

# Intoxicated students uncover **bizarre** scheme hidden beneath dining hall build

*Note: All articles are a part of the April Fools' Day edition, The Scoop, and is not meant to be taken seriously.*

## Ella Vator

*A Lifelong Nosy Nancy*

The Williams Dining Hall renovation project recently reached the halfway point, but a drunken discovery has temporarily derailed development.

The unbelievable revelation occurred early Wednesday morning after four students broke into the construction site and found an underground vault containing endless rows of wallets.

A member of the group, whose friends were escorting him to his dorm after a wild night out, allegedly heard hushed voices doing off-key karaoke of Frank Ocean's "Thinkin Bout You."

"My friends didn't believe me at first, but I know Frank when I hear Frank," Al Dente, a freshman cannabis cultivation major, said.

Despite each student measuring just below five feet tall, the quartet quickly scaled the fence and went to investigate. Seventh-year junior Noah Dia gave The Scoop a play-by-play of the night's events.

"Denny [Dente] didn't think we'd make it over, but I just told him, 'If Tom Holland can get Zendaya, then there's nothing us short kings can't do, right?' and that seemed to motivate him," Dia, a bowling industry major, said.

Unfortunately, Dente was a little too enthusiastic about his climb and propelled himself several feet in the air, landing with a "splat" on a particularly rigid dirt pile. He sustained 16 consecutive concussions during the incident but is expected to make a full recovery.

"At the time, you know, I felt fine," Dente said. "Sure, I had started hearing colors and my vision became spotty, but when I got the overwhelming urge to watch 'The Bachelor,' that's how I knew something was wrong."

After his hospital visit, Dente also realized that the singing he heard was coming from his own mouth. He had been whisper-singing under his breath the entire time.

When his friends rushed to his aid after the fall, they noticed the dirt pile had shifted, revealing a hidden metal door. Confused yet curious, the students apprehensively tugged on the handle and descended a long winding staircase that led to the vault.

They were stunned to see lost wallets filling up countless shelves in the expansive room. BUPD officers say the offi-

cial count was just over a kajillion wallets. What was more unsettling for the students was that each one was labeled with the name of the owner, the date it was "lost" and its contents.

Twin brothers Miles and Meters Long were surprised to find out that several of their wallets were among the ones recovered.

"To keep it a buck with you, I hadn't even realized my wallet was missing," Miles Long, a senior cloud watching major, said. "My girl pays for everything — my haircuts, my Xbox subscription, my Chick-fil-A, everything."

Dia was the first to call BUPD, who then connected the lost wallets to reports made throughout the semester. It wasn't long before officers found out the perpetrator was none other than Herb Avore, a professor of breakfast arts.

Avore, who admits to being a paranoid recovering cereal addict, had reported his wallet stolen in February. Determined to find it before anyone discovered the little baggie of Captain Crunch hidden alongside his cash, he began pilfering wallets all across campus, storing them in the vault to keep track of places he'd already hit.

"I'm not proud of what I did, but I couldn't let anyone find out my secret," Avore told BUPD in a recorded interview that was shared with The Scoop. "I was afraid people would judge me, okay? Everyone else just eats Apple Jacks or Fruit Loops. You'd probably think I'm a freak."

Although satisfied that the culprit was apprehended and that every wallet was returned to its rightful owner, BUPD remains clueless as to how the vault was built underneath the construction site in the first place.

"If you ask me, that vault has probably been there for years. The new dining hall is just a way to cover it up. This goes deeper than professor Avore, I'm telling you. He's connected to some shady people," Debby McDoubter, a well-known campus conspiracy theorist, said.

Avore was not terminated by the university, but he was ordered to attend weekly meetings with a breakfast mediation specialist and step down as the advisor for the Cereal Club.

Construction at Williams Dining Hall is set to resume on Monday with no further interruptions.

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## Men's basketball head coach **Brian Wardle** announces departure from Peoria after **10 seasons**

### **Latrell Lewis**

*Kaboom!'s Cousin*

After a 10-year career in which he led Bradley to two NCAA Tournament appearances, an MVC regular season title and three consecutive NIT appearances, men's basketball head coach Brian Wardle has decided to move on from the program.

In his time at Bradley, he won 186 games, which places fourth on the school's all-time win list.

"My time at Bradley was amazing," Wardle said. "We won many games, built many lasting memories and the community embraced me. I'm sad I couldn't bring the city one more NCAA tournament appearance."

The unexpected news of Wardle's departure reverberated throughout the city of Peoria, leaving the community in disbelief. His strong ties and contributions to the city led many to believe he was a permanent fixture in the River City.

His reason for leaving may shock fans.

"I'm just tired of being in the Midwest, to be honest with you, especially Peoria," Wardle said. "The people here are great, don't get me wrong, but the food here sucks. There's also nothing to do but coach, watch film and look at the riverfront. I guess I'm just bored."  
Wardle's next destination? A place no one could have pre-

dicted.

"I've decided to take my coaching talents to the sunny beaches of Hawaii," Wardle said. "But not for basketball. I'm going to be a professional surfing coach. I've never surfed, but I've watched enough YouTube videos to get the basics down. Plus, if I can coach players through the madness of the Missouri Valley Conference, I can coach a few guys to ride some waves."

The decision blindsided Bradley Athletic Director Chance Richards.

"I thought he was joking when he first told me," Richards said. "Then he started listing off different brands of sunscreen he was thinking about trying. That's when I knew he was serious."

As for Bradley's future, Richards says the search for a new head coach will begin immediately. However, some players are holding onto hope that Wardle might have a change of heart and return to lead them.

"We tried to convince him to stay by offering to take him to a different restaurant," senior guard Daniel Deen said. "But he just kept mumbling about poke bowls and how the Midwest doesn't have 'real fish.'"



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## Fainting students catch attempted **murderer**

### Hypoxic Brainiac

*Floor Reporter*

Following numerous police reports regarding students hitting the floor — and not in a fun way — the City of Peoria launched an all-out investigation into Bradley University's air and water quality.

Without any leads, investigating officials turned to hospitals flooded with half-conscious Bradley students.

After consulting with physicians and testing the soil, water and geiger counter, heavy metal toxicity in the drinking water turned out to be the cause. However, these weren't typical compounds resulting from old pipes; the cause was much more sinister.

Investigators concluded the hospitalizations were a result of foul play, and based on the levels, city authorities noted that the perpetrators' antics had to have been happening for a while.

"With any kind of poisoning, it is both the dosage and duration of intake which causes severe side effects like brain damage and fainting," H2O professional Freddie Cadmium said. "Heavy metals especially can be consumed for weeks until people connect the dots. It's really a great MO."

Campus authorities are among those who failed to draw any lines.

"I hadn't even considered the events could be connected. I mean, they never taught us how to investigate at the academy," BUPD Lead Detective Jack Inhoff said. "Sure, those police reports were suspicious, but you know kids these days, we figured it was probably just all the substances."

Where the authorities faltered, the City of Peoria and several victims picked up the slack.

One anonymous victim at the helm of the private investigation recounts the highlight of the operation.

"Me and this waterworks geek, Freddie, were staking out the big water manhole or whatever and I've never done anything like this before, okay? I don't usually get in a car alone until the second date, but the night vision goggles kind of killed the vibe anyway," they said.

"... Point is, we actually caught some fool opening up the drain and putting stuff in it," they continued. "Waterworks jumped out of the car and roundhouse kicked this guy while I grabbed his little bag of schemes."

"This idiot actually had these little jars labeled 'Arsenic' and 'Mercury' and stuff. How stupid can you get? Anyway,

that was a really satisfying conclusion to all the hard work we put in," they said.

Not all victims contributed to the investigation; some turned to the courts.

"I am suing this trailer-trash university for any endowment it's got. Look at me, I'm absolutely sickening. My skin is clear and my waist is snatched," junior finance major Farr Gott said.

When asked to clarify how this requires legal action, Gott recounted recent traumatic experiences.

"I went to Club Diesel and met this prawn, and his deck got stained and all if you know what I mean, but I usually go drinking with the boys at Jimmy's," Gott said. "Worst of all, I was gagged seeing Pedro Pascal in the new 'Last of Us' trailer, oh honey, that's at least emotional damages right there."

Upon further investigation, frogs in the surrounding area seemingly continue to display heteronormative behavior.

As hospitalized students are stabilized and return to class, the university continues to be under a boil-or-Brita order until further notice as toxins are filtered out of the system.

"This just goes to show the power of inter-departmental coordination. I think we handled this investigation really well, by the book to a tee," Inhoff said.

The perpetrator is facing 25-to-life in prison for a slew of charges, including tampering with facilities and attempted murder. The waterhole is also receiving a new security upgrade over the summer with the hope of preventing another such event.



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## Diva down yet again: Lydia Moss Bradley statue toppled in revenge plot

### Galinda Check

*Diva Drama Beat Reporter*

On March 18, it happened again. The statue of Bradley University's founder, Lydia Moss Bradley, was struck by a vehicle and knocked off her pedestal.

This is not the first time the matriarch has been hit. Back in June of 2018, a suspect fell asleep at the wheel and drove straight into the statue, sending Lydia to the ground.

While the initial car accident was, as the term says, accidental, this time something was different. This time, it was revenge.

While many on Bradley's campus praise our founder, some don't. The question is, why? Thankfully, The Scoop has the answers. After many nights locked up in the office, poring over old documents found in the special collections center, the staff discovered the culprit's motive.

In the early stages of Bradley's development, Lydia decided that the campus needed some sparkle — something to liven up the university. That is when she created Kaboom!, much like how God created the universe, weaving the threads of destiny together.

Day after day, Lydia worked on the creature's design. She needed him to be perfect, someone that all students would adore. Despite the battle scars from the sewing needle, Lydia remained strong to complete the mascot that students and faculty know and love today.

After three months, Kaboom! was complete. Unfortunately, Lydia passed before she could introduce him to the community. So, the gargoyle stayed locked up in the fourth floor of Sisson Hall, growing cobwebs on his eyebrows and wings.

That all changed one fateful day in 2014 when he woke from his slumber and burst through the door, announcing to the university via megaphone that he was Bradley's mascot and finally here to stay.

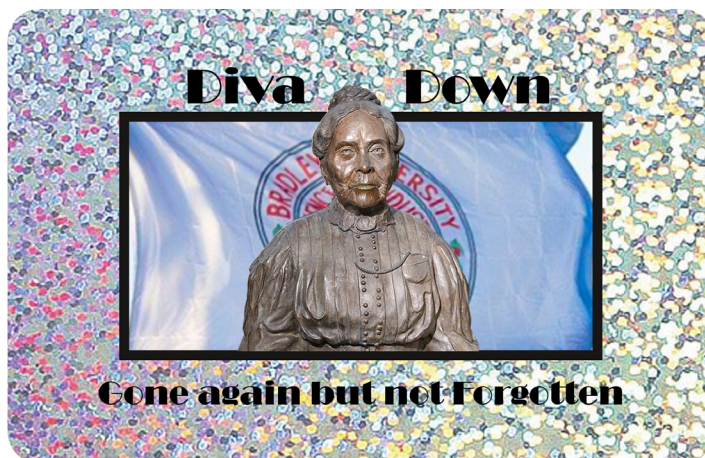
As cheers echoed through the campus, Kaboom! noticed that his creator was always staring back at him. Rage consumed him the second he saw the woman that locked him

away was praised for years by students, when he didn't get the chance.

Ever since that day, Kaboom! began to plot his revenge. In his diary that The Scoop recovered, some of Kaboom!'s plans included melting the statue with acid, covering it with peanut butter and enticing the squirrels to eat her and driving a race car into her to destroy her.

However, his ideas were spoiled due to a 10-year waitlist for the race car and someone else beat him to hitting Lydia. So, he went back to the drawing board.

In his plans, though, all but one idea kept getting crossed out: hitting the statue with a car. Kaboom! had to give it some time before he struck the statue again, as he wrote in his diary, "hitting that bronze old hag right after someone else would be tacky."



When the construction began on Williams Dining Hall, a lightbulb went off in Kaboom!'s head. On the evening of March 18, the gargoyle stole one of the bulldozers for a vengeful joy ride straight toward the statue.

With a scream of joy, Kaboom! struck the statue, sending Lydia soaring through the sky before

crashing headfirst into the top of Bradley Hall.

In a video released by junior social media major Brittny Byrne, Kaboom! was seen doing a cheer routine while chanting "diva down" after hitting Lydia. The video concluded with a squirrel police chase and Kaboom! getting bit in the butt before finally having the handcuffs slapped on his wrists.

During a press conference that The Scoop had the honor of attending, Kaboom! was asked why he hit both his and the university's creator.

"She's old and ugly, I'm hot and young and deserve a statue more, duhhhhhhhhh," Kaboom! said with a hair toss.

Kaboom! will be in jail for 14 years.



# Bradley COM scandal: Professor or pest?

## Roger Gigglesworth

*Captain of Yapping*

Multiple reports have been made claiming that Raymond A. Teller, a communications professor and assistant speech coach, has exhibited behavior that indicates he is actually three mice in a suit.

Students in Teller’s class and on the speech team have observed him exhibiting strange mannerisms, including frequently sniffing the air, rubbing his hands together and repeatedly asking any and all people he interacts with for cheese.

“When I asked for help with my speech, he told me to ‘get the squeak out of his face,’” Elizabeth Lee, speech team president, said. “It’s become a real problem.”

On multiple occasions, Teller has come to speech practices visibly shorter than usual, leading some team members to believe that one of the mice was left behind.

“One time, I had to let him into one of our practice rooms because he couldn’t reach the door handle,” Lee said. “He doesn’t think we notice, but he shows up and be literally two feet shorter than the day before.”

Students in his classes have complained that his insatiable desire for cheese is damaging their learning ability.

“Every class, one of two things happens,” Stuart Dent, a freshman stuffed animal design major, said. “Either he can’t get through a lecture because he’s eating cheese, or he gets angry at us for not writing our speeches about cheese.”

A spokesperson for the Bradley communications department released a statement on Friday, announcing an inquiry into the issue.

“We are committed to ensuring all of our faculty are human,” the statement read. “Our desire to keep our professors rodent-free necessitates investigating this matter. One mouse on staff is too many, let alone three.”

Hartley Rathaway, the dean of the Piper School of Rodent Research, is expected to lead the investigation.

“We have mousetraps in every building now,” Rathaway said. “We’ll get to the bottom of this one way or another.”

The Scoop reached out to Teller for comment. The only response came in the form of a crumpled-up piece of notebook paper with the word “cheese” written on it approximately 174 times. The paper was stamped with a small pawprint at the bottom.



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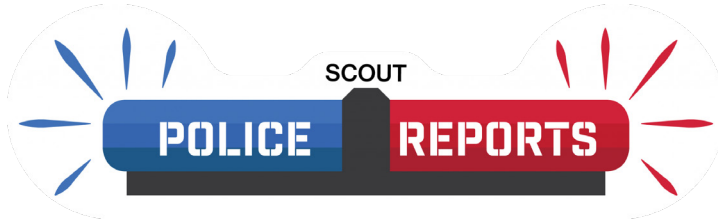
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- On March 26 at 12:34 a.m., BUPD responded to a distress call where students witnessed Kaboom! leaving Bradley's campus. The students claimed they witnessed the mascot get into a heated argument with students at Olin Quad about how a squirrel would be a better mascot for the university. Kaboom! was reported storming off, yelling, "I'm done, I am never returning to this school." BUPD was able to locate the mascot an hour later, roaming East Peoria. Officers successfully brought Kaboom! back to campus. BUPD advises students not to argue with Kaboom! about the squirrels due to the mascot's sensitivity regarding the subject of his job.

- At 3:33 p.m. on Sunday, UHall residents reported that floor 2A completely crumbled during spring break. The dormitory has not met building regulations for approximately 13 years and has been overlooked by maintenance to avoid paying fees to the City of Peoria. The floor collapse was theorized to have happened during the severe weather that the campus faced the week prior; however, there is no conclusive evidence. BUPD is working with the Office of Residential Living to arrange rooms for the students who are left without dorms. Officers reported that there were no injuries, and fortunately, everyone was on break when the incident occurred.

- On March 24 at 5:08 p.m., a fight broke out between a student and student center worker at Chick-fil-A. The student appeared to be upset that they were out of Chick-fil-A sauce. When they expressed their displeasure, the worker allegedly laughed at the student. Witnesses reported seeing the student jump over the counter and get into a verbal and physical altercation with the worker. When officers arrived on scene, they separated the two and arrested both individuals. Due to this incident, Chick-fil-A is closed in the student center for the rest of the semester.

- Around 4:15 p.m. on March 27, The Scoop office was raided. The Scoop staff reported coming into the office and seeing that all the furniture had been stolen. When the investigation began, BUPD officers concluded that the raid happened due to the staff writing articles that offended individuals on campus. The investigation is ongoing.

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