



The Grammys best dressed.  
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The reach of Kobe Bryant's legacy.  
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## SUSPECT IN CUSTODY EASES SAFETY CONCERNS

A Bradley student was robbed on Jan. 16 near Fredonia Avenue while parking his car. A suspect in connection to the incident was taken into custody, according to a campus safety alert.

photo by Haley Johnson

**BY HALEY JOHNSON**  
News Editor

A suspect is in custody following five robberies that occurred on or near campus in under two months, according to the Bradley University Police Department.

The university announced the arrest by Peoria Police Department on Jan. 18, two days after the fifth incident but could not release further details due to the suspect being a

16-year-old minor.

The suspect matched witness description and was found with the weapon reported.

"There were three individuals who were stopped, one of which was carrying a pellet gun," Brian Joschko, chief of police at Bradley University, said. "Out of that, one of those three was positively identified."

The evidence collected at the scenes and patterned methods led police to believe the crimes were

being committed by the same individuals.

"They were going up to individuals and were displaying a weapon or implying a weapon and then they were demanding property, whether it was a wallet or a cellphone," Joschko said. "Each case was a little bit different."

see **ROBBERY**  
Page A2

## Students denied state minimum wage

**BY ANGELINE SCHMELZER**  
Assistant News Editor

Many students are aware that Illinois increased its minimum wage to \$9.25 per hour as of Jan. 1, but Bradley University is not required to pay its student employees the new state minimum wage.

"The law states that student workers employed by a college or university, who are covered by the federal Fair Labor Standards Act, are exempt from the law's minimum wage requirements," said Erin Kastberg, vice president for legal affairs and

general counsel of the university.

The minimum wage in Illinois will increase to \$15 an hour by 2025. According to Kastberg, the university will be evaluating if wages need to be adjusted.

According to minimumwage.org, colleges and universities can pay registered full-time students as little as 85 percent of the minimum wage.

Employers on campus can choose to increase the hourly wage if the operational needs and budget allow for a raise.

Markin Recreation Center is one of the employers that made the

decision to raise their minimum wage to \$9.25 an hour.

Junior health science major Jem Salmon works as a supervisor at Markin and said that the increase was nice, but she wouldn't have left if she didn't get it.

"Because it's on campus, Markin is a very convenient place to work and helps me further my leadership skills," Salmon said. "The increase was just a bonus."

Kastberg assured the university is evaluating the impact of minimum wage and considers it an important issue now and in the future.

## Bradley proposes to cut programs and reallocate resources

**BY TONY XU**  
Editor-in-Chief

On Wednesday, all full-time Bradley faculty members received an email from Walter Zakahi, provost of the university and senior vice president for academic affairs, announcing a list of recommendations for a significant cut in programs and for reallocation of the investments to better-performing programs.

The email included the University Strategic Planning Committee's metrics and rankings of Bradley's 169 programs, including undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

All programs were segmented into quintiles. Each quintile consists of 33 to 34 major programs, with room to adjust for additional factors. Minors or other certificate programs were not included in this evaluation.

The recommendation states the university will work to invest more in the top quintile programs. Programs in the fourth and the fifth quintiles will be monitored. In the event of a resignation from a faculty member of these programs, funds from vacancies the fifth quintiles are "likely" to be allocated to other programs. Vacancy funds in the fourth quartile will only be received with careful considerations.

The recommendation proposes to eliminate all degree programs in the Department of Physics and the Department of Theatre Arts. It also included three out of six undergraduate programs in the Department of Family and Consumer Science — retail merchandising, family and

consumer science education and family and consumer science. These eliminated departments will continue to offer courses under the Bradley Core Curriculum and courses for other curriculums. The eliminations of the programs will eventually go through the University Senate approval process.

The proposal also calls for the absorption of manufacturing engineering into the School of Mechanical Engineering, the merger of the political science department with Institute for International Studies and the merger of philosophy and religious studies into a single program. Two graduate and one undergraduate concentration in the industrial and mechanical engineering department will also be eliminated.

Students in the programs affected will be "taught out" until the completion of the degree, and tenured faculty members will not face job losses, according to Zakahi's email.

Departments like nursing, interactive media, mechanical engineering, education, chemistry and biochemistry, counseling, psychology and biology shared some of the top-performing programs.

The overall scores for program rankings are calculated based on internal reviews, department reports and data provided by Gray and Associates Scorecard, a consultant agency hired by Bradley.

see **PROGRAMS**  
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## BRIEFS

**Working on memory**

A memory workshop hosted by the Academic Success Center will take place this Monday from 6 to 7 p.m. in Westlake Hall room 14. The workshop will focus on tools and tips for students use to obtain a more effective memory when studying. For more information, contact the Academic Success Center at [success@bradley.edu](mailto:success@bradley.edu).

**Super shuffle for American Cancer Society**

The American Cancer Society will be hosting a Super Shuffle 5K run this Sunday at 10:30 a.m. on Grandview Drive near Prospect Road in Peoria Heights. Registration is \$50 and all proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society. Contact Audrey Williams at [audrey.williams@cancer.org](mailto:audrey.williams@cancer.org) for more information.

**Criminal law and the new cannabis law**

The Peoria County Bar Association is holding a seminar to discuss the new cannabis law and what it means for the future of Illinois today from 1 to 4:30 p.m. The seminar will be held in the Spalding Pastoral Center located at 419 NE Madison Ave. For more information, contact Linda Raineri at 309-674-6049.

**Job fair fundamentals**

The Smith Career Center is holding a "5 must-do's before the job fair" workshop on Feb. 5 from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Michel Student Center room 203. The workshop will go over basic resume critiques, how to dress, elevator speeches and how to prepare for the next steps after the fair. Contact the Smith Career Center at [careers@bradley.edu](mailto:careers@bradley.edu) for more information.

**Self-defense class**

The Bradley University Police Department will host a situational awareness and self-defense class on Feb. 4 from 6 to 8 p.m. and from 5:30-7:30p.m. on Feb. 12 in Markin Center room 30. Anyone with questions should contact [BradleyUPolice@bradley.edu](mailto:BradleyUPolice@bradley.edu).

## POLICE REPORTS

- A resident of the Pi Kappa Phi house entered the house through a window on New Year's Eve and hosted a party without permission to the building. Officers arrived shortly after midnight and sent everyone home.
- Officers responded to a call at the 1700 block of W. Ayres St. at approximately 11 p.m. after a male student taking a shower thought he heard a knock at the door. Officers searched the area with negative results.
- A male unaffiliated with the university got into an altercation with a person in the Campustown parking lot at approximately 7 p.m. on Jan. 8, after he asked them for money and they refused. When approached by officers, he refused to comply with their directions. He was arrested and transported to Peoria County Jail.
- Two separate drivers slid into the same parked car near the 800 block of N. University St. at approximately 11:30 p.m. and midnight Jan. 23 and 24.
- A female student living on West Barker Avenue reported that eggs were thrown at her and her residence from the neighbor's balcony at approximately 8:30 p.m. on Jan. 28. She did not press charges.

## ROBBERY

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While some of the robberies involved one suspect, some involved two. According to Joschko, Peoria police continue to follow up on leads to make additional identifications.

"What I will say is that they were very brazen and very much targeting individuals that would drive to the front of their building, park their car, and they would be walking from their car to their building, which would be in eyesight," Joschko said.

BUPD sent out alerts to faculty, staff and students notifying them of each incident. Many called for action on part of the university.

Senior psychology major Christina Wiebmer and senior sociology major Krista Horn were among several students who started an online petition on Jan. 16 urging the university to increase campus safety. The petition currently has nearly 2,000 signatures on [change.com](http://change.com).

"We want to enhance safety on Bradley University's campus," Wiebmer posted in the petition. "We want the university and police station to invest in more safety cruisers with longer hours, more lighting and security cameras, and more police patrols both on and off campus."

With the suspect in custody, Joschko said the immediate threat has passed. Still, BUPD and the university have used the string of crimes to re-evaluate campus safety. The university sent an email to all students on Jan. 17 detailing changes they were making, safety measures and available resources.

The university announced that while BUPD will maintain a staff of 21 trained

officers, a new position called "public safety officer" would be created to assume some of the more routine responsibilities like securing campus buildings.

"Right now, a lot of that job function is handled by the police department and the facilities department, so [this position] frees up that police officer aspect of it so the police officers are going out doing police work, which is where we want our officers to be in the first place," Joschko said.

The Hilltop Safety Cruiser hours of operation have also been extended from 7 p.m. through 3 a.m. to "dusk" until 3 a.m. Joschko said the permanence of these hours will be evaluated based on need and could potentially mean adding a third cruiser.

University emails and BUPD have also urged students to take preventative action against crimes like this moving forward. However, some students found issues with messages like "Don't be easy prey" and "Do not walk alone in the dark."

"Personally, the message felt like a slap in the face to myself and a lot of others," Horn said. "Being told not to walk at night isn't really the solution we were hoping for, and felt pretty condescending."

BUPD and the university continue to promote safety tips and is planning to host self-defense and situational awareness classes throughout February.

"While these individuals may be in custody, it's an urban environment and people need to make sure they're not taking unnecessary risk and really paying attention to what's going on around them," Joschko said. "One of the big things were asking for is for folks to report suspicious activity as they're seeing it, don't wait."

Look for the Voice's  
Valentine Edition,  
on Feb. 14  
The Voyeur.

## NEWS

# Walk the Moon will illuminate RenCo



BY CONOR MCENTEE  
Copy Editor

Walk the Moon and Krewella will be taking the stage to entertain the campus community on April 4, as ACBU announced the performers for this year's Recess at RenCo.

Unlike last year's Recess at RenCo that included Jesse McCartney, T-Pain and Andy Grammer, this year's performances have been reduced to two acts.

Ian Fournie, President of ACBU, explained this had to do with some complex reasons.

"We could go back to three next year, but budget is part of it," Fournie, a junior public relations major, said. "We got a deal on all three last year, we were able to get Jesse, Andy and T-Pain for a good deal. Whereas this year, we got Walk the Moon. It was kind of the way things fell into place."

In the days leading up to the announcement, ACBU sent out a series of Instagram posts, that gave hints to followers as to who it would be.

Fournie described the first hints as song titles, but they had to get progressively harder due to students successfully guessing that Walk the Moon was the band.

"We started looking up different facts about them," Fournie said. "The left-hand [clue] is because half of their band is left-handed. The state of Ohio is because the band is from the state of Ohio, the drum is because they are

a band, so we put that one out to say that, 'It's a band coming,' and the four people because there are four people in the band."

ACBU is looking for a higher turnout than last year's Recess.

"I think what makes me excited for it is even when we were going through the clues the amount of people who guessed Walk the Moon was pretty impressive honestly," Fournie said. "In order to guess an artist, you have to know a little bit about them, so the amount of people who know them makes me hopeful that people want to see them perform."

Many students like junior economics and political science major Priscilla Calderon, are excited for the concert.

"They have indie pop aspects to their sound as well as folky lyrics," Priscilla Calderon, a junior economics and political science double major, said. "I feel like they are gifted with the lyrical aspect of their music. I think that choosing a band that is really well know and quality music is going to help increase positive feelings on campus and up student morale because this is something to get excited about."

Recess at RenCo will be held at 7 p.m. and doors will open at 6 p.m. Tickets are currently on sale at the Renaissance Colosseum for \$15, but the price will go up to \$20 on Feb. 10. General public tickets will go on sale on Feb. 20 for \$38.

## Beards make historic donation to the sciences

BY VERONICA BLASCOE  
Copy Editor

More than 93 percent of Bradley students receive some kind of financial assistance, according to the Bradley website. Soon, some of that financial assistance may be coming from a substantial donation.

This is thanks to recent donation of \$1 million annually in perpetuity from the Earl and Evelyn "Lovie" Beard Trust. The money is expected to effect generations of students, and will be one of the largest donations ever given to Bradley.

The Beards' donation will help further their mutual commitment to the sciences. Though a press release from Bradley's Office of Public Relations stated that the gift would have a specific focus on scholarships, the exact distribution of the funds is yet to be decided.

University officials will meet Friday afternoon to discuss how to best operationalize the donation.

"I wish I could say, 'this is exactly how these scholarships are going to operate,'" said Christopher Jones, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts

and Sciences. "But it's all to be determined."

Though the university had been aware of the Beards' intent to donate, it was surprised at the magnitude of the gift.

"It certainly was a very pleasant surprise," said Jones. "And it's so exciting because it's going to allow us to do more impactful, transformational things. It will allow us to touch the lives of more students than we were able to do previously."

Earl Beard graduated from Bradley in 1945 with a degree in Medical Technology and went on to study medicine at Northwestern University, as well as serving in the United States Air Force. He was a pioneer in cardiac catheterization technology and was honored for his contributions to sports medicine and cardiology.

Lovie Beard also served in the Air Force, and then received her advanced RN degree from Northwestern, where she and her husband first met. Lovie worked for 32 years as a surgical nurse at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

She was also an accomplished tennis player who won the 2012 National Championship in the Senior Circuit division.

The Beards' were what is referred to as "planned giving donors," or individuals who left money through their estate. Earl and Lovie gave small donations to Bradley each year throughout their lives, and university officials had been aware for some time that they had planned to leave a substantial donation.

"When they spoke to us six or seven years ago, I think we would have told you we might get a hundred and fifty thousand a year... [but] their estate grew at a rate I'm not sure even they could have imagined," said Jacob Heuser, vice president for university advancement.

Heuser noted the magnitude of the donation, but also emphasized the generosity and humility that the Beards' actions exemplify.

"They wanted to fund scholarships. They wanted to ensure that everyone had the opportunity to have a life of experience and discovery," Heuser said.

### PROGRAMS

continued from page A1

Categories calculated includes program demand with 30 percent weight, unit quality weights 25 percent, centrality to Bradley's mission weights 15 percent, unit efficiency and productivity weights 15 percent and unit financial viability weights 15 percent.

Following the email, there were over 100 faculty members and administrators in attendance at the University Senate meeting on Thursday to voice their concerns and ask questions. Zakahi and university president Gary Roberts

attended the meeting.

In the meeting, Zakahi further elaborated that within the programs that could be eliminated, tenure applications from faculty members would unlikely be approved. Many faculty members voiced their concern over the fairness of that decision.

University administrators will present the recommendations to the Board of Trustees of the university next weekend. Zakahi will host two informational forums following the board meeting and prior to the next senate meeting on Feb. 20.



## NEWS



# A boutique on the plus side

BY KAPRICE YOUNG  
News Reporter

Curvology: the study of plus-sized women's attire.

"I felt defeated and unwanted and unloved and unnecessary," said creator and owner of Curvology, Beth Fischer.

This is what Fischer experienced after walking into boutiques and seeing no representation for plus-sized women. After about six months of thought, she decided to open a boutique dedicated to plus-sized women. It officially opened in November of 2018 as the first and only plus-sized boutique in Peoria.

Prior to opening, Fischer said family and friends were hesitant to fully support the idea of a women's plus-sized store.

"Seventy-four percent of businesses fail in their first year, so I think especially with my friends

and family, I think that's what they worried about," Fischer said.

After a year of success, Fischer is more than satisfied with the triumph of the store.

Every item in Curvology comes from vendors and is brand new. In an effort to support local businesses, they also sell jewelry from local jewelers. Customers also have the opportunity to shop online.

Curvology does not give a discount to college students. However, it does give coupons for first time shoppers. Once a month, Fischer has a random special. Starting on Jan 23, the store had shoes on sale for \$5.

Fischer said she feels her mission has been accomplished.

"Our main goal is so that when you walk in, you're not walking out feeling worse about yourself," Fischer said. "I feel like I have created a safe space for plus size woman to come in and find clothes that work for them."

Customers shared their experiences with Curvology social media, along with their appreciation for a store that offers representation for plus-sized women.

"I stopped in for the first time and LOVED it," Ashlie Hamilton said. "So much to choose from and the service was great! I will most definitely be back."

"The owner is very nice and personable," Jamie Kawolsky said. "The shop is small but full of great finds. Reasonable prices. What's not to love?"

The store is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. They also encourage those who want to stay current on their new styles and customer experiences to follow their Facebook profile @MyCurvology.



Curvology expands clothing options for plus-sized Peoria residents. Curvology is located on 1125 W. Glen Ave.

photo via Curvology

## Bibbidi-bobbidi-Braves

### Magician mesmerizes Bradley audience

BY SAM MWAKASISI  
News Reporter

Imagine seeing a levitating table, self-writing chalk, a card inside an orange, and long, sharp nails all before dinnertime. No, you're not dreaming, you're at ACBU's latest excursion.

This past Saturday, around 200 students packed into the Michel Student Center ballroom for an hour of magic and mischief with esteemed illusionist Joel Meyers.

Known from appearing on shows like "America's Got Talent" and "Penn & Teller: Fool Us," and for his Hollywood afterparty work entertaining celebrities, Meyers brought card tricks, escape art, mind-reading, danger acts and more.

The ballroom scene, brimming with curious chatter and the smell of sweetened popcorn, created an energetic atmosphere and thus a highly receptive crowd.

"We really wanted to do something different with this event during Welcome Back Week," said Ian Fournie, president of ACBU and a junior public relations major.

Fournie was impressed after seeing Meyers at a conference.

"[We] wanted something that we thought people would be talking about, and we knew that Joel would be able to do that for us," Fournie said.

Meyers' acts included beating Harry Houdini's straitjacket-escaping time. He did it in one minute and 59 seconds, as opposed to Houdini's time of three minutes and seven seconds. He also hammered a long nail up his nose.

It wasn't long before Meyers had students eager for the next trick up his black leather sleeves, thanks to his charm and his transparency about the audience's choosing to suspend their disbelief.

"I'm an honest liar," Meyers said. "I tell you I'm going to lie, and then I do."

Meyers' most engaging acts were done with audience members for them to experience and act as the "eyes of the crowd," inspecting his props to ensure no previous modifications.

One such trick involved a student tearing a piece from a card, after which the rest vanished and resurfaced in the center of a randomly picked orange.

Another involved Meyers calling up sophomore political science and computer information systems

double major Brandy Wayne for a stunt that had students squirming.

He produced four bags, one containing a long nail. Trusting Wayne's instinct, he slammed his hand on the bags she deemed safe, and put her hand atop his to eliminate the final one. All were proven to be safe.

"I couldn't help but laugh and kept a grin on my face," Wayne said. "While I was choosing the bags, I hoped he had a backup plan if I chose the wrong one, but as we saw, I didn't!"

The show's surreal ending included Meyers reading a relative's name out of a student's mind, making the name of a randomly chosen late celebrity appear written on two chalkboards and making a stool float in the air.

"There was a lot of anticipation for it by the student body, and the turnout showed that," Fournie said.

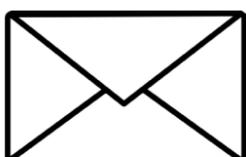
Audience members were pleased with the performance.

"It was every magic show I have seen combined in one and up close," Wayne said. "To see the magic so close gave me a real-life experience like never before."



ACBU hosted magician Joel Meyers, who performed a straitjacket-escape and included Bradley students in his performance.

photo by Katelyn Edwards



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NEWS

HUMAN OF THE HILLTOP

Leading the ladies



ALYSSA SCHMIDTS

photo via Bradley University

BY ELLIE HAWKINS  
Contributer

Before submitting her application to be on the Panhellenic Council, Alyssa Schmidts never even thought about running for president, let alone actually receiving the position. But, after some encouragement from her friends, she thought, "Why not try?"

"I definitely felt like I was taking a jump, but I'm excited," Schmidts said.

After spending last calendar

year as vice president of Chi Omega, Schmidts loved to see the difference she was making in her chapter and realized how much she enjoyed being involved as a part of leadership.

The Panhellenic Council has various responsibilities, including helping all the chapters on campus with any events, working with the Interfraternity Council (IFC) and the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) and planning events. The council has nine members that meet weekly along with a delegate from each chapter on campus to discuss these tasks.

She works very closely with Kathleen Prout, the assistant director of student activities office and adviser for the Panhellenic Council, IFC and NPHC. Schmidts communicates with Prout and the presidents of the other chapters regularly to make sure everyone is on the same page.

"Each representative from each chapter gives a brief report about what's going on in their chapter for the week. There might be recruitment one week or mom's weekend another. Then they'll take notes for what's going on and distribute them to their chapter later," Schmidts said. Schmidts says the best way to describe her role as president of the council is as a

mediator.

"It's kind of like being president of any other club," she said.

Schmidts said that one of the most important things the council does is the planning of different events like campus speakers. The most important thing they keep in mind while planning is finding something unique and interesting that people would find relatable.

"We've brought mental health speakers to campus, or last semester there was a woman who talked about confidence and how you can increase your confidence," Schmidts said. "Different types of things that would interest the students to come. But more, like, informational-based than entertainment-based."

Although she hasn't been in the position for long, Schmidts is very excited for what the future holds as president of the Panhellenic Council. Her main goals include working on communication within each chapter and between other chapters and increasing awareness of events going on within everyone on campus.

"We're still in the early phases, but I'm excited," she said.

MLK Day march



Dozens assembled at the Garrett Cultural Center on Jan. 20 to make signs and participate in Peoria's annual MLK Freedom March. March leader Lamar Anderson led the crowd in songs and chants as they braved the cold and snow to participate.

photos by Katelyn Edwards

The time machine in Marty Theatre

BY VALERIE VASCONEZ  
News Reporter

It's Sunday night, Feb. 9, 1964. A family is gathered around the television because missing "The Ed Sullivan Show" would be social suicide. A UK group is singing; they go by a funny name and have funky hair. They're The Beatles.

Writer, blogger and Peoria native, Marty Wombacher lived through that moment and pieced his childhood in the 60s through monologue. The stories of record players, love and drugs were brought to campus at the Marty Theatre on Wednesday evening. The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute hosted the event as a part of their OLLI Originals.

Wombacher socialized with guests before the show. OLLI student Maggie Nelson told Wombacher how friends felt when he left for New York, "Everyone was so sad when you took off. They said 'Peoria can't contain a talent like that.'"

Guests were in for a night of comedy and nostalgia for a few hours in a first-hand experience monologue, accompanied by a live band.

As Beatles music blared, an attendee pointed up to the speaker playing "Hey Jude" and said, "This is your song," to a friend. Another came dressed with a vintage vest from the decade. It was matched with a

handmade flower headband from San Francisco.

"We do a lot of interviews [and] a lot of lectures," said Continuing Education coordinator Catherine Lawless. "Wombacher tried this monologue out, rented out the Apollo theatre. He came to us and asked, 'How do I do this on campus?'"

Lawless continued to explain how this was a match for OLLI students.

"It seemed to fit with what we do," Lawless said. "Our OLLI [students] are up for any learning experience."

Those attending might have had their own experiences of the decade of hippies and peace. Record collectors, those remembering Vietnam and the like reminisced with each other over coffee and cookies.

"The culture [is significant]," Wombacher said. "The way it changed music, and how it happened without the internet. You saw stuff in real time. Anticipation was a big thing."

In one point, Wombacher said music today is just not the same as it used to be.

"I hate to sound like an old man, but you had to wait months for an album," Wombacher said. "You couldn't find it anywhere right away like on YouTube," Wombacher said. "I don't see moments, like Sgt. Pepper, and thought 'I never heard anything like this.'"

Wombacher started with how the 60s started for him. His Catholic teacher said that having "Beatle bangs" was a sin. After a quick hair experiment in the bathroom later, Wombacher had the cursed "Beatle bangs," marking an act of resistance just like the hippies at the time.

"I was living through everything [Wombacher] talked about," said OLLI student Christine Becker. "We had good music, and local music, too. It was a good time to be around [Peoria], it's still a good time to be around here."

The crowd laughed at the struggles of having no record player in sight to play a new record, card trading and wanting to do all the drugs that artists were taking. Vietnam protests and the open fire on Kent State University students were sorrowful events, but gave further insight into the decade.

The rise and fall of the hippies was a significant moment for Wombacher who dreams of a peace-loving government. Wombacher also quoted author Hunter Thompson, who compared the decade to a cresting wave that rolled back into the ocean.

After baskets of retro candies and copies of Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band were raffled off, Wombacher thanked everyone for participating. By doing his show, he was able to keep the 60s alive for another day.

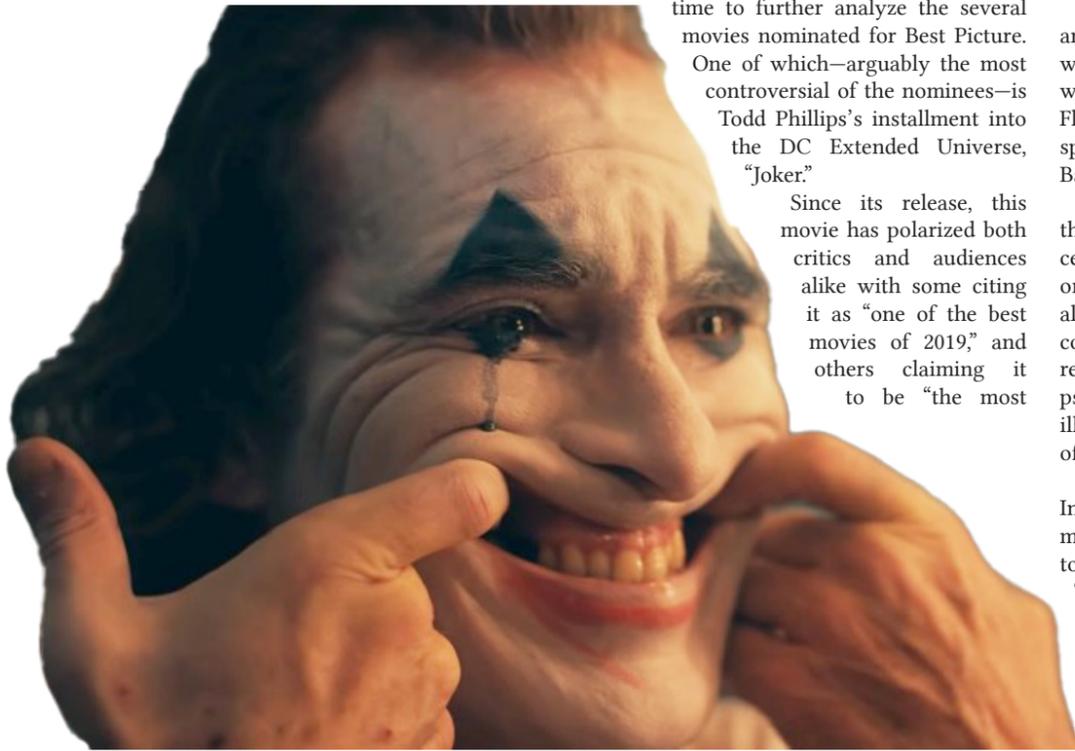
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# Will Todd Phillips's film be a joke at the Oscars?

BY CAMERON DINGERSON  
Contributor



The 92nd Academy Awards are coming up on Feb. 9th, this year, so it's time to further analyze the several movies nominated for Best Picture. One of which—arguably the most controversial of the nominees—is Todd Phillips's installment into the DC Extended Universe, "Joker."

Since its release, this movie has polarized both critics and audiences alike with some citing it as "one of the best movies of 2019," and others claiming it to be "the most

disappointing film of the year."

The story revolves around Arthur Fleck, an impoverished, aspiring stand-up comic who suffers from a neurological condition which causes pathological laughter. Due to Fleck's mental illness in the film and the spiral of tragedies that follow, he becomes Batman's most famous nemesis, the Joker.

While Rotten Tomatoes' consensus of the film reads "[The film] gives its infamous central character a chillingly plausible origin story," it serves more as a dramatic allegory than an actual portrayal of the consequences of mental illness, which the review would suggest. There are multiple psychological studies that prove a mentally ill person is more likely to become a victim of a crime than the perpetrator of one.

According to a 2003 study by the National Institutes of Health, the presumption that mentally ill individuals are more likely to be violent, leads to "bullying" and "victimizing" of the mentally ill.

However, the film does present a semi-plausible argument for how his mental illness escalated to the level where he would see violence as his only solution.

In the movie, Arthur engages in fantasies constantly. For instance, he imagines having an intimate relationship with his neighbor, Sophie Dumond, and, later in the movie, a lauded appearance on the fictitious Murray Franklin show.

In addition to these delusions, Arthur suffers from low self-esteem. For instance, he wants, at least for most of the movie, to be a stand-up comedian, but believes there is no use practicing, since he will fail anyway.

Finally, Arthur has no person with whom he can honestly share his feelings. While he does have a therapist, he believes she does not listen to him. Other than that, he has no one: his mother is senile and bedridden, he has no friends at his job and he does not have a father figure.

Because of the aforementioned points and many more, Arthur feels that the only way to become noticed by his community is to turn to violence and get revenge on those who have wronged him. With that said, "Joker" is a decent movie, but it could have gone into more detail about what made him turn into a villain—because, as mentioned above, mentally ill people are more often victims of violence than initiators of it.

## The Grammys:

# The best dressed artists at this year's awards

BY JADE SEWELL  
Voice Editor

Let's be honest, the best part about awards season is the crazy ensembles that celebrities wear and the designers that fashion these incredible but impractical looks.

This year certainly didn't disappoint.

Although I wouldn't say that this year's Grammys saw the craziest costuming in history, there were definitely some looks that won't be forgotten for a while.

My award for most iconic look of the night goes to Lil Nas X.

If your look inspires a homophobic Twitter rant from a famous pastor, you're doing something right.

Lil Nas was decked out in hot pink leather from head to boot. The fishnet shirt he wore underneath, in addition to the gold accents the look included, left many fans in awe. Lil Nas may have the horses in the back, but there's no question about whether he's fashion forward.

The artist that had me doing the most double takes was Lizzo, of course.

Over the course of the night, Lizzo had, not one, not two but four outfit changes over the course of the Grammys.

While many of her looks are worth noting, the two that stood out the most in viewers' minds were her custom black Christian Siriano ball gown that she wore for her opening performance and the white, Marilyn Monroe-

inspired dress that she walked the red-carpet in. My award for the most out-of-this-world outfit goes to Billie Eilish.

Eilish also had a successful night at the Grammys, taking home five awards. However, her insane amount of trophies certainly didn't distract viewers from her unusual ensemble. She wore a neon-green and black Gucci suit, complete with fingerless gloves and a face mask. Her hair also fit the color scheme: green roots that abruptly transitioned into black ends. It's no stretch to say that her unique style shone through at her first Grammy appearance.

The award for most dramatic look goes to Billy Porter.

Porter is no stranger to fashion headlines,

and his appearance at the Grammys was no exception. His bedazzled hat became a meme after it displayed the ability to open-and-shut its tassels animatronically.

My final award goes to the women who was snubbed for the fifth time last Sunday: Lana del Rey.

Lana del Rey's dress was by no means exceptional, but it does have an interesting backstory. Apparently, she picked the gown up off the rack at Dillard's. Her choice gathered much support online, with many commenting on the dangers of one-use fashion.

Other standouts of the night include Ariana Grande, Gwen Stefani, and Camilla Camello's \$2 million necklace.



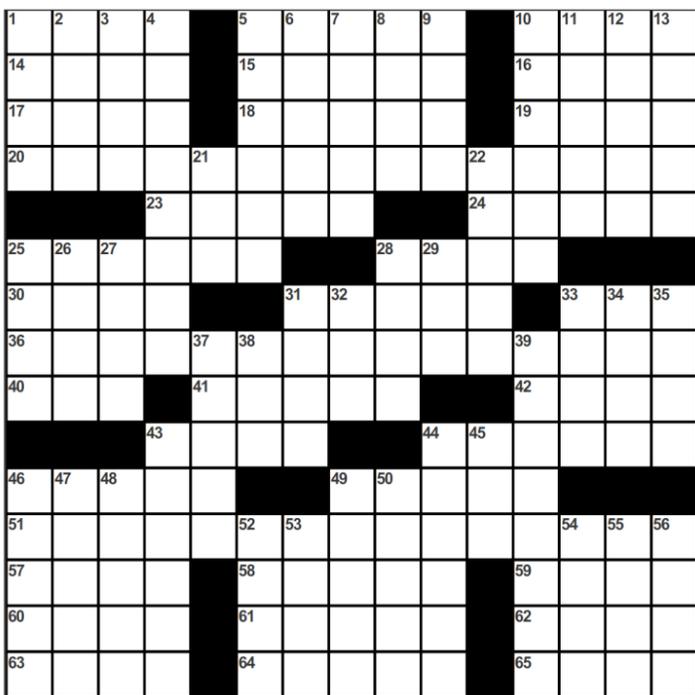
## Crosswords

### Across

- 1) Big party
- 5) Frequently
- 10) Spellbound
- 14) Voice above bass
- 15) Norse love goddess
- 16) Large pitcher
- 17) Bookbinding leather
- 18) Inspirers of passing thoughts?
- 19) Cautious
- 20) Some preservers of order
- 23) Two-masted vessel
- 24) Take from
- 25) Frank Robinson was one
- 28) Emulated Pinocchio
- 30) Western showdown time
- 31) Cathedral topper
- 33) 40 winks, collectively
- 36) Greeting card section
- 40) Dash lengths
- 41) Mournful poem
- 42) Bananas' relatives?
- 43) Obey a dentist, at times
- 44) High-flying elite
- 46) Electric dart shooter
- 49) Fan's sound
- 51) Gradually trespassing
- 57) Catch in a stocking
- 58) "How am I \_\_\_?"
- 59) Novel type, once
- 60) Suffix with "folk"
- 61) Broadway show backer
- 62) Give off, as light
- 63) Thumbs-up verbal votes
- 64) Disorderly
- 65) Alley dwellers

### Down

- 1) Some candy purchases
- 2) Hand lotion ingredient
- 3) Telephone button
- 4) Pearl River city
- 5) Recently
- 6) Swiss capital?
- 7) Extra inning
- 8) Spud bumps
- 9) U.S. astronaut's insignia
- 10) Intriguing poster heading
- 11) Well-apprised
- 12) Long-lasting curls
- 13) Date not on a calendar?
- 21) Sushi selection
- 22) Canary's call
- 25) Second word of many limericks
- 26) Apartment division
- 27) Charged particles
- 28) Easter flower
- 29) Tax shelter type
- 31) "Let it stand" editorially
- 32) Slangy boxer
- 33) Entre \_\_\_
- 34) Card-game stake
- 35) "Check this out!"
- 37) Printer's proof, briefly
- 38) Legendary 32-Across
- 39) Unwelcome visitor
- 43) Twilled woolen fabrics
- 44) Like a janitor's keyring
- 45) Bit of work in physics class
- 46) Electric car brand
- 47) Bother
- 48) Cause to panic
- 49) Tories' opponents
- 50) Cheryl of TV or Gregory of danc
- 52) TV Batman West
- 53) Construction zone indicator
- 54) Fine cotton fabric
- 55) Don't keep in
- 56) Aerialist's precautions



## 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.*

### UNIVERSITY PROPERTIES 2020-2021 STUDENT RENTALS

We have a few properties remaining for groups of 1 to 7 for the next school year. Prices have recently been reduced. They are located on some of the most desirable streets surrounding Bradley's campus —Barker, Bradley, Cooper, Fredonia, Main, Rebecca and University. Check out our website for additional information. Select June 2020 as the lease start date. [www.rentUPbu.com](http://www.rentUPbu.com)

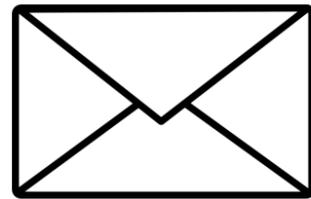
### Houses for Rent 2020-2021 School Year

2-5 bedroom houses located on Barker, Cooper, Callender, and Elmwood, all close to campus. Washer and dryer provided, remodeled bathrooms, new flooring, maintenance included. Leases starting May/June 2020. 1 year or 1 semester leases available. Please call or text (309) 472-7386 for info. & showings. Email: [offcampuspeoria@gmail.com](mailto:offcampuspeoria@gmail.com) website at [www.offcampuspeoria.com](http://www.offcampuspeoria.com).

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## Sudoku

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

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Editorial

Right actions, wrong message

Campus experienced five incidents of armed robbery since Dec. 3. After these incidents, there was major uproar from parents, students, staff and Peoria residents about the degree of safety on the Hilltop.

The university, under pressure from these groups, responded quickly.

University President Gary Roberts announced in his message to the parents and students on Dec. 30 that the administrative team, City of Peoria leaders and the Bradley University Police Department met over the break to discuss campus safety. They discussed an additional position to aid with campus safety. They also extended the hours of the Hilltop Safety Cruiser.

It was indicative that safety measures were installed.

In the same message, Roberts also

wrote "While nobody 'deserves' to be the victim of crime and a victim is never 'to blame,' it would be wise for everyone to avoid making themselves an easy target."

But you can take all the quick and right actions and still send the wrong message.

"Don't be easy prey" is a phrase that baffled campus when it was distributed on posters throughout campus. This poster is meant to inform students about the preventative actions they can take to lower the risk of crime such as not walking alone in the dark and being aware of their surroundings.

This phrase headlining the poster is not only inappropriate, but distasteful on the part of the university and BUPD.

Both the phrase on the posters and Roberts' message allude to victim-blaming. Although it can be helpful to

know how to take safety measures, the term "easy prey" is not the appropriate description, and is very insulting to the many students who were victims of a very serious crime. Parents who visit campus don't want to think of their children as "prey," and they shouldn't.

It is good to be aware of actions students can take for their safety, but they should not be held accountable for being "easy prey." Crime can happen anywhere, at any time and to anyone. Some of these robberies happened right in front of student residences or while walking to or from vehicles.

The Scout believes the poster put up by the university and BUPD had the right intentions, but needs to be taken down.

Column

A break-up tail



Jade Sewell  
 jsewell@mail.bradley.edu  
 Voice Editor

Break-ups suck. Whether you've been together for 20 years or two months, ending things with another person, and the process leading up to it, is never easy.

Everyone has different methods of coping, and I'm a firm believer in self-betterment. If you can pour as much time into bettering yourself as you used to put into your significant other, you're going to love your results. Although sometimes I go a little too

extreme, it's a process that has never failed me.

The week before finals, I was an emotional mess. In order to clear my head, I went to the gym almost every day that week. Almost.

On my way to Markin that Friday, I came across an orange tabby. I had seen this cat a few times over the course of the previous months, and I was certain that she was homeless. Normally, she would approach but stay out of petting distance. But this time, for some reason, she came right up to me.

Knowing that this cat would let me pet it for eternity if I had the time and that the weather was going to get really cold the following week, I called Animal Control. The phone operator told me to sit tight, and someone would be there soon. I was promptly put on hold. Twenty minutes later, my hands were freezing, and the operator came back on the line.

"Did you say that cat was injured?" she asked.

"No, it looks like she's just really emaciated," I responded.

Apparently, Animal Control only takes sick or injured cats after it closes for the day. No one was coming for

this cat.

I asked her what I should do, and the operator asked me to take it home for the night.

That's a horrible idea. I'm not sure why anyone would suggest picking up an unfamiliar animal and carrying it home, and I'm almost certain that's advice you should quite literally never give anyone. No sane person is going to pick up a random stray cat and walk it back to their house.

That first night, my roommates and I kept the cat in our downstairs bathroom. We debated between the names "Carrot" and "Pumpkin" but ultimately decided on the name "Nala."

It fits her; she's definitely a lion at heart.

Even though she's a handful with an affinity for mangling loaves of bread and any food packaging in sight, I can't imagine life any other way.

Although there are a lot of things I wish I could change or redo about this last year of my life, my cat certainly isn't one of them. If I had to relive my entire relationship just to find Nala again, I'd do it in a heartbeat. A small, furry heartbeat.

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All letters to the editor must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday 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 emails directed to members of the Scout staff may be published as letters.

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## SPORTS

# Tennis splits home matches to start spring season

BY HERNAN GUTIERREZ  
Sports Reporter

Both the 2019 spring and fall seasons brought success to the Bradley tennis team. The team finished the spring by reaching their third Missouri Valley Conference semifinal in four years and followed it up by claiming two individual MVC championships in the fall.

Head coach Matt Tyler believes all these accomplishments build up a strong base of confidence heading into the spring. However, he also acknowledges there is still plenty of work to be done.

"Having a fall like the one we did gives us a lot of confidence," Tyler said. "The hard thing for us is that you have that layoff without any competition. It is vastly different than just being on the practice courts."

Having gained both confidence and experience, the team sets its sights on 2020. The No. 1 doubles duo of senior Natalia Barbary and junior Sandra Maletin think the team season brings a different dynamic.

"In the fall, everything is individual," Barbary said. "When we play in the spring it feels like we're on the same court."

Maletin echoed the idea, as she

feeds off the team mindset. She also makes her mark in singles and boasts a career record of 47-21. In a league announcement Tuesday, she was named the MVC Singles Player of the Week for the fourth time in her career.

"We're all on the court fighting for one goal," Maletin said. "It's not 'Nati won' or 'Sandra won.' It's Bradley tennis won."

That winning mindset was key for the Braves as they started the season at the Clubs at River City with a 5-2 win against the IUPUI Jaguars last Friday, Jan. 24 by winning the doubles point. The No. 1 and No. 2 pairings won, 6-2 and 6-3 respectively.

IUPUI gained its only two points at No. 2 and No. 3 singles. The loss at No. 3 came by walkover due to a Barbary injury.

The Braves also played the Murray State Racers on Saturday Jan. 25. Bradley fell in that match up 5-2. This time around, Bradley narrowly dropped the doubles point, winning at No. 2 6-3, but losing a close match at the No. 1 flight 7-5.

Bradley's two points came at the hands of Maletin at No. 1 singles and sophomore Bozana Lojpur at No. 2 singles. Maletin cruised to a 6-1, 6-2 win while it took Lojpur three sets to

win 6-4, 2-6, 11-9.

Tyler was optimistic about the doubles play to start season.

"I was happy with the way we played doubles both Friday and Saturday," Tyler said. "But I know we have another level that we can reach. [Winning doubles] is always huge, everyone feels better going into singles play knowing we're up 1-0."

The lead heading into the six singles matches is also key to success this spring.

"Looking forward, consistency is the biggest focal point," Tyler said. "They have the shots down, it's a matter of not making any unforced errors."

For the coach the goal this season is clear: win the Missouri Valley Conference. However, he recognizes the short-term picture.

"The great thing is that they've never not known success," Tyler said. "This team knows what it means to win. Our ultimate goal is to win that Valley title. I try to tell our athletes to look at the match in front of them."

The Braves head down state this weekend to play Southern Illinois-Edwardsville today at 2 p.m. and Saint Louis University tomorrow evening at 5:30.



(Left) Freshman Ville Tahvanainen averages 6.2 points and 2.2 rebounds in 18.4 minutes per game. (Right) Sophomore Ari Boya has seen an increase in playing time in recorded a double-double with 14 points and 12 rebounds at Indiana State on Saturday.

photos by Kayla Johnson

## MEN'S continued from page A9

"I like where we're at, especially with what we've been through and the adversity we've had to fight," Wardle said. "We just got to keep enjoying each other and enjoying the journey and finding ways to improve without practicing much ... we gotta be smart."

"I think we had a chip on our shoulder from the beginning of conference play with people saying we weren't going to be able to win without Eli [Childs]," Brown said. "Just playing together and being great teammates to each other and working hard constantly, it always pays off in the end ... I think as long as we stay

together and keep working, the sky will be the limit for us."

Bradley will have a shot to knock-off a fellow title contender when it heads to Loyola on Saturday for the first matchup of the season between the in-state rivals. The Ramblers are coming off a 68-63 road loss to Southern Illinois on Wednesday evening.

The game starts a tough two-game road swing for the Braves, as they will travel to Des Moines to face Drake next Wednesday. Loyola is 9-2 at Gentile Arena, while Drake boasts an 11-0 record on their home court.

Tip-off is slated for 7 p.m. at Loyola on Saturday night and will be broadcast nationally on ESPN2.

# Track looking to capitalizing indoors

BY ALLAN KABESE  
Contributor

The Bradley indoor track team was in action last weekend at the John Gartland Invitational tournament hosted by Indiana State.

Coming off strong performances at the Eastern Illinois John Craft Invite, the Braves turned continued the success across the board last Saturday. The sophomores highlighted the meet for Bradley with a pair of wins and multiple high placings.

The mile run was the most successful event for the team. Sophomore Alec Danner won his first collegiate race with a time of 4:16.97 while his teammate, senior Luke Hoffert came in at third at 4:19.02. Sophomores Joey Simon and Evan Mitchell crossed the line for the Braves posting times of 4:26.70 and 4:28.13, respectively.

"I think it was a good opener for the season," Danner said. "Of course, I'm happy with the win but more so the added confidence going into the more important meets."

Sophomore Alex Klinker also won his first race in the 600-meter run. He posted a time of 1:24.73, missing his personal record by just a mere five-hundredths of a second. Fellow sophomore sprinter Miguel Agyei had his second consecutive fifth-place finish in the 60-meter hurdles. He improved on his time dropping

from 8.83 seconds at EIU to 8.77 seconds at Indiana State.

On the women's side, junior Ally Lampert finished with a fifth place in the 5000-meter run in 19:11.11. Sophomore Hannah Ivy finished eighth in the 60-meter dash with a time of 8.15 seconds, good for her personal best and sixth-lowest time in school history.

Danner said these results are indicative of the team's potential and what they can do this season. He believes this team has the balanced personnel to be competitive in the hurdles, long jump and sprints.

"I'm looking forward to seeing these improvements across the board," Danner said. "Just looking at where everybody's at in training, we're all trending upward and we are going to see a lot of breakthroughs this season."

Head coach Darren Gauson echoed that sentiment and has also seen the strides his athletes have made in training. He is looking ahead to the Mayo Invitational on Feb. 7-8.

"We are looking good in practice, everyone is looking fit," Gauson said. "[But] we will know a little bit more after this weekend [and] Notre Dame about how good we really are."

Gauson said the athletes have only been on campus for a little over two weeks and are still getting in optimal

shape. Preparing for the conference tournament is his ultimate goal, and he views the time prior as a build towards the MVC championship at the end of February.

"In basketball terms, you just want to manage their minutes until the bigger competitions and the finals," he said.

This year's indoor squad is younger than the past according to Gauson. With a lot of his successful seniors having graduated, the team has calibrated its goals around that.

"We're going to try to win 5,000 [meter run], on the men's side, win 3,000 [meter run] on the men's side," he said. "On the women's side, McKenzie Altmayer was second in the 3000 last year hopefully she can win an event, we [also] won the DMR (distance medley race) so we want to be competitive in that."

Overall, Gauson hopes to see some of his young athletes push themselves and score some points with top-8 finishes on both sides. He hopes the youth of the team continues growing and gaining valuable experience for the future.

The Braves track team will be back in action tomorrow in Iowa City, Iowa at the Black & Gold Invite hosted by Big Ten program University of Iowa.

## BRIEFS

### Women's basketball

Junior guard Gabi Haack was named to the NCAA Women's Basketball Starting Five Wednesday morning for her efforts averaging 16.5 points and nine rebounds.

The team was named NCAA Team of the Week for the week of Jan. 7 for wins over Evansville and Indiana State.

### MVC Weekly Awards

Junior Gabi Haack and sophomore Lasha Petree of the women's basketball team have been named MVC Player of the Week for the past four weeks. No other school has had its players receive the honor.

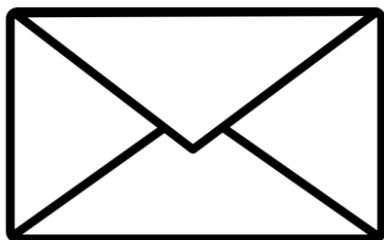
Junior Sandra Maletin was named MVC Singles Player of the Week Jan. 26, the first week of competition.

Senior Darrell Brown was named Valley Player of the Week for the week of Jan. 12.

Redshirt-junior Danya Kingsby named MVC Newcomer of the Week for the week of Jan. 19.

### Peoria City the Newest USL League Two Team

Bradley soccer coaches Jim DeRose and Tim Regan formally announced Thursday, with local investor Kim Blickestaff, that Shea Stadium will be the team's home and will pay rent to Bradley. The pre-professional team will consist of mostly college aged players, have Regan as head coach and play 14 games from May 9 to July 12.



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## ONE-ON-ONE

Was the Astros punishment enough?

**Nope, needs more vs. It's plenty**

The Houston Astros should receive a harsher punishment for using technology to illegally steal signs. If a player obtains the knowledge of what is being thrown, it damages the integrity of the game.

Getting a hit in the major leagues is one of the hardest things to do in professional sports. Knowing what pitch is going to be thrown provides a massive advantage to the batter.

Relief pitcher Steve Cishek spoke at the Chicago White Sox annual fan convention, Soxfest, and said he would rather face a player on steroids than one who knows what he is throwing next.

Players grind it out in the minors to get a chance in the majors. By cheating, the Astros were potentially preventing players who play the game the right way from making it to the major leagues.

Cleveland Indians starting pitcher Mike Clevenger described the situation well in an interview with Momentum stating he lived with his mother until he reached the big leagues. He believes the Astros could have shortened his career by knowing what he was throwing.

Through cheating, the Astros are hypothetically taking millions of dollars and food off other players' tables. If the commissioner wants to protect the sanctity of baseball, it's not by fining a team a mere \$5 million when the organization is worth billions. Something bigger should occur such as the loss of international signing bonus money.

Meanwhile, the Astros players are walking around with the same ring on their finger and the same contract. Aaron Judge got robbed of an MVP because Jose Altuve cheated. The Dodgers and Yankees got robbed of a fair chance to win the World Series because the Astros cheated.

The most frustrating part of the situation is that lineup is talented enough to do damage without resorting to cheating. But now the players involved should have to pay for their mistakes, not just the coaches and front office figures.

- MITCHELL KAMINSKI

During the 2017 season, the Astros won 101 games and the World Series by using technology to cheat. It is believed they continued to do so the next few seasons.

In an interview with The Athletic in November 2019, former Astros pitcher, Mike Fiers explained the team used a camera in the outfield to capture signs from opposing catchers and relayed them to hitters in various ways.

Since then, the Astros have been fined \$5 million – the largest amount possible in the MLB constitution – forced to forfeit their first and second-round draft picks in 2020 and 2021, as well as handing down a one-year suspension to field manager AJ Hinch and general manager Jeff Luhnow. Those two were eventually fired.

The investigation also led to the firing of Boston Red Sox manager Alex Cora and New York Mets manager Carlos Beltran for their roles in the cheating scandal with the Astros.

Many have called for the title to be stripped, and the Los Angeles City Council has voted to urge the league to give the title to the Dodgers. That simply won't happen. No professional sports team in America has ever been stripped of a title and the MLB isn't going to start now.

The punishment handed down was enough to strip the team of future assets, force the team to reset its team-building process by relieving the general manager of their duties and ensuring the team lost a well-respected member of the clubhouse in AJ Hinch.

Many have requested players be punished for the scandal, but that would only prevent those involved to cooperate with the MLB during this investigation and force the MLB Players Association to enter the picture.

At the end of the day, the Houston Astros' reputation has been tarnished, players are known as cheaters and they no longer have ties to those who implemented the cheating.

For a scandal with such importance to the integrity of baseball, commissioner Rob Manfred was dealt a tough hand and he played it exceptionally well. He did all that he felt was necessary for continued integrity in the game of baseball, and if he believes that this specific punishment was enough to protect the league, then so should fans.

- BRANDON YOUNAN

## SPORTS

## The day the basketball stopped bouncing

BY ANTHONY LANDHAL  
Managing Editor

The shock and agony of Kobe Bryant's death brought over the world on Sunday may live on for many years to come.

His wife and children were the first things that came to mind. The tragedy turned an even darker corner, with the news that his daughter, Gianna, also perished in the crash. For Bryant's wife, Vanessa, it's a loss of a husband and child. Regardless of who was on that helicopter, the situation is horrific as it could be.

It's the pitiless feeling in your stomach that is the hardest to get out. The feeling of paralyzing grief.

It's a death that will become a timestamp for people in the years to come: where were you when you heard that Kobe Bryant died.

That same experience can be linked to other famous deaths like Michael Jackson, or reaching farther back, the death of John Lennon.

But this is different. It's important to realize that this may be one of the most tragic events in the history of sports.

It's hard to simply say, "RIP Kobe." It's too short to encapsulate the weight that his death means.

He was the hero in the city of Los Angeles, having won five NBA Championships and an MVP of an iconic franchise. He was a cultural and global icon, with one of the most

popular signature shoes in the world, a large fanbase in China, popular among soccer players and fluent in several languages.

The 41-year-old was moving on from an athletic career to an artistic career and had interests in business. Surely, the animated movie "Dear Basketball" would not have been Bryant's only Oscar-winning work.

And on top of it all, his influence as a basketball player is extensive. He defined a generation of basketball players and people shooting paper into wastebaskets. Kids emulated Bryant on the court in all sorts of ways.

No one in the last 20 years wanted to be like Mike; they wanted to be like Kobe. I simply cannot shoot a turnaround fadeaway, Bryant's signature shot, without a rush of emotion.

As an athlete, he developed a work ethic that was totally Americana: work hard to be successful, never stop working and keep working harder.

But this was also a man faced with a complex public image. A rape allegation in 2003 reveals another face of Bryant, a darker one. Bryant admitted to adultery and publicly apologized.

To move beyond this event is challenging to do. It's hard to think that Kobe Bryant was in the helicopter with his daughter on Sunday morning. It was a Kobe Bryant who worked hard to redefine himself.

Besides the NBA Championships, shoe deals, movies and legendary moments in sports, Bryant was just a man. He will never enjoy what was coming to him and that is the saddest part of all.

He will never see his daughters graduate high school and grow up. He won't grow old with his wife. He won't get to sit in rocking chairs with Shaquille O'Neal and reminisce about the good ol' days of early 2000s Los Angeles.

The NBA has taken grieving measures to as far as postponing the Clippers-Lakers game and instead broadcasting Bryant's final game from 2016. Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban even announced he would retire Bryant's number 24. Several teams took a 24-second shot clock violations at the beginning of games on Sunday as a memorial.

The rest of this NBA season may be underscored by his death. It is evident the grieving and memorializing will not fade away any time this year.

And it shouldn't. The NBA All-Star Game, a game Bryant had played in 18 times, should be effectively named "The Kobe Bryant Memorial All-Star Game." The least that can happen is the renaming of the All-Star MVP, an award Bryant won a record 4 times.

Like any death, we cannot grieve forever; but we can take the right steps to never forget what Kobe Bryant meant to the world of sports.

## Bradley Basketball reacts to loss of Kobe

BY LARRY LARSON  
Assistant Sport Editor

When the news broke of Kobe and Gianna Bryant's death in a helicopter crash on early Sunday afternoon, the basketball world was ablaze with messages of disbelief, sorrow and tribute to the former NBA superstar.

At Bradley, the news started to trickle out as the women's basketball team was about set to take on Drake at Renaissance Coliseum. The men's team, in attendance to watch, posted their reactions on social media.

"The reason I played basketball," said Terry Nolan, a redshirt-junior guard, on Twitter. "Who I aspired to be like. Why I have the mentality I have. Thank you for everything ... Rest in peace to my G.O.A.T."

Redshirt-junior guard Danya Kingsby simply posted "Man wow" with a broken heart emoji.

WOMEN'S  
continued from page A8

Gorski has repeatedly said the team just find a way to win. They have and that's thanks to their ability to execute on defense and maintain trust in shooting.

Once a Bradley guard, Gorski will look to prepare her team to shut down the top two 3-point shooting teams this weekend with her defense that leads the conference with 4.8 blocks per game remains aggressive. The head coach herself was a tough player and instills that in her student-athletes. It might just (and already has) carry them to surpass

Men's head coach Brian Wardle posted a link to Bryant's article "8teen" from The Players Tribune and later posted a picture of a quote from Kobe on his jersey retirement night with the caption "Enjoy the JOURNEY!"

Two of Wardle's players reflected after Monday's practice, and said Bryant was a motivating figure and an inspiration.

"Just seeing his work ethic and his competitive nature out there on the court, that's something you try to translate to your game," senior guard Darrell Brown said. "Being a basketball player, you want to leave your legacy however you can, and I think that's something he did."

"His approach and mentality to every game, wanting to be great, wanting to defeat everybody, not taking no prisoners, just his mentality has inspired me to come in here

and every game, have no friends and compete at a high level," junior forward Elijah Childs said.

The women's team didn't find out about the news until after they had beaten the Bulldogs 77-76 to stay undefeated in conference play.

"He's always been an idol for me and one of my favorite players, so that's devastating," said sophomore guard Tatum Koenig. "I don't have words for that. That's really sad."

"I always watched him and tried to imitate him growing up, so it's a really big loss," junior forward Emily Marsh said.

Despite his passing, Bryant's legacy of the "Mamba Mentality" will continue to inspire Bradley basketball players.

"Even though he passed away, I still look up to him, still try to have his mentality, still try to have his work ethic," Childs said.



Senior Chelsea Brackmann averages 9.5 points and 8.6 rebounds per game. photo by Kayla Johnson

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# SPORTS

Sophomores win at Indiana State

Alec Danner and Alex Klinker won their first collegiate the mile and 600-meter, respectively.

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Alec Danner and Alex Kinkler



(Above) Junior Nyjah White is shooting 57.7 percent from the field, second in the MVC. (Below) Junior Gabi Haack was named to the NCAA Women's Basketball Starting Five last week. She averages 14.4 points and 6.8 rebounds per game. photos by Kayla Johnson



Junior Elijah Childs falls on Dec. 15 versus Georgia Southern. He has since missed ten of the last 11 games. photo by Kayla Johnson

## Henry, Braves survive second half scare from Valparaiso

BY LARRY LARSON  
Assistant Sports Editor

After watching a 17-point second half lead whither down to just two with 3:08 to go, Bradley was able to slam the door on Valparaiso in a 80-69 victory at Carver Arena Wednesday night.

Sophomore forward Ja'Shon Henry helped Bradley seal the deal. He completed the Braves' second-to-last field goal of the night off of his own miss to extend the lead back to eight.

Seeing Henry miss wasn't a common occurrence throughout the evening, and seeing him score was. The 6-foot 6-inch Saskatonian cashed in a career-high 21 points on 7-9 shooting. He didn't miss a field goal until the 1:55 mark of the second half.

Despite his lights-out shooting performance, Henry was quick to give away the glory.

"Credit our guards, and [Darrell Brown] especially," Henry said.

Brown had quite the night himself, scoring 17 points to go with five assists in his return from missing the last two games with a lower-leg injury. Sporting a headband for the first time this season, the senior guard expected to empty the gas tank.

"It was good [to be back] ... I'm tired, man," Brown said with a smile. "I knew I was gonna be sweating a lot since I missed a week."

After playing just seven players in Saturday's loss at Indiana State, Bradley utilized a nine-player rotation with the return of Brown and freshman Ville Tahvanainen. The difference was notable in the final box score, as five Braves scored double-figures.

"It's for sure a big difference, especially having DB back, it's big-time," Henry said. "He changes the game so much and influences so much in a positive way. Especially

having rotations and being able to play with our normal lineups, it's definitely a bonus."

Valparaiso was able to stick around thanks to their defense that leads the league in steals. This game was no different, as the Crusaders forced 18 Braves turnovers and scored 20 points off the miscues.

"They switch and they gamble and they make you think a lot on offense," Bradley head coach Brian Wardle said. "No doubt, Valpo causes problems, but we made some errant post feeds ... I think there's a lot of passes where we'll see that we've got to be smarter with."

"You can definitely tell they lead the league in steals," Brown said. "We turned the ball over a lot, played right into their hands, and helped them come back, really."

Of Bradley's 18 turnovers, five were committed in the last 11:20 of the game, which allowed Valparaiso to make a move in the late stages, quieting the Peoria faithful.

"I thought we got to that point because we guarded," Valpo head coach Matt Lottich said. "We were really playing downhill, and I thought we got them on their heels a little bit. I just didn't think we executed great in that last segment there and I thought Bradley did."

The victory moves the Braves to 6-3 in Missouri Valley play, good for a three-way tie with Loyola and Southern Illinois for second place halfway through the conference slate.

The Braves are pleased with their position and are confident after hurdling multiple obstacles thrown at them.

## Women perfect at home and fittingly perfect in the Valley

BY RONAN KHALSA  
Sports Editor

It shouldn't come as an out-of-left field surprise, but the Bradley women's basketball team has been impressive. Sometimes basketball is the story of two halves, or seasons but these Braves have been storming up and down the court from the first jump ball.

Bradley is 16-2 and 7-0 in the Missouri Valley Conference. It hasn't lost at home since Jan. 18, 2019 to Missouri State, a Bears team that reached the Sweet 16 that season. Those Bears are now ranked No. 21/24 nationally.

The Braves travel to Springfield tonight and bring their league leading scoring defense along (59.9 ppg). The Braves hold their opponents to 27 percent field goal percentage while the Bears rank last in the MVC at 38.2 percent. Bradley boasts a 0.9 point margin higher than the Bears this season.

That'll be the game to watch to see where Bradley truly is in the realm of the NCAA.

This season has been epitomized by how the Braves play team basketball, and every player that sees the floor contributes. Four players average double-digit scoring in conference play (sophomore guard Lasha Petree 18.6, junior guard Gabi

Haack 14.4, junior forward Nyjah White 13.9, senior forward Chelsea Brackmann 10.7) and when one is off, someone else steps up, including reserves.

Before the season, head coach Andrea Gorski said that reaching postseason play required an emphasis on the details and the ability to beat Drake and UNI.

"We gotta go get them," Gorski said on Oct. 23. "Everyone knows the talent we have on our team and we aren't going to be overlooked."

Those details were taken into account last weekend at Renaissance Coliseum. The Braves beat the Panthers for the first time in 17 tries dating back to Feb. 17, 2012. Less than two days later, Bradley took down perennial powerhouse Drake for the first time in 13 tries, dating back to Feb. 21, 2013.

Following the Drake victory, Gorski said that the two wins are just one rung on the ladder, each.

"[Winning] is to be proud of but I like our team's mentality of one game at a time," Gorski said. "If we just take care of the small things and don't worry about making a six point play, just one possession at a time, one rebound at a time [we will keep the undefeated conference season going]."

Sophomore Tatum Koenig, the lone Iowan for the Braves, played all 40 minutes, scoring 16 points in the

victory over Drake. She said that the team found open players when they needed and executed on defense.

"We don't run any plays for her and she managed the game really well with only one turnover against a really good defensive team," Gorski said of the hard-nosed point guard.

She averages 4.7 assists, 7.3 points and 1.9 turnovers while playing 33.7 minutes at the point guard position during the conference season.

In the wins over the Iowa contingent of the Valley, Bradley forced seven more turnovers than they committed. Additionally, leading scorer sophomore Lasha Petree was 2-22 over the weekend. You can normally pencil her in for 18-plus points.

The Braves are set for success and if the season ended today, would surely be an NCAA Tournament team. According to USA Today they are No. 29 nationally. This season the Valley truly does run deep and the Braves are leading that charge.

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