves will continue their spring season in two weeks when they host the Bradley Spring Break Invitational in Texas on March 12 and 13.

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SPORTS

Get the brooms out: Baseball sweeps SDSU

BY ANTHONY LANDAHL
Assistant Sports Editor

Despite a doubleheader and a postponed game, the Bradley baseball team maneuvered past South Dakota State and won all three games in last weekend's series. The Braves took on the Jackrabbits in Edwardsville after heavy rains cancelled the teams' original trip in Texas.

Bradley started the first game of the series with a stagnant offense, unable to generate early scoring. South Dakota scored first in the top of the fourth and hit three batters in consecutive plays in the top of the fifth to extend the lead 4-0. Head coach Elvis Dominguez said the team kept their focus through the deficit.

"We fell behind early. [The team] is really resilient," Dominguez said. "We seem to not panic at all. We seem to go about our business."

Sophomore Luke Shadid initiated the Braves' scoring with a two-run homer in the bottom of the fifth. In the sixth inning, Bradley scored four runs to take the lead 6-4. After stealing second and third base respectively, senior Andrew Ivelia and junior Luke Mangieri scored off senior Derek Bangert's single to extend the lead 8-4. The Braves went on to win 8-6.

The Braves had a quick break before starting the second game of Friday's doubleheader. SDSU once again started the game off scoring first with a two-run home run in the second inning. Both teams were unable to score for five innings until Bradley ran in three batters over the course of the seventh inning to take the lead.

Junior pitcher Brian Schimmer entered the game in the eighth inning and struck out five batters to seal Bradley's 4-2 win. Ivelia said relief pitching helped the Braves win.

"[The bullpen was] able to come into every game and shut down the opposing team, giving our offense the opportunity to pull away and take the game over," Andrew Ivelia said.



Senior Derek Bangert finished the weekend with four hits and two RBIs.

photo via Scout archives

Dominguez described the pitching of Schimmer as "electric," but he wanted to focus more on the Braves' ability to score early in the game. Bradley only scored after the fourth inning in both of Friday's wins. They have won four games this season despite the other team scoring first.

"We talked about [scoring early] on Saturday, and they did the opposite on Sunday," Dominguez said. "I think it's a matter of them understanding that we can't sit back and allow the game to get out of hand. Sometimes

you won't be able to have that luxury of coming back."

In the final game on Sunday, the Braves scored quickly in the second inning with bases loaded when freshman Keaton Rice hit in two batters off a single up the middle. Rice scored in the bottom of the fifth off Ivelia's double to left field to extend the lead 3-1.

Andy Shadid sealed the series by blasting a solo home run in the sixth and running in sophomore Brendan Dougherty in the eighth inning off

a single to left field. The Braves won 5-1.

According to Schimmer, even with the momentum of winning the series the team looks to stay focused on future matchups.

"We were very happy to have completed a sweep in only the second week of the season, Schimmer said. "We enjoyed that feeling the rest of the bus ride back, but we know that it has very little effect on our season and that we still have to prepare for each weekend at a time."

The Braves look ahead to this weekend's road series against Belmont, a team that is a predicted contender for the Ohio Valley Conference title.

"[Belmont is] very well coached," Dominguez said. "It'll be a definite challenge for us if we don't play up to our capabilities."

Bradley, now 5-1, looks to extend its five-game winning streak against Belmont today at 4 p.m., and tomorrow and Sunday starting at 1 p.m.

Opinion

Baseball mega contracts need to go

BY RONAN KHALSA
Off-staff Reporter

Major League Baseball is a great league and remains the backbone of American sports to this day. Although money at stake largely influences professional sports (and college sports for, that matter), the joy inherent in baseball must not disappear. Mega contracts jeopardize the ideals of the game, the integrity of players and the joy for fans.

Many leagues such as the NBA and the NFL impose rules to limit lengthy rich contracts. The MLB does not, yet it should. The 162-game season grind requires essentially the same commitment from each player on the roster. A rookie contract is roughly \$500,000—plenty to live happily—but many players make millions via long contractual agreements.

I agree that baseball highlights one-on-one competition most of the time and that individual performances can bring more paying fans to ballparks countrywide. But what happens after a player signed for upwards of

\$200 million over 10 years begins to decrease? Big market teams, such as the Yankees, need to be penalized for bullying smaller market teams. The league tries to penalize teams for spending a lot of money by charging a luxury tax instead of having a salary cap. It's clear that the luxury tax does not inhibit teams from doing so.

The "win now" mindset is appropriate, but the best teams in the MLB should continually change. Mega contracts lock players in a winning environment until long after their winning ways end, and the players basically serve as negative-minded benchwarmers. MLB roster spots are meant for the best in the world, not millionaires that are a pain to share a field with, let alone watch.

If the MLB could limit the contract length and yearly payout, fans and players alike would be happier. Players like Alex Rodriguez, Giancarlo Stanton, Bryce Harper and Manny Machado play because they're currently great in their prime, but

they'll simply become thorns in their owners' sides. Skill and luck is often attributed to a higher power, but if the MLB continues to let selfish, egotistic moguls get their way, the league will rot alongside the stars of today and musty ballplayers of the future.

Money causes the love of the game to diminish. The only way baseball will succeed in the future is the ability for change towards a level playing field for all teams.

Ronan Khalsa is a junior sports communication and marketing double major from West Dummerston, Vermont. Questions and comments can be directed to rkhalsa@mail.bradley.edu.

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SPORTS

Ward completes double

Senior Michael Ward claimed two MVC titles in the 3000-meter run and 5000-meter run.

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Michael Ward

MEN'S BASKETBALL FALLS IN FINAL GAME

Thomas shines despite loss on Senior Day

BY COLE BREDAHL
Sports Editor

The Bradley men's basketball team dropped their final regular season game against Indiana State last Saturday, ending this season with a 13-2 home record, their most home wins since the 2012-2013 season.

The Sycamores came out strong and led 15-8 with 13:42 left in the first half, but the Braves were able to close the gap and even take the lead in the first half. Still, Bradley trailed 34-31 at the half.

Bradley struggled with foul trouble in the first half, but head coach Brian Wardle said his team handled it well.

"I was proud of our resilience in the first half to keep it within three for the foul trouble we were in," Wardle said.

The second half remained close, as neither team led by more than six points. With only six and a half minutes remaining, Bradley was in a tough place as the Sycamores were on top 57-51.

Senior forward Donte Thomas scored a three-pointer, and junior guard Dwayne Lautier-Ogunleye followed with two free throws. The Braves tied the game at 60, but Indiana State came back every time with a response to take back the lead.

"Every time we were going on a run, they'd attack us," Wardle said. "We just didn't ever get on a big run."

Down 66-64 with five seconds remaining in the game, the Braves had an inbound play from midcourt. The Braves threw a lob to freshman forward Elijah Childs, who then passed the ball to sophomore guard Nate Kennell for a three-point shot.

Unfortunately for the Braves, Kennell slipped, fell and lost the ball. Childs came up with the ball but did not have time to get a quality shot, and the Braves lost 66-64. Wardle said the play was executed how he drew it despite Kennell falling.

"He was wide open, [but] he just slipped," Wardle said. "We were going for the win at home."



Senior Donte Thomas scored a career-high 24 points on Senior Day against Indiana State.

photo by Kayla Johnson

Indiana State dominated Bradley in their rebounding as the Sycamores pulled down 17 offensive rebounds to Bradley's seven.

"I think we didn't finish," Lautier-Ogunleye said. "We would play great defense for a whole possession but wouldn't come down with the rebound."

Despite the loss, Wardle said he was happy with the way his team battled throughout the game.

"The effort was there," Wardle said. "We scratched, we clawed. We kept it close, but Indiana State made the big plays."

Wardle also said his team was unable to get comfortable in the game, which caused problems coming

out of the gate.

"We couldn't find any rhythm offensively," Wardle said. "We could never get going and get the gym rocking."

With four players finishing with three or more fouls, Wardle said fouls affected the team's ability to get runs going.

"Anytime someone got hot, they had to come to the bench for foul trouble," Wardle said.

Adding to that foul trouble, the Braves lost freshman guard Darrell Brown to an ankle injury with just over nine minutes remaining. Brown remained on the bench the rest of the game, though X-rays have come back negative, according to Wardle.

"He has a lateral ankle sprain," Wardle said on a MVC teleconference Monday. "We're not planning on him playing [for today]. We are just taking it day by day."

The Braves relied on their lone senior, Thomas, to keep them in the game, who scored a career-high 24 points and eight rebounds. Lautier-Ogunleye said the team wanted to win for Thomas.

"Donte's our guy and our brother," Lautier-Ogunleye said. "He is our heart and soul. It sucks we were not able to do it for him today, but I know everyone in [the locker room] wanted it for him."

Lautier-Ogunleye said he is proud of the way Thomas has grown as a

player in his four years on the Hilltop.

"He has grown so much, and the man and player he has become is just lightyears ahead," Lautier-Ogunleye said. "He is one of the best players in the Valley."

The Braves will now face Drake in the MVC Tournament. Drake is the only team in the Valley to have beaten Bradley in both of their games this season, but Lautier-Ogunleye said that won't matter tonight.

"Yeah, they have beaten us twice, but they aren't going to do it again," Lautier-Ogunleye said.

Bradley and Drake will go head-to-head today at 2:30 p.m. in St. Louis.



TWEET
OF THE
WEEK:

"Congrats to you brother now spend some of that on yo mouth, ya breath be killing the huddle saying the plays"

-@_fournette; Jacksonville Jaguars running back Leonard Fournette congratulates teammate Blake Bortles on his contract extension.

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