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## Course evaluation process revealed

*Faculty union and administration dispute affects course evaluation process and results*

By Sara Elder

*Assistant Editor-in-Chief*

If you're not a first year student here at Bryant University, you're familiar with the course evaluation process. If you're an upperclassman, you're familiar with the change Bryant made a couple years back from paper evaluations to online evaluations. Most people were happy with this change; the online course evaluations were easier to implement, fill out, and analyze afterwards. With the amount of courses Bryant offers each semester, it's easy to see why the change was made.

A recent meeting with the faculty union left Bryant's administration in a tough spot. A grievance was filed this summer during the faculty contract negotiation, as stated by Linda Lulli, Associate Vice President for Human Resources at Bryant. She said, "the language [in the contract] said that faculty would be able to do it [course evaluations] in the classroom, but because of the software, [the administration] can't constrain it." Professor Michael Roberto also confirmed that "the union finally agreed to require all faculty members to administer course evaluations every semester...prior to that, tenured faculty

were only required to administer evaluations once every couple of years," and stated that "the union wanted the online evaluations to be administered during class time, as the paper-based evaluation system had worked in past years." The union and the university both agreed to these provisions.

The problem is that the CourseEval software system that Bryant currently uses for student course evaluations does not have the ability to allow professors to open the link to their specific class survey only during a certain period of time. The closest it gets is allowing students a specified timeframe to fill out each of their course evaluations, which in Bryant's case is the last two weeks of the semester when evaluations are open.

Michael Roberto said that many professors in the faculty union expressed concerns about this. With this freedom, students don't have to fill the form out in class even if their professor specifies that they will have time in class to do so. They could even, in theory, fill them out with other students. The main concern was that the results of the evaluations could be skewed if the students weren't filling them out in a controlled environment. Dr.



Griffiths also mentioned that if students don't fill evaluations out in class, the participation rate is much lower and statistically, lower participation rates can also skew results of the course evaluations.

So you're probably asking "what does this all mean?" If you're a student at Bryant, you have already received an email from the Academic Affairs Office informing you that you can now fill out

## Mix-It-Up at Dinner a success

By Samantha Grabelle

*Contributing Writer*

Mix it Up at Lunch Day is national campaign launched by Teaching Tolerance (tolerance.org) eleven years ago to encourage students to identify, question, and cross social boundaries. Their research has shown that these boundaries are most obvious in the cafeteria; so, each year in October they support schools in getting students to move out of their comfort zones and sit with someone new over lunch. As Teaching Tolerance explains, "It's a simple act with profound implications. Studies have shown that interactions across group lines can help reduce prejudice. When students interact with those who are different from them, biases and misperceptions can fall away."

that the segregation apparent in our cafeteria is in many ways no different than what middle and high school students experience, a group of us got together to talk about planning a Mix it Up at Dinner event in Salmo.

Though we had to reschedule it to November 5th because of the hurricane, we were really excited about the event and thrilled when Student Affairs offered to foot the bill for the publicity, decorations, and games. We want to thank Dr. Eakin and Shawn Monaghan from Salmo for supporting this idea and its successful implementation. We could not have done it without you. If you were present for the event, you know it was a challenge for students to get out of their comfort zones, but for those who did it was well worth it as they took a risk and made

some new friends. With better advertising and more support we think this might actually be something we could do several times a semester.

The random group of us who met to plan it learned a lot from this first try and will be meeting regularly to set our sights on the Spring semester. We are especially interested in partnering with student groups, faculty/staff organizations, and athletic teams to sponsor



**A few of Sam's Mixed Up Kids (from left to right): Breanna Britto, Brenden Ross, Kelsey Nowak, Sam Grabelle, and Sam's son, Julius.**

(Sam Grabelle)

Each year, hundreds of schools across the country participate in this annual event, but there are very few if any colleges. After determining

Mix it Up events. If your group is interested, please contact Sam Grabelle at sgrabell@bryant.edu.

## Helping hands hits home

Damien Ferreira

*Contributing Writer*

Whether you want to surround yourself with the holiday spirit or provide a child with a coat and a pair of

I'm glad I took part in it.

The place to be was the MAC last Saturday, where the party took place. I had to get there by 8 in the morning while E-board members had to get their by 7. Now, on a



**The Helping Hands event took place on Saturday, the 1st, and put a smile on childrens' faces.** (Felicia Thomas)

boots for the winter, Helping Hands is the organization that gives Bryant residents the best of both worlds! It is a community service org on campus that raises money to buy winter apparel for underprivileged children. Instead of simply sending the necessities to the actual children, Helping Hands holds a holiday party for the children and their families, a party filled with games, arts & crafts, and plenty of food! It is a really great experience and

Saturday morning, this may seem extreme to the college student, but I considered all the other Saturdays in the year and told myself that waking up early on one Saturday for a good cause would not hurt. So, I walked through the freshly dusted walkways, got there, and helped put up a plethora of holiday decorations, like a Christmas tree, holiday

**See "Happy helpers", page 5.**





The Student Voice of Bryant University since 1946

# THE ARCHWAY

Black and Gold and Read all over

www.bryantarchway.com

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Guidelines for Comment...

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

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

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

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

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

# Campus Calendar

December	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
							
	10am- Holiday Gift Fair-BC	10pm-3-3 Basketball Tournament			8am-Student Senate Executive Council	All Day-Day Classes end!	All Day-Evening Classes end!
	8PM-Mr. Bryant-MAC					All Day-Festival of Lights	All Day-Reading Day
	10pm-Bryant's Got Talent B@N-BC						8pm-Relaxation Night-BC

# Bulldog Bulletin

**The Archway:** Writers' Meetings, Mondays 4:30pm, Bryant Center Room 2A/B  
**SPB:** General Meetings, Mondays 4:30pm, South Dining Hall  
**Senate:** General Meetings, Wednesdays 4pm, Papitto  
**Pride:** General Meetings, Thursdays 5:30pm, Heritage  
**Bryant Players:** General Meetings, Tuesdays 5pm, Bello 214

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

Department of Public Safety Log	
EMT CALL (Medical Services Rendered) NOV 25 2012-Sunday at 19:21 Location: BRYANT CENTER Summary: A report of a female who had lost consciousness. EMS was activated. Patient was transported via Smithfield Rescue to Fatima Hospital for treatment.	VANDALISM (AUTO) NOV 30 2012-Friday at 12:30 Location: BELLO CENTER LOT Summary: A student reported the grill on his truck was damaged.
TOWED VEHICLE (Illegally Parked Vehicle Towed) NOV 26 2012-Monday at 14:13 Location: BRYANT CENTER LOT Summary: DPS patrol observed an illegally parked vehicle with outstanding fines. The vehicle was towed from campus.	ACCIDENT (Leaving the Scene / Unattended Vehicle) DEC 1 2012-Saturday at 00:50 Location: COMMUTER PARKING LOT Summary: A student reported to DPS that his vehicle had been hit while parked in the Commuter lot.
LARCENY (From Buildings) NOV 27 2012-Tuesday at 19:16 Location: RESIDENCE HALL Summary: A student came into DPS to report that her TV was stolen from her suite on 11/17/12. The incident is under investigation.	EMT CALL (Medical Services Rendered) DEC 1 2012-Saturday at 01:40 Location: RESIDENCE HALL Summary: A report of an intoxicated female. EMS was activated. Patient was transported via North Providence Rescue to Fatima Hospital for treatment.
ACCIDENT (Leaving the Scene) NOV 28 2012-Wednesday at 17:48 Location: COMMUTER PARKING LOT Summary: DPS received a report of a parked vehicle being hit in the Commuter lot. A report was filed.	VANDALISM (AUTO) DEC 1 2012-Saturday at 16:04 Location: SENIOR APARTMENT LOT Summary: A student reported a broken window on his vehicle.
LARCENY (From Buildings) NOV 29 2012-Thursday at 19:07 Location: UNISTRUTURE Summary: A student reported a stolen I-phone from outside of classroom. It was later turned in to DPS.	EMT CALL (Medical Services Rendered) DEC 1 2012-Saturday at 19:10 Location: RESIDENCE HALL Summary: A Medical Evaluation for a female student that had been in a car accident earlier in the day. EMS was activated. Patient was transported via Smithfield Rescue to Fatima Hospital for treatment.
LARCENY (From Buildings) NOV 29 2012-Thursday at 11:33 Location: UNISTRUTURE Summary: A student reported a stolen cell-phone. The incident is under investigation.	EMT CALL (Medical Services Rendered) DEC 2 2012-Sunday at 12:33 Location: RESIDENCE HALL Summary: A student was evaluated because of a head injury. EMS was activated. Patient was transported via Smithfield Rescue to Fatima Hospital for treatment.

# African alliance of RI helps numbers

By Joanna Carroll  
*Contributing Writer*

For many years, Rhode Island has been home to immigrants from all over Africa. Currently, there are over 75 thousands Africans from 40 different African countries living in Rhode Island. The African Alliance of Rhode Island (AARI), a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of Africans living in the state of Rhode Island, became a formal organization in 2004 and has an eleven member volunteer Board of Directors. Julius Kolawole, the Director of the African Alliance of Rhode Island, has identified the AARI's mission as promoting and celebrating the African culture while overcoming the challenges facing the African communities in Rhode Island.

The African Alliance of Rhode Island has obtained a growing community garden program which provides work for four African women. This year the program provided these women with tents at a local farmers market in Providence to sell their produce. The four main women that are involved with this pilot program benefit financially along with being provided with a culture oriented task. These women are from different countries in Africa and most don't even speak the same language. The women now have to learn how to adapt to our

social norms when it comes to markets and shopping.

A team of students called the "Allied Consultants" have been working with the African Alliance of Rhode Island for the semester. Between the two organizations their goal has been to help lead the women to a successful farmers market in order to maximize benefits for the women. The organizations want the women to feel empowered. In order to achieve this goal, the Allied Consultants have set up a mock market to show the women different ideas that could help them become more successful.

It is important that the Allied consultants bring awareness to the market. The women are not selling produce at the market purely for a hobby; on the contrary, it is their way of making a living. The AARI is trying to help their members become as successful as possible in their new foreign environment. The garden is only one of many things the AARI has done and the Allied Consultants want to help them gain more recognition for all that they have done. The African Alliance of Rhode Island is a very welcoming organization, and if you would also like to assist them in any projects you can find their contact information on <http://www.africanallianceri.org/>.



# Study Abroad Spotlight

Going from 5,000 to 20,000 students

**Lexi McIsaac**  
Class of 2013

**University:** Fudan University  
**Location:** Shanghai, China  
**Partner:** Alliance for Global Education  
**Semester Abroad:** Fall 2011  
**Duration:** 4 months

**Reason for going:**  
I studied abroad in China to improve my Chinese language skills for my major. I chose Shanghai because it is known for international business.

**Best experience/memory:**  
My favorite experience was being able to live in a Tibetan village for a night. Our host families cooked for us and showed us their daily life.

**Funny cultural experience:**  
Having to ride the metro during rush hour. I have never seen more people in such a small space.

**How was the school different from Bryant University?**  
The school I attended had over 20,000 students. Most students had to ride bikes around campus to get from one building to another.

**How did this experience change you?**  
From this experience I learned a great deal about independent travelling. I never thought I could be so proficient at public transportation or be able to just hop on a plane and fly across country so easily.



**Lexi was able to not only experience the beautiful landscape, but the beautiful experiences of China as well** *(Lexi McIsaac).*

**Would you study abroad again given the opportunity?**  
Absolutely, I am currently applying for a chance to do a month of my summer internship in Norway.

PLEASE SEND SUBMISSIONS  
TO  
[saoffice@bryant.edu](mailto:saoffice@bryant.edu)

# Social change

By Michaela Botticelli and Nicholas Lee  
*Contributing Writers*

Bryant University is home to about 4,000 undergraduate students and only a shocking 8% are international students. This may come as a surprise to some because of the idea that Bryant is composed of people from around the world. While this is true, 8% is not nearly the percentage that President Machtley is looking for at Bryant.

President Machtley has a vision for Bryant that he hopes to achieve by the year 2020. The vision for the future is called the Vision 2020: "Expanding the World of Opportunity and its mission is to deliver exceptional education for success in an age of unlimited global opportunity." This vision is to allow students from different nations, cultures, and economies to connect and graduate with the ability to meet international needs of business and society. There are multiple goals within Vision 2020, however the most challenging goal will most likely be achieving a student base comprised of 20% international students. Accounting for a small growth in undergraduate enrollment, this means that around 700 international students will need to be enrolled by 2020, which is a dramatic increase from today's 300.

The campus itself may not have to change much to

accommodate these students, but the domestic student body might. There is adequate diversity awareness on campus, but every now and then there can be acts or attitudes that cause concern. Although there are students from around the world, the campus is still divided, and there are still people who are drawn towards people with similar qualities. There is diversity among the students; however, many chose not to integrate themselves with others of different cultures, nationalities or ethnicities.

The attitudes and actions of the student body cannot be overlooked when putting Vision 2020 in place. Not only will Bryant's campus change in the range of diversity, but the outlook of students will also need to change to accept the increased amount of global differentiation. This mission is to ensure that Bryant University promotes leadership skills, character, and different perspectives from around the world to allow students to adapt to and succeed in an age of global opportunity and expansion. For Vision 2020 to work students will need to keep an open mind and consider all the knowledge that can be learned and generated from integrating people from around the world.



By Adam McGarry  
*Student Senate Secretary*

In the next upcoming week as Fall Semester begins to come to a close your Student Senate has been hard at work finishing up our semester goals and the different events that we hope to put on before break. We have at least one event that the student body will be excited for and a few more happenings that you will see soon.

This past week treasurer trainings for the 2013-2014 budgets for clubs/organizations were held, led by Student Senate Treasurer Margaret Wong in conjunction with the Office of Campus Engagement. If your club/organization missed the trainings or any other further questions you can contact Margaret Wong at [Mwong4@bryant.edu](mailto:Mwong4@bryant.edu) and she will be able to answer any questions you may have.

We know that the student body is anxious for Late Night Breakfast! We just want to say that the date will be announced soon, so prepare to take a break from studying and come enjoy some breakfast food late at night. A theme for the occasion will be released soon as well as specific times for when the event will start. This event is free, even for Seniors; so for those of you without a meal plan this is the time to get in and enjoy some good old Salmo that we know you have been missing.

If you have any other questions about Student Senate, clubs/organizations, or any other concerns you can tweet @BryantUSenate or email us at [Senate@bryant.edu](mailto:Senate@bryant.edu). We will also be having one more weekly Senate meeting at 4pm in Papitto on Wednesday December 12th, so if you have any announcements or concerns you can join us during our last meeting of the semester. Our office on the 3rd floor of the Bryant Center is always open to the students, so stop by and say hi!

Our first meeting of  
next semester  
will be on  
February 4th, 2013  
at 4:30pm in Bryant  
Center room 2A

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# Tupper’s Tidbits

## Tupper’s Top Five Things to Do Over Winter Break

Iron Clad Tupper I



I’m going to chew my WJMF Frisbee and stay out of trouble until winter break is over. (Christina Senecal)

You can see the light at the end of the tunnel...at this point, you’re hoping it’s not a train coming at you, but the semester’s almost over! You’re going to go from 100 mph to 0 in about 5 seconds. Do you have any idea what that can do to a person?

Winter break is awesome because it’s a loooong holiday vacation for you. You’ll see family and friends, and sleep in your own bed again. You’ll see your pets that you’ve missed, and eat mom’s and grandma’s home cooking. And then, 10 days later, you’ll be wishing you were back at Bryant. Trust me, I know these things...I’m a mascot!

But you’re going to have five or six whole weeks off! What will you do? I can tell you from my personal knowledge bank that there are things you can do to make your time off even better. “Better,” you say, “how so?” I present to you: Tupper’s Top Five Things to Do Over Winter Break

5. TAKE NAPS! Did you know that young humans such as yourselves need about 9 hours of sleep each night ([www.sleepfoundation.org](http://www.sleepfoundation.org))? Get on that! You’ve got so much work that you stay up all night and walk around like Monster-swilling zombies! Get your sleep...that’s an order! I know I’m no good unless I get my 22 hours each day!

4. VISIT YOUR DOGTOR! Health Services does a great job, but they don’t know YOU. Not like your regular dogtor does! My dogtor knows when the slightest thing is off about me. Visit your physician, say “hi,” and have him/her do a wellness check.

3. CHEW A BONE! When I get bored, I get into trouble. My chew toys are what my Momma calls “productive activity” because they help my dental and mental health. You need to make sure that you’re doing something productive during break; otherwise, re-entry in January is going to kill you! Especially you first-years who will be doing the 72-hour Deep Dive as part of the Gateway Experience...it’ll be so helpful, but each day will wipe you out – stay in practice!

2. HAVE PLAYDATES! It is awesome to be by yourself sometimes to recharge your batteries, but make sure you’re also connecting with humans – IN PERSON! Socialization is important. It teaches you to be more independent and will make you happier and more satisfied with your life.

And the number one thing you must do over winter break is:

1. STAY IN TOUCH WITH ME! I’m going to be lonely... Check in with me on my social media accounts. Post pictures of your trips, adventures, and family members! I’ll be thinking about you when you’re gone. Spare a thought to your favorite mascot?

So there you have it. Tupper’s Top Five Things to Do Over Winter Break. Don’t forget – I’m on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/bulldogtupper](http://www.facebook.com/bulldogtupper)) and Twitter (<http://twitter.com/bryanttuppy>). Get at me! ’Til next time...WOOF!

# Phi Kappa Tau recognized

By Rob Harvey  
Contributing Writer

The brothers of Phi Kappa Tau have been active supporters of the Rhode Island Blood Center through sponsoring and promoting two Blood Drives a semester over the past four years. Their dedication to the cause was acknowledged by the Rhode Island Blood Center at the end of November with the Center’s Season’s Pass Program.

This program recognizes supporters that host at least four blood drives, over the course of that previous year, by presenting them

with a framed piece of artwork done by a local Rhode Island artist or photographer.

The brothers of Phi Kappa Tau were recipients this year by hosting four blood drives over the 2011-2012 season, raising a total of 468 pints of blood which is equivalent to saving 1,404 lives. This recognition was presented to Dr. Eakin on behalf of the Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity and will be on display in the Bryant Center.

# Salmo’s Thoughts

## Easy eating during exams, and other tips to stay A+

Think of your body as a car. You know a car needs gasoline to run. Your body uses blood sugar as its internal energy source and blood sugar comes from the foods you eat. The tank also needs enough fuel to prevent debris from migrating into the engine causing damage. Skipping meals is like running a car on fumes. Cars also need optimal fuel grades, called octane, to enhance performance. Similarly, the body performs best with quality nutrition.

Space snacks and meals evenly throughout your day. Choose protein, such as hard-boiled eggs, cheese, meat, nuts or seeds as snacks and part of your meals. Protein keeps you fuller longer. Spacing food keeps blood sugar and energy levels steadier.

Smart changes to the type and timing of what you eat keeps you balanced and on the road to educational success!

Sometimes all the body really wants is sleep and no amount of healthy eating will take its place. Go to sleep at a set time, and follow a bedtime routine to reset your internal clock. Avoid caffeine in the afternoon which can lead to difficulty falling asleep.

Exercise keeps the body running efficiently. It is also a great stress reducer. Schedule in some play time to keep your head clear and your stress down.

Feeling sluggish in that morning math class?

Not able to get through that last class of the day without needing a nap?

Can’t make it through afternoon basketball practice?

Exams are looming so now is a good time to evaluate your school-related energy needs.

### The Importance of Breakfast

Eating breakfast improves academic and work performance.

Breakfast keeps your mind focused and positively affects energy in the afternoon. Having a weight problem? Breakfast eaters tend to maintain their weight better than non-breakfast eaters.

### Breakfast Helpers:

#### Typically don’t eat breakfast?

Set a personal goal to eat something within the first 2 hours of waking.

**Already eat breakfast?** Improve the quality, of your choices. If pastries are your thing, try whole grain toast with margarine and some cinnamon-sugar.

**Whole milk drinker?** Try low-fat or non-fat. Substitute a piece of whole fruit for juice.

**Hungry soon after breakfast?** Add protein, such as nuts, nut butters, seeds, lean breakfast meats, or eggs, Protein slows digestion allowing more sustained release of energy which keeps you energized better.

# Managable Meals

## Dorm room Dining Fruity-Nut Toast

2 slices whole grain toast

2 Tbsp peanut or other nut butter

1 banana, sliced

Spread peanut butter on toast

Place sliced bananas on top of peanut butter

Enjoy!





# New semester, new e-board

By Jake Jones  
Contributing Writer

During the month of November, Greek life was involved with many activities and underwent an abundance of administrative procedures. On November 14, St. Jude's Up til' Dawn took place in the MAC where over five hundred participants



showed up and helped generate over 6,000 donation letters to seek out monetary subscriptions from family and friends. This is a huge event that takes place every fall to create awareness for St. Jude's and all of the services they provide. The point of this event is to help support St. Jude's and their mission since they do not make any patients or families pay for medical expenses. In addition to Up til' Dawn, new executive board members were elected to the IFC board and the Panhellenic board. The newly elected executives were transitioned

into their newly acquired position to learn about their upcoming duties and responsibilities. Also, GAMMA, Greeks Advocating the Mature Management of Alcohol, elected new members to their executive board and will be continuing their mission on educating young adults on the

## 'GAMMA elected new members to their executive board.'

effects of alcohol. Greek Ball took place in the beginning of November where Dr. Eakin and other faculty members were in attendance. In summary, November was another successful month for Greek life and new faces will be learning the processes to further assist the Bryant community in campus engagement.



# Evaluations revealed

Continued from page 1

your course evaluations. The email specifically states that "This semester, course evaluation surveys will NOT be administered in class. You may access the surveys online anytime during the dates listed below." But if you've read this article so far, you'd know that this is clearly in violation of the contract with the faculty union. It was brought to The Archway's attention by Professor Michael Roberto that an email was sent out to professors just before students received their course evaluation email. Professor Roberto quoted the email from the Vice President of Academic Affairs as saying, "Department Chairs shall not refer to CoursEval results in any document submitted to the Rank & Appointment Committee for any purpose, including Chair recommendations concerning reappointment, promotion, tenure or merit applications. In addition, CoursEval results may not be the basis for any personnel actions, i.e., Performance Plans." This means that what students say in their online course evaluations may be used by individual professors who take the time to look at their evaluations and take them into consideration when they teach the course again, but will not be able to be used in any formal manner.

Kelsey Nowak, Editor-in-Chief of The Archway, and this writer met with Jose-Marie Griffiths and Linda Lulli to clarify this information. Vice President Griffiths stated that "[the course evaluations] can be used by individual faculty to improve the course...also for department chairs and deans, it could be an indication of a problem...if we see a consistent set of concerns." Jose-Marie Griffiths said that "We're not going to take serious personnel action just based on these responses," which has always been the case. But this semester, it's important to note that course evaluations cannot be used at all, not even in part, if they're negative. Professor Michael Roberto brought to light something that was said in an email sent later in the week on behalf of Linda Lulli, providing further clarification for professors about course evaluations and what function they would serve this semester. The email stated "Poor CoursEval results may not serve as the basis, in whole or in part, for performance plans or otherwise adversely affect faculty." Basically, department chairs and deans can use the course evaluation results to measure performance, but even if a professor had consistent low scores from a variety of students, the chairs and deans could take no official

action against the professor. In our meeting with Linda Lulli and Jose-Marie Griffiths, we raised the topic of the process of promotion and tenure. When asked "So when a faculty member is up for tenure, they're not asked to produce all their course evaluations?" Linda replied "No, whether it's positive or negative, they can put anything they want in their application that they want to include." Jose-Marie went on to further explain that "Positive evaluations, [since] faculty have to provide the proof of good teaching through the [application] process [for tenure consideration]...they can use [the positive evaluations]." Therefore, professors will be able to pick what they want from these evaluations to include in any applications for tenure. They're not required to include anything negative that students say about the courses they've taken. Since this is the last issue of the semester, articles and letters to the editor in response to this article may be submitted to archway@bryant.edu no later than December 14th, 2012 and will be posted promptly on The Archway's website, www.bryantarchway.com. All articles and letters must follow the guidelines set forth on page two of this publication.

# Happy helpers

Continued from page 1

posters, and a blow up Scooby-Doo Santa. There was a lot to do, as the MAC is not exactly a small place, but there were many members in attendance. After some munchkins, bagels, and hot chocolate, I was ready to go! Decorations were finished by 10am, so we had a little time to prepare for the arrival of the kids.

The children, as well as some of their accompanying family members, came to the 'Winter Wonderland' and were elated to see all the brilliant reds, greens, and whites across the gym. I was expecting a stampede, but, as excited as they were, by no means was there the pandemonium I thought about in my head. These children sat down at the main tables and proceeded to travel to the many different arts & crafts, supplemented by the various clubs and orgs who decided to help in our venture. My job was to make sure the children enjoyed themselves, so I colored with them, made marshmallow snowman, and even took part in a little face painting.

Of all the ingenuous little children there were a few that had an overabundance of energy, so we knew we needed some backup. So who does Helping Hands' PR person, Talia Alexander, call? Football players. They came and gave the children an outlet to use some of that energy through some fun and active games. We couldn't thank them enough. We also had the Bryant University cheerleaders do a special performance for the children, which, the children applauded with delight.

After the aforesaid, it was time to feed everyone. So, I participated in serving everyone at the party some food. The

chicken nuggets were definitely a hit; the children and adults alike gobbled them up. Pizza and juice were also served.

Now, it was time for the big finale. Santa was going to make an appearance on campus, so the children rushed to gather in front of the stage. After texting the MC that he would show up, without any further ado, the jolly man himself showed up! These kids were ecstatic. It was time to deliver the presents Helping Hands' members caringly wrapped the week before. Each child was called by name, sat on Santa's lap, and received a wrapped present. They were told not to open it yet until all of them got their presents, and that was exactly what they did.

After everyone got their presents, they all tore through the wrapping paper and held up their new winter clothes. Never before have I seen kids so thrilled and grateful about a coat or some gloves. It brought joy to me, but a little sadness as well because it was almost time for them to leave.

An hour later, everyone leaves and Helping Hands members spend an additional hour making sure the MAC is spotless. I look back at that day and wish that it could have lasted that much longer. Helping Hands could not have done such a wonderful job without the help of the clubs and orgs that attended, as well as the football players and the cheerleading team. I also could never forget WJMF Radio for supplying the more than appropriate holiday melodies that put everyone in the right cheery mood. This party is such an experience and I only encourage others to partake. I am looking forward to next year, but I will never forget this year.

Want to get involved in The Archway?

Come to Bryant Center room 2A on Mondays at 4:30pm!

Listen to WJMF  
The Beat of Bryant  
at  
www.wjmfradio.com





## Will the U.S. fall off the Fiscal Cliff? *Biz Snipz*

By Nicholas Calabro  
Staff Writer

Once again, the Washington politicians are trying to steer clear of the fiscal cliff, though each side has their own way of doing so. “Republicans favor raising federal tax revenue by limiting deductions, Democrats have pushed for higher rates on upper-income earners,” as stated on businessweek.com. This disagreement has been a key reason for the slow progress on these talks, which has also overshadowed “a European agreement on Greece aid and a better-than-forecast report on durable goods.” The effect on the stock market has been the biggest concern.

According to businessweek.com, “nine of ten groups in the Standard & Poor’s 500 Index fell, and the S&P 500 itself fell 0.5 percent to 1,398.94 in New York (and 2.1 percent since November 6th). The Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 89.24 points, or 0.7 percent, to 12,878.13. And more than 5.9 billion shares traded hands on U.S.

exchanges, or 2.6 percent below the three-month average.” And U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) has been reported as saying, “we only have a couple weeks to get something done so we have to get away from the happy talk and do specific things.” If there is no deal, then \$607 billion of tax hikes and spending cuts will be the immediate result, according to businessweek.com. Senior equity trader at Cabrera Capital Markets LLC, Larry Peruzzi interpreted the reaction to Harry Reid’s comments by saying, “it’s getting close to the witching hour now so not the best thing to hear.”

However, across the Atlantic, European finance ministers have taken further action with regard to Greece’s economic collapse. According to businessweek.com, European finance ministers “cut the rates on loans made under the first bailout of Greece in May 2010. They also suspended interest payments for a decade on lending agreed to under the country’s second bailout.” Greece is also scheduled to receive 34.4 billion euros in December, according to businessweek.com. Prime Minister of Luxembourg, Jean-Claude

Juncker has said, “all initiatives decided upon today will bring Greece’s public debt clearly back on a sustainable path.”

Back in the United States, there really is good news. First, demand for U.S. goods such as machinery and electronics climbed in October by the most in five months. Bookings for non-defense capital goods (except for aircrafts) rose 1.7 percent last month. And this was when surveyed economists projected an average drop of 0.7 %, according to businessweek.com. The second piece of domestic good news came from a report indicating that “consumer confidence rose in November to the highest level in more than four years.”

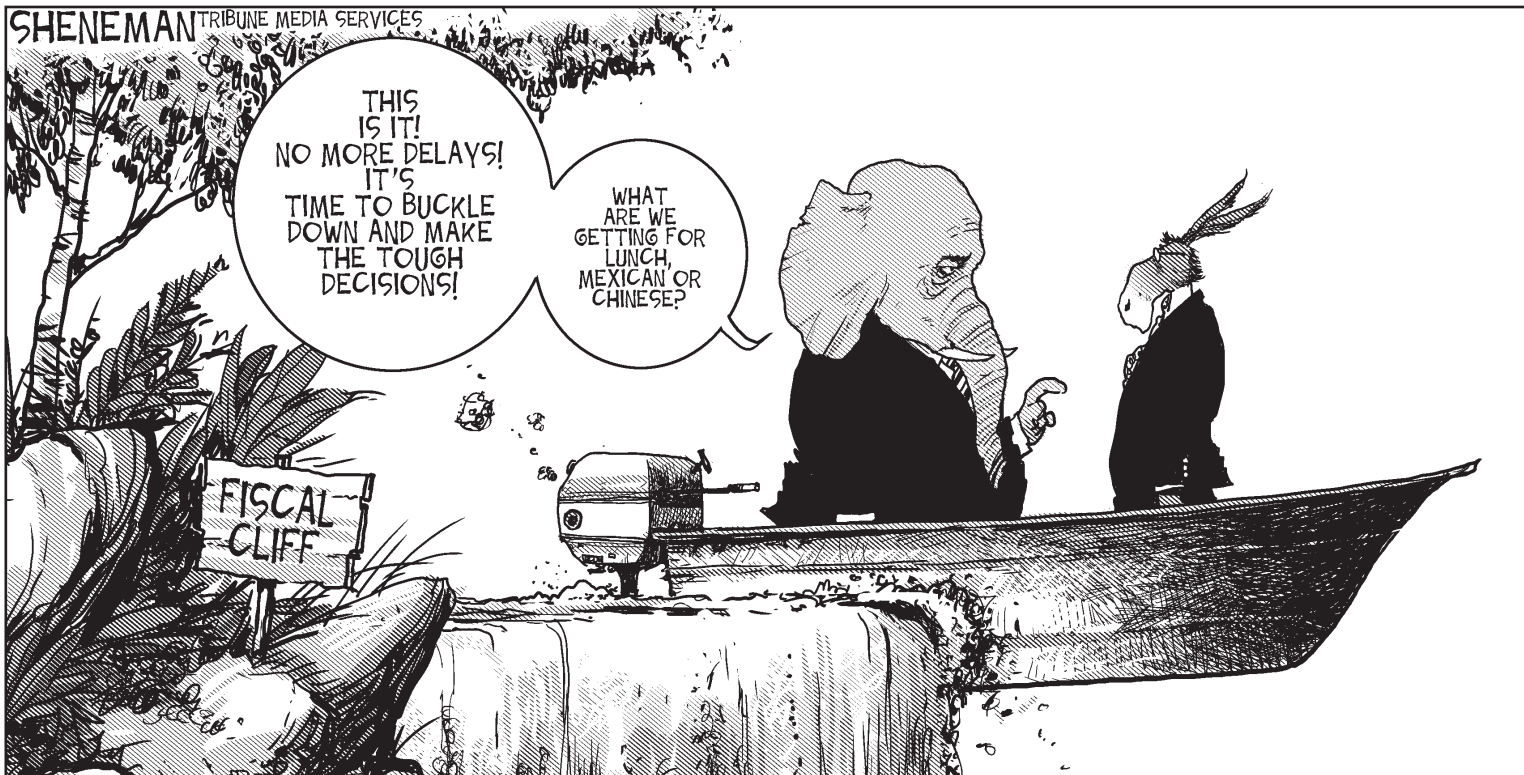
Chief investment strategist at the Milwaukee-based RW Baird & Co., Bruce Bittles, was reported as saying, “with the fiscal cliff, there’s going to be good news, bad news, good news, bad news before it is all settled. You had some favorable news on the European situation with Greece, durable goods orders were a little better than expected, and the market didn’t respond to any of that.”

By Kat Larsson  
Copy/Business Editor

- Beginning in 2016, Netflix customers will be able to stream a catalog of titles from Disney. Netflix will become the exclusive U.S subscription television service for Disney’s new releases, meaning Starz will no longer carry its films. Netflix’s 2016 exclusivity will end Starz’s licensing deal with Disney, as well as keeping other streaming services from signing their own Disney contracts. Because of the news of this deal, Netflix shares jumped 14%.
- Over the past decade, Africa has been the second-fastest growing economy in the world. Their GDP has been accelerating more than 5% a year on average. Even with the slowing of the global economy, the growth of Africa has largely remained on track. Their natural resources are certainly a big driver of the growth, but an even bigger factor is the rising consumer class. According to McKinsey Global Institute, household consumption is now higher in Africa than in India or Russia and is supposed to continue to grow more.

- U.S stocks finished in the red as uncertainty over the ongoing political wrangling put investors on edge. President Obama outlined a proposal last week that called for \$1.6 trillion in new taxes. Republicans, however, issued a counter-proposal Monday that included tax reforms and changes to Medicare. As fear grows that lawmakers will fail to address the fiscal cliff before the end of the year, more and more companies are accelerating their dividend payment dates as a preemptive strike against potentially higher tax rates on income from stock dividends.

- Yahoo released a short press release late Friday about the case, which was brought by Mexico’s Worldwide Directories and Ideas Interactivas. The plaintiffs sued Yahoo and Yahoo de Mexico for “breach of contract, breach of promise, and lost profits arising from contract related to a yellow pages listings service.” A federal judge in Mexico ordered Yahoo to pay \$2.7 billion, though the judgment is not final. If the ruling stands, Yahoo will be forced to pay with nearly 36% its cash on hand.



## Krafty Move: food company splits

By Brad Ellis  
Contributing Writer

Hold the phones, Kraft Foods; the brand name that flooded the collegiate market with Easy Mac is splitting up. Ranking as the second largest food company globally only behind Nestle, Kraft has decided to split into two separate publically traded companies. The spinoff was unexpected by many, especially after their new substantial acquisition of Cadbury Chocolates a mere 18 months ago.

Snacks and groceries are the two different markets Kraft will attempt to exploit. One being a European based company called Mondelez, which focuses solely on snack foods. The second being a North American grocery business that will retain the Kraft Foods name, and continue to carry products like Kraft Mac & Cheese, Oscar Mayer, and

Planters.

Our favorite junk-food products such as Oreo, Ritz, and Cadbury will soon be relocated under the Mondelez brand name. This switch however should not dramatically affect sales seeing as how most consumers make purchases based on the product name, not the barely visible company name on the bottom.

In hopes to appeal to the global market where it will conduct an estimated 80% of their total sales, Mondelez is derived from a Latin word to convey the idea of a “delicious world”. Mary Beth West, Kraft’s Chief Marketing Officer stated in an interview that the name also hoped to “pay homage to Kraft’s longstanding ‘make today delicious’ mantra.” There is large room for growth and experimentation in the present snack market which Mondelez hopes will yield lucrative profits as it faces the well-known

Frito-Lay company as its main competitor.

The North American grocery business is focused in a matured

***‘This switch however should not dramatically effect sales seeing as how most consumers make purchases based on the product name.’***

and relatively unchanging market and brings in roughly \$16 billion in sales annually. This is in large contrast to the snack business that operates in a highly evolving market and has doubled grocery sales by selling over \$32 billion dollars last year. Even still, high profit margins are very prevalent in the North American

grocery business with products such as Maxwell House coffee and Capri Sun drinks. While various things are changing drastically in the company, Kraft’s headquarters located in Northfield, Illinois will remain the same.

Contrary to public opinion, the restructuring of Kraft was not an overnight spontaneous decision. The split was the conclusion of a well thought out plan that Irene Rosenfeld (CEO) began to implement in 2006. Rosenfeld’s track record speaks for itself as she left her CEO position at rival PepsiCo’s Frito-Lay after a successful tenure. Rosenfeld’s vision for the company is finally scheduled to reach fruition at the beginning of 2013. Luckily for consumers worldwide the split Kraft intends to implement will not yet include the breakup of the infamous Mac, and cheese.

**Make it your business to write for the Archway!**  
Email [archway@bryant.edu](mailto:archway@bryant.edu) for more information.



# THE STUDENT INVOLVEMENT FEE

JULY 2011 - JUNE 2012 REPORT

Dear Students,

Please take some time to review this report which details how the Student Involvement Fee was allocated over the past year. The purpose of the Student Involvement Fee (SIF) is to provide funding in order to improve the co-curricular environment for students. This is done by improving support for student organizations and clubs and increasing the opportunity for student involvement in out-of-class experiences through programs and services on campus.

We hope you continue to take advantage of the opportunities the Student Involvement Fee offers you, as individuals, clubs, and organizations.

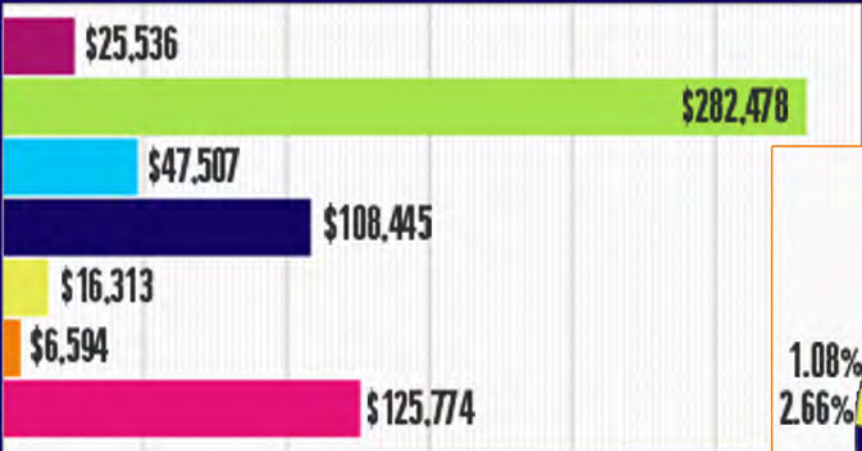
In service,  
SIF Oversight Board

2011-2012 Student Involvement Fee (SIF) Oversight Board: Dr. J. Thomas Eakin (Chair; Vice President), Dr. Judy Kawamoto (Staff), Lisa Morris (Staff), Bill Smith (Staff), Nicole Lambert (Staff), Prof. Peter Nigro (Faculty), Tom Robinson (Student), Maria Fontana (Student), Yohann Shroff (Student), Islindy Merius (Student), Tyler Smith (Student), & Kevin Fraser (Student).

## THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Ways and Means Committee is to review budgets, initial funding requests, requests for additional funds and to allocate annual funds to all registered and recognized student clubs and organizations.

### BREAKDOWN OF FUNDING BY WAYS AND MEANS DURING 2011-2012



Clubs/Organizations' budget expenses are organized into sub-categories during the fiscal year; these charts represent the amount of funding allocated by category.

**\$612,649**

2011-2012 Ways and Means Committee:

Tom Robinson (Chair, Student), Dr. Judy Kawamoto (Staff), Lisa Morris (Staff), Rich Dankel (Staff), Maria Fontana (Student), Josh Grolman (Student), Alex Barbosa (Student), William Kelahe (Student), Margaret Wong (Student), Ryan Bassett (Student), Katie Phung (Student), Breanna Britto (Student), Barrett Brooks (Student), Christian Contreras (Student) and Sagar Parmar (Student).

## SPECIAL INITIATIVES COMMITTEE

The Special Initiatives Committee reviews student-created, student-centered proposals. The proposals should have the focus of benefiting the Bryant community and enhancing student life. Proposals should be one-time, non-traditional, and non-recurring ventures.



Special Initiatives provided funding for WJMF Radio to be able to remote broadcast just about any activity from on or off campus.

The Road Trip Across America weeklong event last March was funded by Special Initiatives.

**\$124,306**

2011-2012 Special Initiatives Committee: Yohann Shroff (Co-Chair, Student), Dr. Judy Kawamoto (Co-Chair, Staff), Robert Sloss (Staff), Tom Robinson (Student), Eric Berube (Student), Jackie Ammirato (Student), Racheal Pozerski (Student), and Stephanie Jones (Student).



## STUDENTS ARTS AND SPEAKER SERIES

SASS, a student run committee, is devoted to promoting the importance of arts and culture at Bryant. SASS develops programs featuring speakers, performers and artists that interest, engage, and inspire our students and our community. We strive to always provide valuable, unique and memorable experiences.

EVENTS

Cal Ripken Jr., Legendary Baseball Player & Motivational Speaker  
Matisyahu, Jewish Rapper  
Svet, Hip Hop Violinist  
Laura Ung, Award Winning Journalist and news reporter  
Lava Love, Dance and Acrobatic Group  
Dan Savage, LGBTQ Activist and It Gets Better Program Creator

**\$149,858**

The 2011 - 2012 SASS Committee won the State of RI Program of the Year for our It Gets Better Video

2011 - 2012 SASS Committee: Tyler Smith (Co-Chair, Student), Rich Hurley (Co-Chair, Staff), Betsy Knowles (Staff), Mike Banville (Student), Rocina Dalzell (Student), Joey Flaherty (Student), Emily Howe (Student), Alex Russo (Student), Zach Suter (Student), and Courtney Tosone (Student).





# Going strong, Men's basketball wins again

By Justin Beaucage  
Sports Editor

Last season, when an opponent saw Bryant's basketball team on their schedule, they thought to themselves "easy win" and concentrate on a tougher matchup. The Bulldogs weren't taken seriously due to their lack of experience in Division 1. The team competed with other teams, but opponents were just too powerful and talented for Bryant. Many times, the score would be so bad that the Bulldogs were the laughing stock of the division.

This season, the Bryant Bulldogs are no laughing matter.

The men's basketball team continued to make a name for themselves in Division 1, with their most recent victory against Army by a double-digit margin. With their 70-59 win over Army at home, Bryant has extended its winning streak to four games, their longest winning streak since joining Division 1. Throughout the streak, all of their victories have come against teams previously unbeaten against Bryant.

Both teams seemed



**Bulldogs guard Dyami Starks on a fastbreak** (MCT Campus)

nervous in front of a high-energized Bryant crowd, as the teams combined for 20 turnovers in the first half, eleven of them coming in the first eight minutes. However, the Bulldogs were able to jump out to an early 9-4 lead, thanks to opportunistic steals by junior Corey Maynard and freshman Shane McLaughlin. The turnovers lead to easy transition dunks from sophomore Joe O'Shea and Bulldogs' leading scorer Alex Francis. For the rest of the half, early momentum helped carry the Bulldogs.

Halfway through the frame, senior Frankie

Dobbs hit a clutch 3 pointer as the shot clock winded down. Another steal by Maynard lead to a three-point play on Francis' second dunk of the game, giving the Bulldogs a 12 point advantage. With another layup by Francis, the Bulldogs finished a 10-2 run in just 1:42. Army, with the help of leading scorer Ella Ellis, helped bring the Black Knights to within eight. The Bulldogs would respond, and with Francis' third dunk of the game, they took momentum and a 32-22 lead to the locker room.

The Bulldogs didn't leave this momentum behind

them at halftime, as they built upon their early-game successes in the second half. Four minutes into the half, O'Shea's three-point play built the team's lead to 14, the largest lead of the game. Sophomore guard Dynami Starks helped keep the Bulldog's hot shooting streak going, opening the half 4-4 from the field and adding a game-high 20 points to the cause.

With less than eight minutes to play, O'Shea connected from long range to give the Bulldogs a 13 point lead. Despite out-rebounding the Bulldogs by five, and scoring 16 second-chance points, the Black

Knights were no match for the Bulldogs, as Bryant was able to hold off Army to earn the 70-59 victory, and their fourth consecutive win.

The winning streak has been extremely impressive, especially for a young, rebuilding team like the Bulldogs. The team's ability to get to the free-throw line has been a main contributor to their success. Their 64.2 percent free-throw percentage on 18 free-throws per game makes for easy buckets and helps the Bulldogs stay in games. During the winning streak, Bryant's defensive effort has been consistent. Their 12.8 turnovers per game and 6 steals per game have helped them take points away from their opponents.

This week, the Bulldogs will have to put their impressive streak on the line, as two home games loom in the schedule. They will look to continue their success against Yale on Wednesday and Binghamton on Saturday. The Bulldogs not only hope to keep winning, but also to make their mark on Division 1 basketball.

## Intramural Athlete of the Week

### Felicia Thomas

Class of 2015

#### Sport: Soccer

The first winner of Bryant's Intramural Athlete of the Week is Felicia Thomas. A member of our own staff, let's face it, Felicia could win this award every week. She is the soccer goalie for the Sigma Chi co-ed league and for the Men's Competitive League on Bryant United.

She and her teammates had a lot of success throughout their season. Felicia led Sigma Chi to an undefeated regular season. Both of her teams made it to the championship game. She played a key part in each team's success, as each team had the lowest points allowed in the league. Her 24-3 overall record in indoor soccer has made her one of the most successful athletes in intramurals.

Not only do her team accomplishments make her qualified for this award, but her playing style and attitude make her a great choice. Felicia would probably come after me if she



didn't win this award. She is one of the toughest athletes here at Bryant. She is often described by her teammates as, "ruthless and fearless." Her must-win attitude makes her a fiery competitor, and Felicia has not had one game where she didn't put forth 110 percent into everything she does.

It is a rarity to see a woman play in a Men's competitive league. She is willing to compete with some of the toughest competition, and she tries to show that girls rule, and boys drool.

We all hope that Felicia continues her dominant play in her sport.

## Sports Shorts

By John Como

Assistant Sports Editor

- The Bryant hockey team has been real impressive as of late. The team is currently on a three game winning streak and has won four of their last five games. Their most recent victories include a 5-1 victory at BU and two victories against PC by scores of 3-2 and 5-4. The 8-6 Bulldogs will play their next game at home against UVM.
- After starting the season with a 0-4 record, the Women's Basketball Team has won their last two games. Their first victory was a dominant Thanksgiving weekend game against Brown University in an 81-58 win. They used the momentum from this game, and the team would go on to win their second game of the season against Columbia by the final score of 68-54, on the 5th and a home game against Maine on the 10th.
- Bryant Women's Basketball junior forward Naana Ankoma-Mensa was recently selected as NEC Player of the Week. Her performance as a player has made her a leading force and an important player for the team; especially in their last two victories. In her two games against Brown and Columbia, she has averaged 14 points, 17 boards, and 40 minutes of gameplay. On top of that, she is currently ranked second in the NEC in rebounds per contest at 11.5 rebounds per game. As a player and a veteran leader, Ankoma-Mensa has definitely earned this reward and her future gameplay will play a huge role in her team's success.
- Senior Casey Ostrander, member of the Bryant Women's Swimming and Diving Team set personal and NEC records in the AT&T U.S Winter Nationals in Austin, Texas. After competing in the nationals for a second time, she had a dominant performance in her races; which included the 50 free and both the 100 and 200 back. Ostrander finished tied for 35th with a time of 23.22 in the 50 free, 32nd in the 100 back with a 55.73, and 47th in the 200 back with a 2:02.39. She beat her previous 100 back record by two seconds and her previous 200 back record by four. The team will wrap up the fall season on the 8th when they have their final meet against Rhode Island.



# Twice on ice, Bryant hockey wins two in a row against Friars

By John Como  
Assistant Sports Writer

The Bryant hockey team has been winning plenty of games as of late and is currently one of the more successful Bryant teams on campus. The team is currently on a three game winning streak and has won four of its last five games. The team showed no signs of slowing down last weekend when they took on their interstate rivals in back-to-back games.

The first of the two contests were played at home against underdog Providence Friars. The Bulldogs seemed to take control of the game from the beginning to the end, but could not put away the Friars on the scoreboard. “We couldn’t put the puck in the net” said Bulldogs’ captain Paul Russo “Five goals seems pretty good,



Bryant hockey was impressive against PC (Felicia Thomas)

but we didn’t capitalize on most of the chances that we got.” Despite the better play from the Bulldogs, the Friars kept battling and made this game a shootout between the two teams. The play from everyone on the Bulldogs team was great, including the play from the backup goalie who

never gave up the lead at any point in the game. The game never tilted toward one side or the other and was close all the way through. Even with the surprising game play from the Friars, the Bulldogs still managed to outlast their opponent and pick up a hard fought

5-4 victory. The Bulldog goal scorers for the game included two goals by junior Jerry Theiler and one goal for seniors, Andrew Roach, Chris Gaskell, and Tyler Scanlon. On the first game against the Friars Russo stated that, “We seem to play down on teams that aren’t as skilled as us, the Friars are one of those teams and this game was no exception. It’s always been a problem for this team as long as I’ve been here, and it’s definitely a bad habit that we need to break.” The second game was played at Providence College where the Friars were looking for payback

against the Bulldogs who had just beaten them the day before. Once again, the Bulldogs seemed to dominate the second game but like the first, just couldn’t put the Friars away on the scoreboard. Just when it seemed like the Friars were finished, they scored a late goal to cut the lead down to 3-2 with a few minutes left in the period. After another hard fought battle between the two teams to the very end of the game, the Bulldogs again outlasted the Friars and were victorious in the 3-2 win. The Bulldogs had an exhausting weekend in the two games but once again came out on top. The team is now 8-6. The team’s upcoming games include matchups at Boston College on the 7th and a home game against the University of Vermont the following Saturday at 9 pm.

# One horse race? Broncos’ Manning leads MVP race

By Justin Beaucage  
Sports Editor

Lebron or Kobe? Montana or Young? Shaq or Chamberlin? Fans have different ways of judging who the better player is. Let’s face it, debates and arguments over whose team is better, which player is better, and what team has the best chance of winning. These three common controversies, just to name a few, have been three of the most debated rivalries in sports. Whichever side a fan chooses there is another battle that has always had NFL fans torn: Manning or Brady?

Whether for Superbowls, playoff wins, statistics, or awards, quarterbacks Peyton Manning and Tom Brady have always competed with each other at the highest ability. The two have created instant classics on the field facing each other and have both made individual contributions to their teams. The two will always be remembered not only for their on-field-battles, but for the impact they made on the game. The two are pretty much co-authors of the record book, and there might have to be a whole separate Hall of Fame for all of their accolades. No matter what the season or the record, these two gunslingers are constantly performing at a high level, trying to gain an edge on the other. This season, it is no different. The NFL MVP race is heating up, as the candidates for the award are beginning to narrow down. There are plenty of players that fans and teams could argue for the award. However, the two players

at the top of the list look distinctly familiar. At this point, Broncos’ quarterback Peyton Manning has a slight edge over the Patriots’ Tom Brady. Despite changing his uniform and leaving his long-time team the Indianapolis Colts, Manning’s first season in Denver has been the same-old story. He is putting up his typical Manning numbers, with 3,502 yards and leads the league with 29 touchdowns (and just 9 interceptions). His 68 percent completion percentage is the highest of his career, and his 104 quarterback rating is the second highest of his career. Manning has uplifted the whole Denver organization, carrying them to a 9-3 record thus far, and first place in the AFC West. If he wins the award, this would be Manning’s NFL –record-breaking fifth time receiving the honor. Not only are Manning’s numbers impressive, but the likelihood of a season with monster numbers seemed so doubtful just a few months earlier. Manning missed the entire 2011 season with multiple neck injuries, which lead to his move from Indianapolis to Denver. From 2010 until the start of this season, he had undergone 4 procedures on his neck. At 35 years old, it was questionable, not only if Manning would be healthy, but if he would even play this year. However, Manning has made fans forget all about his ailments, and it has bumped him up to first place in the MVP ballots. Close on Manning’s trail is his arch nemesis, the Patriots’ Tom Brady. Quietly, he is putting together one of his best statistical

seasons of his career. He has thrown for 3,537 yards, and has found the end zone 25 times through the air. His 102.6 quarterback rating is fourth in the NFL. Tom has been terrific this season, as his touchdown to interception ratio has been extremely impressive. His ratio (24-3) has not been this good since his 36-4 ratio in 2010, the last time he won the award. What makes Brady’s case for MVP noticeable is the amount of production he has had even with the emergence of New England’s running game. In prior seasons, Brady has had to carry much of the offensive workload, as the offense could really not get a running game going. However, this year, running backs in New England have not gone missing, as their rushing has improved dramatically. For Brady to still have career-highs in some passing statistics even with the Patriots running score is just amazing. This would be Brady’s third MVP award. Although Manning and Brady are the frontrunners, there are still some players in contention. With strong finishes to their already successful seasons, there are some players that still have a chance at the award. Many say that Colts quarterback Andrew Luck should be in these MVP talks, since he has single-handedly brought back a franchise that was left for dead. He is fourth



Bronco’s quarterback Peyton Manning is in MVP form. (MCT Campus)

in the league with 3,596 yards through the air, and is near the top in almost every statistic for quarterbacks. Luck’s five game-winning drives are the most by a rookie in NFL history. He has also led the Colts to an improbable 8-4 record, and the team is on the cusp of a spot in the playoffs. Luck has the chance to win the NFL’s MVP and Rookie of the Year award in the same season, a feat only accomplished by Oilers’ running back Earl Campbell in 1978. It has come down to these final contestants for the NFL’s most prestigious award. From old to new, from comeback players to revitalized careers, and from veterans to rookies, each player is in contention for this award. Their individual contributions have been recognized, and one will be awarded as MVP of the NFL.



# Helping Hands Holiday Party 2012





## Calling for a student boycott of course evaluations

By Professor Michael Roberto  
*Faculty Contributor*

Several days ago, Bryant University students received a message asking them to submit course evaluations for the classes in which they are enrolled this semester. I believe that students should boycott this highly flawed course evaluation process. The students should send a strong message to the administration that they want meaningful course evaluations. No one needs to waste their time completing evaluations that will have little or no impact.

*‘The students should send a strong message to the administration that they want meaningful course evaluations.’*

Students should know that I have been one of the strongest advocates for a strengthened course evaluation process here at Bryant. Several colleagues and I worked tirelessly to implement an online course evaluation system at the school to replace the old paper-and-pencil system. Moreover, I have advocated strongly for a process by which all courses and all faculty members are evaluated each semester, which was not the case when I arrived at Bryant in 2006. We have now taken a step backward though, and I cannot support the flawed process that has been put in place

this semester.

The administration notified faculty members on Wednesday afternoon that, “Department Chairs shall not refer to CoursEval results in any document submitted to the Rank & Appointment Committee for any purpose, including Chair recommendations concerning reappointment, promotion, tenure or merit applications. In addition, CoursEval results may not be the basis for any personnel actions, i.e., Performance Plans.” In short, the evaluation results don’t matter. They will not affect the evaluation of faculty members in any way, shape, or form.

During my six years here, the course evaluation results began to take on a bit more weight in decisions such as merit, promotion, and tenure. I viewed this change as a positive development. Please do not mistake me. I do not mean to suggest that student evaluations of teaching should be the only way that the university evaluates courses and faculty members. We should have a robust process of evaluation that includes a systematic review of course syllabi and other instructional materials. We should implement a strong peer observation process, in which faculty members sit in on their colleagues’ classes both for developmental and evaluative purposes. Other means of assessment should be implemented as well.

The student evaluations should be a piece of the puzzle, not the entire means of assessing the quality of teaching here at Bryant. However, student voices should be a meaningful element in this process. Those voices should be considered carefully and thoughtfully. Student voices should matter. Regretfully, they do not matter under the guidelines established for this semester’s evaluation process. Students should express their disappointment and press for meaningful change by boycotting the current process.

## Should players be drafted out of high school?

By Justin Beaucauge  
*Sports Editor*

You’re an elite NBA point guard. You the Los Angeles Laker’s most coveted prize. You’re only 18 years old, and you are making a million dollars for one of the largest sports industries in the world. You were drafted right out of high school, and despite your youth, the organization has put a lot of pressure on you to perform. You are on top of the sports world, and you have the potential to be one of the NBA’s best players.

In your first game, you drive to the hoop for what seems like a highlight reel dunk. You think of what your play is going to look like on ESPN later. However, a defender comes up and blocks your attempt, beginning the long fall down to the court. As you come down, your foot twists and your leg buckles. As you writhe in pain on the ground, your teammates carry you off to the court and into the locker room.

After a medical examination, the doctor comes back with some bad news. You have torn your ACL and several ligaments in your knee. Not only will you not return for the season, but your career might be over.

Okay, so you’re not an NBA point guard, and neither am I. However, imagine having your whole career ended by the time you’re 18 years old. Well, that is a problem, but I guess you could just go back to school, right? Wrong. Remember, you were drafted right out of high school, as you forgo college education for millions and fame in the NBA. Now, you have a career-ending injury, and nothing to fall back on.

This was a problem facing many young athletes at the high school level. Many have debated this issue over and over whether or not players should be drafted out of high school and having the option of pursuing their professional careers instead of getting a degree. Sure, any athlete would want to play as soon as possible and be rich and famous right away. However, when you sit down and think about it, is it really the right move? Let the debate begin.

In order to debate the issue, we have to look at both perspectives. If a player decided not to go to college and directly go to the NBA, they would be earning a paycheck quicker, which could be very important to some players. Many highly talented players are scouted from rural or poor areas of the country, and money could be a main priority. In many cases, the sooner a player can cash a check, the better.

Another key advantage to leaving for the pros early is the higher popularity of the sport. If a player is already being scouted in high school, they must already be playing at a very high level, and must be already ready for

the big stage. Fans will be sure to tune in to such a highly coveted and hyped player. The sport’s popularity and game attendance will increase because of the talent of a young stud.

On the flip side, there are plenty of reasons why players should hit the books instead of suiting up for the pros. First, at such a young age, players may not be ready for the responsibility of being a professional athlete, and the responsibility that comes with it. Someone at 18 years old has different priorities than of that of a college graduate. Drafting a player that is so young and possibly immature could hurt a team’s chemistry and the image of an organization.

The main reason an athlete should go to school instead of getting drafted early is because of the chance of an early injury and its consequences. If a player right out of high school gets injured early in his career and can’t return to playing, there could be severe long-term consequences. If a player doesn’t have a degree, how will a player get a job or make any money? If a player throws away an education to play a sport, that person is risking going into the work force without a degree if their career doesn’t work out.

After analyzing the issue, in my opinion, I think that players should not get drafted out of high school, and should spend more time studying in college rather than their sport. I say this because despite the long list of impressive athletes that were drafted out of high school (Lebron James, Kobe Bryant, Dwight Howard, Kevin Garnett, Andrew Bynum), there are just as many, if not more, that ended up not panning out, or not playing in the NBA at all. Players like Korleone Young, Leon Smith, and James Lang (just to name a few) are players that never got the NBA fame they longed for out of high school. There are plenty of players that attended college that have ended up as huge successes in the NBA, including Carmelo Anthony, Kevin Durant, and Chris Paul. The league would be just as exciting if everyone went to college.

Also, I think that a lot of players aren’t ready for the professional atmosphere at such a young age. For example, just to stick with the NBA, Lebron James, considered the best player on the planet, early in his career, lacked the maturity and strength to win an NBA title. Not until last season did James have the will and maturity to be crowned a champion. If he had gone to college for a few years, he might have won a title earlier in his career, since he would have been better prepared for the NBA. Besides, imagine how good everyone would be if all players went to college?

The main reason why I say to say in school is the consequences if a player gets injured or their career

doesn’t pan out. Yes, a lot of players get opportunities in broadcasting or as coaches after their playing careers. However, that’s mostly for big-time athletes. If a player gets injured and doesn’t have a degree, there is no opportunity for them in the work place. In addition, if a player spent their first contract on excessive injuries, if they get injured, that player is obviously not going to get paid by the team. The player won’t have the funds to pay the taxes and expenses on their items. We have to think



LeBron James on his high school team, the Fighting Irish. (MCT Campus)

of the long-term consequences of leaving the opportunity for an education.

Those are just some of the reasons why I think athletes that don’t stay in school are fools. There are just so many things that athletes don’t think of when pursuing their career at a young age. If players are that talented, their professional careers will always be there. However, a chance for an education and degree might not be. A player has more opportunity in their career by pursuing a degree and an education.



# The Christian case for gay marriage

By C.S. Pearce  
MCT Campus

Despite the increasing number of those who hold other faiths or no faith, Christians still wield substantial influence on our nation’s cultural and ethical norms. After all, 73 percent of Americans still identify as Christian, according to a 2012 Pew Forum Study. So the fact that many churchgoers have changed their views about gay civil rights in recent years is one of the major under-reported reasons why same-sex marriage is now legal in nine states.

According to the Pew Forum, a majority of mainline Protestants and Roman Catholics now favor legalizing same-sex marriage. So when our more conservative Christian kin claim that gay marriage is against God and against the Bible, we beg to differ. And since Christians are a “people of the Word,” we look to the Bible to justify our thinking. That’s essential to Christianity, although all too often we get it wrong, at least at first.

In various eras, those who claimed to follow Christ used specific Bible passages to argue that the Inquisition was God’s

will, the Crusades were a good idea, slavery was legitimate, women should not be allowed to own property or have the right to vote, disabled people must have sinned to deserve their disabilities and God hated Jews.

Although each of these beliefs was based on the literal words of a particular Bible passage, all of them were in opposition to the message and life of Jesus and the prophets. So when Christians eventually rejected these positions, they returned to the Scriptures, in their original form, to reconsider the text.

This time around, it’s the same process. Most New Testament Greek scholars now point out that there are only three passages that deal with homosexuality in the New Testament \_ Romans 1:23-27, 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 and 1 Timothy 1:9-10 and those passages don’t deal with homosexuality as we define it today but rather with temple prostitution and other abuses. Because of dated (and often loved) translations, many versions of the Bible imply otherwise.

As for the Old Testament, some Christians cite Leviticus

20:13, which commands death for men who lie with men. But most of us acknowledge that if we took all of the Old Testament’s orders literally, at least half of us wouldn’t make it to age 40, because of commands to kill those who commit adultery (Leviticus 20:10), kill rebellious sons who disobey their parents (Deuteronomy 21:18-21), kill anyone who works on the Sabbath (Exodus 31:15) and the like.

Jesus never addressed the subject of homosexuality, other than what can be inferred from his example of loving and accepting everyone, especially the oppressed and those whom the religious establishment considered unclean.

Some Christians will disagree, pointing out that Jesus said marriage was between a man and a woman. What they are referring to is Mark 10:2-12, where Jesus protested the practice of men getting rid of inconvenient wives by simply handing them a certificate of divorce.

In this passage Jesus is objecting to a system that excessively penalized women, often causing financial

devastation, loss of children and other unjust consequences. He was not saying anything about same-sex marriage, which didn’t exist at the time.

Jesus never spoke against homosexuality, but he did speak very clearly against divorce. Yet the majority of churches today \_ including those who view same-sex marriage as a sin \_ not only accept divorced members but also allow them to be church leaders. Why? Because marriage and divorce were different institutions in the time of Christ, and there are valid reasons for contemporary cultures to allow divorce in certain cases.

If you surmise that in A.D. 30 two men or two women marrying would have been anathema had it even been under consideration, you’re probably right. But why not make the same cultural allowances for gay couples 2,000 years later that Christian churches have long made for the divorced (as well as women, the disabled, and others who faced discrimination back then)?

Literalism, says LGBT activist and Episcopal priest Susan Russell, leads to using Bible passages as weapons. “Instead

of taking the Bible literally,” she says, “we should take it seriously, with deep faithfulness to the Old and New Testaments’ core values of compassion, justice and peace.”

An ever-growing number of Christian clergy and lay people now believe that rejecting gay civil rights because of a literal adherence to certain verses directly contradicts these themes. They point out how these views are hurting all of the church, especially its most vulnerable members: young gay people who are convinced that their very essence is sinful. Furthermore, they can no longer support unjust laws that penalize committed same-sex couples and their families.

As more and more church members thoughtfully and prayerfully confront the evidence, it will only be a matter of time before the majority of Christians of all stripes become allies rather than antagonists for justice and equal rights for gay people. Then we will come out on the right side of history once again.

## Meet The Archway Staff: Daphney Joseph



**Name:** Daphney Joseph  
**Position:** Advisor  
**Title at Bryant:** Assistant Director of the Office of Campus Engagement  
**Hometown:** Norwalk, Connecticut

### Fun Facts:

- When I was younger I wanted to be an opera singer. I still hit a note now and again behind closed doors.
- I love Kit Kat bars. I’m instantly in a good mood when I get a Kit Kat bar.
- I’m afraid of the dark and I’m proud of it.
- I lived in Haiti for two years of my life and I’m itching to go back soon!

## Bryant Said What?!

Compiled by Bryant Students

“Oh, I have a bra on! That’s exciting.”

“She’s coming back. Just like herpes.”

Student 1: “How do you make that noise?”  
Student 2: “Jesus gave it to me.”

Student 1: “Can we go collude together later tonight?”  
Student 2: “ I have no \*\*\*\*\* idea what that even means.”

“Can I retweet my own tweets?”

*Embarass your friends (anonymously, of course)  
by sending in their most hilarious quotes to  
archway@bryant.edu*

## Profit and Loss



Mr. Bryant is this weekend; who will win the honorable title!?



Daphney Joseph is the best advisor any student run newspaper could ask for!



Larry Sasso Jr. is the best technical advisor any student run newspaper could ask for!



This is the last issue of the Archway for this semestser. =(

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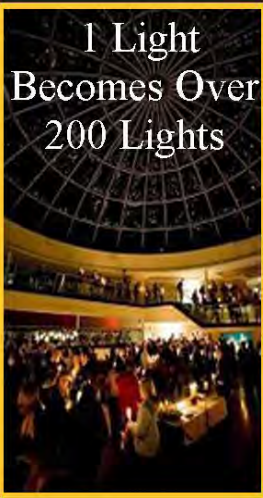
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# Bryant University Festival of Lights

Wednesday, December 12  
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- Candle-lighting Ceremony in the Rotunda
- Lighting of the Campus Christmas Tree & Menorah
- Caroling in the Bryant Center

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## OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, January 24, 6:30 pm

To register, please call 508.985.1110

333 Faunce Corner Rd, No. Dartmouth, MA



## Dan the movie man: Killing Them Softly

By Dan Cournoyer  
Staff Writer

Even “Dan the Movie Man” gets fooled by the movie industry every once in a while. The critics have been raving and ranting about *Killing Them Softly*. I saw Brad Pitt holding a shotgun and immediately I knew I was going to see this movie. Unfortunately for me and my friends, this movie was a bore.

I’m not sure if the director/writer was trying to piss off the audience, but that’s what he did to the 45 people in theater #8 last weekend at Cinemaworld. I don’t understand why the director had Brad Pitt and James Gandolfini (from the Sopranos) in a scene where they talked about ABSOLUTELY NOTHING. We get it, this guy’s life sucks, he obviously has something wrong with him; he kills people, and we are not supposed to like him. Why do I have to watch 5 minutes of nothing happen when this could be summed up in 30 seconds?

*‘I will defer to Professor Lynch’s recommendation to see Lincoln... apparently, it’s the greatest thing in the world.’*

The premise is simple – two young (and clearly stupid) guys rob a bunch of mobsters during a card game. As you would expect, the mobsters want blood. The two guys successfully pin the heist on someone else, but can’t keep their mouths shut long enough to actually get away with it. Brad Pitt and James Gandolfini are then hired to track them down and take care of business. Sounds like a good movie? That’s what I thought too ... I’m now on movie-picking probation.

Let me give credit where credit is due. Brad Pitt is great. Even when a movie sucks, somehow I leave

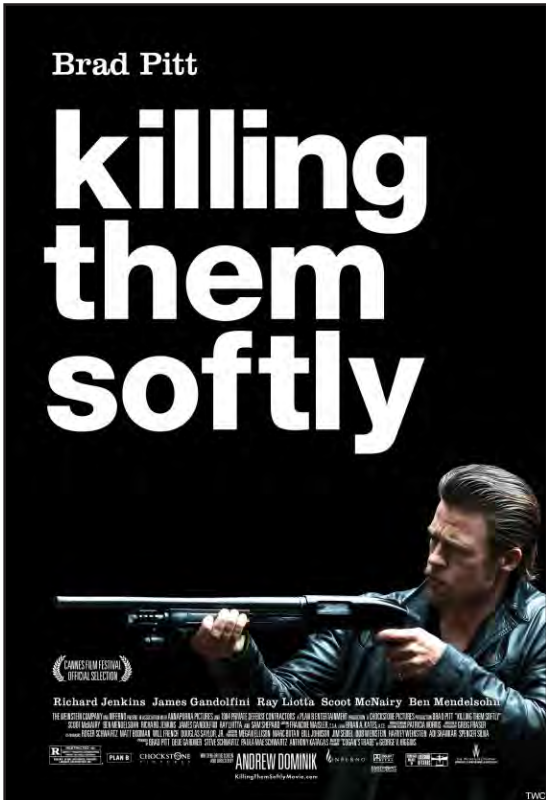
the theater happy he was there to provide a little entertainment (emphasis on little). Gandolfini is a good actor for the most part, and I bought into his character; that wasn’t the issue. The issue was how the movie was presented. The majority of the scenes were dry and boring. This movie could have been epic, but instead some artistic visionary thought it would be more interesting if he did something different. I bet he doesn’t like *Ocean’s Eleven* (2001) because it’s too mainstream and instead likes *Snatch* (2000).

I felt like someone replaced the director of *The Town* (2010) with the director of *Atonement*. Andrew Dominik, the writer and director, had a great idea when he wrote the story, but did a poor job executing.

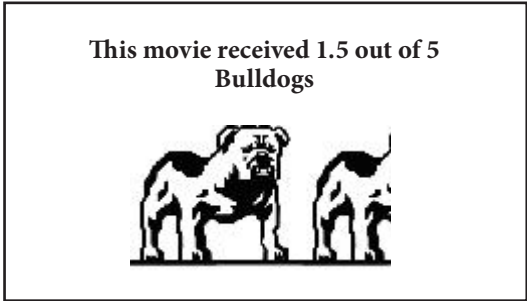
I recently found out a professor of mine, Michael Lynch, is an avid moviegoer. Not only is he running, swimming, and biking, somehow he also goes to the theater more often than I do. Professor Lynch and I bonded over how terrible *Killing Them Softly* is when we ran into each other this week. Since I can’t recommend seeing *Killing Them Softly*, I will defer to Professor Lynch’s recommendation to see *Lincoln*, which was released on November 16th starring Daniel-Day Lewis. Apparently, it’s the greatest thing in the world.

To sum up my experience, I must quote a critic. Movie critics failed me on this movie, but there was one review I saw before seeing the movie that I should have paid attention to. The critic has written, “*Killing Them Softly*, more like *Boring Me Slowly*”. I laughed and went to see the movie anyway because of the other glowing reviews when I should have listened to this bold critic. If you’re like me, you’ll still fall for their tricks and see the movie. But remember that Professor Lynch, some random critic, and I warned you.

Thanks for reading my articles over the last 1.5 years or so, I am now finishing graduate school and will no longer be able to write for *The Archway*. I hope someone can fill my role as the movie buff at Bryant; it’s been fun. The one thing I never got to say in my reviews as Dan the Movie Man was that *Prison Break* is the greatest movie/show I’ve ever seen; I had to say it. Maybe when I make lots of money I’ll build a movie theater at Bryant, probably not though.



(MCT Campus)



## Christmas time festivities in Providence

By Eric Fowler  
Contributor Writer

Finally, it’s the Holiday season. Let’s cherish these moments while we can. You may find it difficult to celebrate the holidays on campus, but Providence holds many holiday themed activities this time of year.

If shopping is your go-to leisure, or you need to find a unique gift for those on your list, Downtown Providence has numerous small businesses, which have sales this time of year. Down Westminster St., just a few blocks away from Kennedy Plaza, you’ll find clothing stores like Clover, Queen of Hearts, Modern Love, and Wharf Clothing—all sure sources of gifts for girls and guys. Craftland, an emporium of creative knick-knacks and art, is having a sale during all of December; Symposium Books has the perfect present for your bookworm; and a hop onto the 92 takes you to Thayer Street where you’ll find other thrift stores, restaurants, and Pleasant Surprise, full of humorous trinkets, at the top of the street.

*‘For lovers of the arts... nearly every day [there are] performances of A Christmas Carol by The Trinity Repertory Company... Also, Festival Ballet Providence is performing The Nutcracker between the 9th and 11th at the Providence Performing Arts Center’*

Then, on Saturday, December 8th, 15th, and 22nd from 11-4, a Holiday Market is taking place on Grant’s Block, just down Westminster St., featuring jewelry vendors, food vendors, woodwork vendors, and many more. Of course, if brands are what you’re looking for, Providence Place Mall is always an option, looking especially nice for this time of year.

There are more things going on than shopping. If you were lucky enough to go to the Tree Lighting at Providence City Hall, you got to experience the start to the holidays for Providence, complete with festive music and skating performances from Team USA. And, throughout winter, Bank of America City Center Skate Rink has college nights where you can rent skates and hit the ice for a discounted price. These dates during December are the 12th, 16th, and 20th.

For lovers of the arts, the “magic and wonder of the holiday season” continues



Tree lighting at the Providence State House (MCT Campus)

nearly every day with the performance of *A Christmas Carol* by The Trinity Repertory Company on Washington St. Be sure to buy your tickets in advance online or they might get sold out! On December 7th at 6:30pm, the Governor Henry Lippitt House Museum, right around the corner from Thayer Street, is holding *A Jazzy Christmas* with Yvonne Monnett and Donald Blais. Also, Festival Ballet Providence is performing *The Nutcracker* between the 9th and 11th at the Providence Performing Arts Center. Tickets and times are online at [www.ppacri.org](http://www.ppacri.org).

But if you want to do nothing but stroll through the streets and experience the holiday cheer, December 15th is a great day to go. The Annual Federal Hill Christmas Stroll is between 4:30 and 6:30, complete with Mr. and Mrs. Claus, carolers, the lighting of the Christmas Tree, face painting, food, and other festivities.

There are tons more events happening, that I think you could just go in with no plan and still experience the holiday at its fullest. So, please get to know Providence! The holidays are a perfect time to get acquainted with the art and life of the city.



# Latest holiday trend: all things velvet

By Lauren Kordalski  
Staff Writer

The beginning of winter marks many things including the start of the holiday season, an increased opportunity for snow, and the return of cozy winter clothing. Though the weather may be bitter, warm fabrics can keep you insulated and fashionable for the chilly

it finally extended its reach to non-royals during the Industrial Revolution, in which velvet prices dropped, and purchases began to climb. Introducing velvet to the average buyer caused the fabulous material’s integration into American culture, and more specifically, the festive holiday season. Shoppers are drawn to the deceptive lure of velvet, as the fabric emits a lovely sheen along with a vast depth of color,



(MCT Campus)

*‘Shoppers are drawn to the deceptive lure of velvet, as the fabric emits a lovely sheen along with a vast depth of color, and enticing texture’*

months ahead. Making a comeback this season, velvet-adorned items have been popping up everywhere, marking the return of the classic holiday material. The fabric that has existed for thousands of years continues to prevail in popularity with its many attractive features allowing its continued dominance in holiday-wear. Velvet, a fabric that once stood for prestige and royalty, can be found on the shelves of popular retailers this year, as the material has once again made a comeback. Its origins, which date as far back as 2000 BC, are rich in culture and style, with velvet gracing the shoulders of royals, dressing the windows of homes, and serving as the upholstery for couches across the world! Though the prestigious fabric has made many transitions over the thousands of years it’s been in existence,

and enticing texture. Mostly woven out of rayon and acetate, velvet also boasts comfort and warmth, making it both a stylish and practical item to own this season. The Huffington Post calls the material “Rich in texture, highly malleable to your shape and soft as a baby’s bottom...” what could be better? The fabric is generally incorporated into winter dresses, skirts, shirts, and pants and tends to appear most frequently around the holidays. Retailers this year are keeping up with the times, and restocking velvet just in time for the winter. Leading the pack, well-known designers including Prada, Burberry, and 7 For All Mankind, are keeping their customers satisfied by offering velvet lines this season. Burberry’s extensive and divine velvet collection this year

includes a plush deep-purple quilted coat, lush knee-length skirts, and fitted posh blazers. Seeing as most items in the collection range between \$900 and \$1,500, more inexpensive alternatives should be utilized when stocking your holiday wardrobe! For all things holiday and velvet, Macys, is a fantastic resource, housing fabulous velvet clothing at varying prices and styles. Beautiful and affordable additions to your wardrobe may include Levi’s velvet long-sleeve jacket, Macy’s junior’s velvet bustier, or Ralph Lauren’s stretch velvet skinny jeans. If the prospect of velvet clothing seems too daring, velvet accessories are the perfect solution, adding just the right touch.

Many shoes are receiving the velvet treatment this winter, with oxfords, flats, and pumps alike donning the material. In addition, matching handbags, headbands, and jewelry trimmed with velvet add a dash of festivity to any outfit. Considering the wide range of options, there are many opportunities to incorporate this beloved material into your winter wardrobe. Combining elegance with comfort and style, velvet is the ultimate holiday item for shoppers of all ages. Suitable for most occasions, the age-old fabric has transcended the ever-changing cycle of fads to remain a classy and fabulous material that is still well-loved today.

# Home Alone: 10 fun facts you don’t know

By AJ Beltis  
Staff Writer

Before we get into the new, let’s take a look back at the old. Here are ten things about the first four Home Alone movies you probably didn’t know!

1. The first movie did fairly well with awards. It was nominated for two Oscars (Score and Original Song) and two Golden Globes (Motion Picture – Comedy and Actor – Comedy, for Culkín). Culkín also received several smaller awards for his signature role.
2. Daniel Stern was approached to reprise his role as Marv in *Home Alone 4*. Upon reading the script, he turned it down, deeming the script “an insult, total garbage.” Can’t say it was a poor career choice in my eyes.
3. For all those who were wondering about the dog door in the house that Kevin shoots his brother’s pellet gun out of, the McCallister’s do have a dog. The

dog itself is never seen, but it is mentioned by Kevin’s mom Kate that he was put in the kennel before the trip early on in the first movie.

4. The third Home Alone is the only movie in the series not to take place during Christmas time. As stated by one of the criminals early on, the conflict begins on January 8th.
5. Fuller, Kevin’s cousin notoriously known for his bed-wetting, is played by Macaulay Culkin’s younger brother, Keiran Culkin. Look behind those oversized glasses and you’ll see the resemblance.
6. Culkin was paid \$8 million to star in the sequel. It was the biggest paycheck ever to a 12 year-old.
7. Adjusted for inflation, the first movie is the 38th most profitable in American history. It was also the highest grossing movie in 1990.
8. Goof: When Harry puts his hand on the scorching doorknob, his hand is turned sideways.



Macaulay Culkin was the original star of Home Alone. (MCT Campus)

10. “Buzz, you’re girlfriend! Woof!” Director Chris Columbus didn’t want to embarrass a girl in this scene, so the person in the picture is actually a boy in a wig.

The newest addition in the series is *Home Alone: The Holiday Heist*, and the fifth entry in the franchise. Like the third, it features all new characters and a different storyline. It follows the story of the Baxter family, who just relocated from California to Maine. The movie’s child protagonist is Finn, a video-game obsessed 10-year-old who believes his new house is haunted. While his parents discourage the ridiculous fear, his older sister embraces it as a way to torment her younger sibling.

The legendary Malcolm McDowell (A Clockwork Orange, the 2007 remake of Halloween) plays an art thief, who discovers an \$85 million painting may be located in the house the Baxter’s moved into. With his two accomplices, he plans to enter the house to steal the portrait when the Baxter’s are at a Christmas party. What the thieves don’t know is that Finn stays behind to defend his new home from the ghost, which he soon discovers is nothing more than a trio of bumbling idiots.

That aspect really assisted in making the movie unappealing to me. There was no interaction between the kid and the villains, who actually thought the traps were being set up by the same ghost Finn was afraid of (the spirit of a gangster who once occupied the home). Looking back on the first three, it’s the

remarks by Kevin and Alex to the burglars that help make the movie enjoyable (“Don’t you know a kid always wins against two idiots?”). These were absent in this addition to the series. Also, the female burglar, played by Debi Mazar, added absolutely nothing to this movie but annoying over-acting, and almost made me change the channel on more than one occasion.

Another big mistake was not placing a charming yet talented actor as the lead, and Christian Martyn, the actor who played Finn, wasn’t lovable, and wasn’t that talented either. Macaulay Culkin of the first two and Alex D. Linz of the third were charismatic and able to head a film at a very young age. Mike Weinberg of Home Alone 4 had no positive attributes whatsoever. Martyn has his moments, but overall was not impressive in his portrayal.

I must admit, though, that the movie itself did have its moments. The screenplay was unimpressive, but occasionally the dialogue was clever enough to get laughter out of me. Because of this, I didn’t feel like the two hours I spent watching this movie were completely wasted. The movie was very frustrating to watch though, as my enjoyment of it was extremely sporadic. Whenever a moment came when I started to like the film, a moment of unfunny or immature comedy was inserted, and then not too long later, I laughed again. Whenever I started to get fed up with Martyn, I wound up chuckling at the delivery of one of his lines. The movie was

a toss-up for me. As a whole though, the positives weren’t nearly enough to make up for the negatives.

You might stumble upon this movie over the month, as it will probably be replaying during ABC Family’s 25 Days of Christmas. Believe me when I say there are plenty of better Christmas movies to watch this season, and this one didn’t even get “Christmassy” until the final 3 minutes. If you’re expecting this movie to reach the heights of the first two, you will be sadly disappointed. This was an undeniable improvement over the fourth installment, but wasn’t even close to being as good as the third, which in turn wasn’t as good as the first two.

*Home Alone: The Holiday Heist* lacked the charm, originality, likable lead, music, and talented cast. That’s what we get from a TV movie. If they make a sixth Home Alone, I won’t have much faith in it unless it’s a theatrical release. As for this installment, don’t go out of your way to see it, but if you do watch it, go in without any expectations, and you might get a handful of laughs out of it as well.

This movie received 2 out of 5 Bulldogs

Two black and white bulldogs are shown side-by-side. The one on the left is facing forward, and the one on the right is facing slightly to the right.



## ERIK BUDLONG '12



**MAJOR:** International Business (Finance)  
**MINOR:** Spanish  
**PATH:** International Sales Manager, Hanna Instruments, Mumbai, India

After Commencement, Erik Budlong headed to Mumbai, India, to start his career as an international sales manager for Hanna Instruments, a global manufacturer of analytical instrumentation. After the company participated in Bryant's International Business Practicum, officials reached out to Professor Madan Annavarjula, Ph.D., when they wanted to hire students for managerial roles in India. Budlong jumped at the chance.

**"I had traveled to Latin America through the Sophomore International Experience, studied abroad in Tokyo and in Seville, Spain, and trekked through Europe and Morocco. Each of these experiences brought me out of my comfort zone and helped me become a more adaptable global citizen."**

As sales manager for the Indian state of Maharashtra, Budlong helps sales representatives increase sales and improve selling techniques. This usually involves his riding on the back of a motorcycle or

taking a packed train. "During rush hour, there's no need to even walk into the train car – you can just ride the wave from the sea of people that surrounds you," he says.

Three of Budlong's colleagues at Hanna are Bryant alumni. Most of the staff speak English, but, especially with customers, he has learned to slow his speech, use hand gestures, and draw pictures if necessary. He's also learned a fair amount of Hindi.

Budlong stays in touch with Professor Annavarjula, whom he describes as a mentor and an inspiration. "His positive attitude and contagious energy are why I chose the IB program – a program that specifically helped me get to where I am today," he says. **"I was required to study abroad, learn a second language, participate in the IB integrated block, and work for a local company in the IB Practicum. All of these experiences were the perfect catalyst for personal growth and developing a sound work ethic."**

## PHILIP WEISS '08



**MAJOR:** Marketing  
**PATH:** Director of Operations, Definition Branding & Marketing, NYC

Phil Weiss's first job after Bryant was as an account coordinator at Griffin Integrated Communications in Manhattan. Weiss assisted PR account managers in pitching stories and writing press releases. Then the vice president of his firm decided to start his own company – and asked Weiss to join him. Less than three months later, Definition Branding & Marketing was in business.

Today, the full-service communications agency has offices in New York City and Portland, Oregon. As Director of Operations, Weiss still engages in account-level work, pitching stories about his clients, writing and editing press releases, and planning press conferences and special events. On the operational side, he might help someone with an issue or questions on healthcare, a 401K, or flexible spending.

"We are still a small company, so there is nothing that I consider to not be my responsibility," says Weiss, whose clients have included HARMAN, Hitachi, Mitsubishi, HiSense, and JVC.

At Bryant, Weiss took part in an array of co-curricular activities that included leadership positions in the Student Senate, the Student Alumni Association, and WJMF Radio, where he was general manager in his senior year. He also served as a media relations intern for FOX Sports in the summer of 2007. "I got to see the workings of a national sports outlet and interact with the network's on-air broadcasting talent," he says.

Weiss recalls learning how to work effectively in teams, critical in completing class assignments and just as important now as he collaborates with colleagues to complete major proposals and client projects. **"Being able to manage and work with people's personalities and varying skill sets is a major determining factor in your success as a leader,"** he says.

## CHRISTA BABCOCK '03



**MAJOR:** Marketing  
**MINOR:** Psychology  
**PATH:** Senior Global Marketing Manager, Zinio LLC

As senior global marketing manager for Zinio, the world's largest digital newsstand and bookstore, Christa Babcock creates growth opportunities for a variety of partners including Hearst, Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, *The Economist*, T-Mobile, Dell, Macy's, and more. With publisher clients in 33 regions, Babcock travels regularly to all corners of the globe.

After graduating from Bryant, the Marketing major worked for a boutique executive career search firm in Boston, where she was exposed to many career paths and industries. **"Bryant prepared me to succeed then – and now,"** she says. **"It fosters a culture where best practices and business ethics are championed. Students are encouraged to take risks, become subject matter experts for any business area they will pursue, and work to create key solutions for the future."**

She also points to the guidance she received from Professor Keith Murray. "From the first day of his Consumer Behavior course, I had

an instant confirmation that I was pursuing the exact career that I wanted. Professor Murray was a pivotal force in helping me decide next steps for my career."

Internships at a biomedical device firm and a nonprofit organization helped her to gain a deep understanding of the sales process for the health care and insurance industries. "The nonprofit organization – the Rhode Island Philharmonic – allowed me to learn more about the operations of a nonprofit and stay close to my family's classical music performance and education roots."

Babcock encourages students and recent graduates to reach out to the University's vast alumni network to learn more about specific career opportunities. **"No matter what geographic location or industry you are considering, there are Bryant alumni around the world who are passionate about helping you succeed,"** says Babcock.

## JASON FORTIN '12



**MAJOR:** Global Studies: Global Politics  
**MINOR:** Business Administration  
**INTERNSHIPS:** Brookings Institution, Washington, D.C.; Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Beijing, China; Gannett Co., McLean, VA  
**PATH:** Management Consultant at Deloitte, Boston

As a Bryant undergraduate, Jason Fortin made the most of his summers. He interned at the Brookings Institution, a renowned think tank in Washington, D.C., and complemented his internship by taking three classes at Georgetown University. He held an internship at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, in Beijing, China, where he wrote policy briefs and conducted research for the center's director.

Fortin is poised to begin his career as a management consultant specializing in strategy at Deloitte in Boston. A gap between Commencement and the start of his new job provided the perfect opportunity to seek out another internship, so the Honors Program graduate networked to find people with contacts in Washington, D.C. Trustee Professor Mike Roberto, D.B.A., knew the interim vice president of human resources at Gannett Co., a media and marketing company in McLean, Virginia, with top brands that include *USA Today*. Fortin landed a full-time contract position (through January) as a strategy analyst for the project management team.

"I was excited to explore this opportunity because of its close connection to my work at Deloitte," he says. "I am gaining deep, relevant experience in a specific industry and working on internal corporate strategy for a company undergoing some serious strategic shifts. The opportunities to learn are boundless, and it's a privilege to be involved in this type of work."

Since his very first internship, Fortin's managers have been impressed with the cross-disciplinary nature of his skills. **"They liked that I understood multiple sides of a problem – something I attribute to the blended curriculum of liberal arts and business at Bryant,"** he says.

Recently, Fortin helped to coordinate a visit and panel discussion with Gannett leadership for a group of Bryant Honors Program members and faculty, two of whom were mentors to Fortin during his time at Bryant.