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Blizzard Nemo: 1 Bryant: 0

A student's opinion on how Bryant handled the Blizzard of 2013

OPINION

By Sara Larrabee
Senior Staff Writer

On Friday February 8th, Mother Nature was not kind to New England and dumped upwards of 30 inches of snow on the ground, crippling roadways and entire communities. There was advanced warning of the massive storm heading our way and the forecasts made national headlines as words like "historic," "extreme," and "imminent" were used. Coming off of the 35 year anniversary of the famous Blizzard of 1978, meteorologists were warning local residents to prepare for snowfall totals that they haven't seen in decades.

This kind of reminds me of the warnings for Hurricane Sandy we received only months ago at the start of this school year. If you can infer from the title of this piece you will know what my next sentence is going to be...

Was Bryant University ready for and taking the necessary safety precautions for our own community? In my opinion, the answer is NO.

Now before you read any further, let me say that I love this institution and as a soon-to-be graduating senior, I am grateful for all



If the walkways were so bad Monday that signage was required, perhaps we should have remained indoors. (Kelsey Nowak)

of the opportunities that Bryant has given me. However, as a student who is trying to represent the voice of many of my peers, I was thoroughly disgusted with the way this esteemed University handled the cancelling of classes and the snow removal process during Blizzard "Nemo."

In this article I hope to present to you opinions on both sides, positive and negative, of how Bryant weathered the storm. I have polled many students in different grades and

both on and off campus residents to try and represent as many voices as possible. Some agreed to be quoted and others wanted to remain anonymous.

By the Thursday morning and afternoon before the storm hit, most Rhode Island and Massachusetts high schools and universities had cancelled all classes and activities for the next day...but not Bryant! Why our administration thought it was appropriate to

See 'Bryant Bulldozes,' page 11

Pope Benedict XVI is fourth to resign in history of Catholic Church

By Eric Fowler
Staff Writer



Starting February 28th, Pope Benedict XVI will no longer serve his post at the head of the Catholic church. His resignation is the first since Pope Gregory XII in 1415 and only the fourth in the history of The Papacy. Although he made his decision months ago, his announcement came as a shock to many outside of the church; there were murmurs of his resignation,

but no one thought much of them.

Some called it predictable, seeing as he is eighty-five years old and wasn't in good health (it was revealed that he has a pacemaker). Still, the resignation of a Pope is extremely rare; many stay in the position until death—in fact, Pope John Paul II, the previous Pope, stood at the throne while dying of Parkinson's disease. Pope John Paul II reigned for 26 years, but Pope Benedict XVI's reign fell around the average with a total of eight years.

Though, some people say his resignation was predictable because of the stressful, troubling state of the Catholic church today. With the recent exposure of sexual abuse cases spanning decades, the ongoing debate on contraception, abortion, and homosexuality, all of which go against the Catholic rule, it seemed that Pope Benedict XVI couldn't handle what he signed up for, or maybe he didn't foresee the cover-ups being revealed while under his reign.

With his announcement made on February 11th, he made his first public appearance afterward on Ash Wednesday, two days later. He told a crowd of thousands of tearful

Catholics in St. Peter's Basilica that he was resigning "for the good of the church."

Critics of the Catholic church were happy to see Pope Benedict XVI leave, as they thought he did not acknowledge and was not active enough in stopping the sexual abuse of children by priests, and they blamed the continuation in the decline of church membership on his lack of efforts to reverse the problem.

Others say he did acknowledge the pedophile scandal, and the proof is that many priests had stepped down from their position and the churches acknowledged the issue during masses. These people say the bravery Pope Benedict XVI had to take on these accusations and the media was one of the greatest accomplishments during his time, for he had the courage that all before him lacked. Pope Benedict XVI moved forward socially by creating a Twitter account and addressing the environmental issues of today, becoming known by some as the "Green Pope"; but he also denounced the constant pressures to revolutionize the church in accordance to today's

beliefs by standing firm on issues as gay marriage and abortion, and pointing the church back to traditional liturgy when many churches strived to be contemporary and appeal to popular trends.

There are many different aspects and opinions on his resignation, from a theory that he was pressured to step down, to a prophecy that says the next Pope will reign through the Apocalypse. But we can only say the truth is he was humble and courageous enough to step down, with the reason that he was not strong enough to lead millions of Catholics in these very troubling times. And "for the good of the church", he hopes the successor will be strong enough to endure the problems the Catholic church faces.

Pope Benedict XVI resigned due to his old age and the lack of strength needed for the job; he was set to visit Brazil but the trip has since then been cancelled, and he intends to live in a monastery outside of Rome, "hidden from the world." The fate of the Catholic church will be determined, they presume, by Easter.

HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY? PUT IT HERE.

ARCHWAY@BRYANT.EDU



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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. 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

February

Friday
15



Saturday
16



Sunday
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Monday
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Tuesday
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Wednesday
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Thursday
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Email archway@bryant.edu with the time, location, and date of your event or meeting to be featured in The Archway's Campus Calendar or Bulldog Bulletin

Bulldog Bulletin

The Archway: Writers' Meetings, Mondays 4:30pm, Bryant Center Room 2A/B
SPB: General Meetings, Mondays 4:30pm, South
Pride: Thursdays, 5:30pm, Heritage
Bryant Players: 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

Department of Public Safety Log

LOST KEYS (Lost, Stolen, Misplaced Key)

FEB 11 2013-Monday at 11:00

Location: UNISTRUCTURE

Summary: A Professor reported his office keys being lost.

EMT CALL (Medical Services Rendered)

FEB 12 2013-Tuesday at 07:55

Location: UNISTRUCTURE

Summary: DPS received a report that a student had fallen. EMS was activated. Patient was treated on scene and released.

ACCIDENT (Motor Vehicle Accident)

FEB 12 2013-Tuesday at 09:33

Location: COMMUTER PARKING LOT

Summary: A student reported a minor accident in the Commuter lot. The reporter stated a car pulling into a parking space had slide on ice, and hit a parked vehicle. There were no injuries reported.

EMT CALL (Medical Services Rendered)

FEB 15 2013-Friday at 01:14

Location: ENTRY CONTROL STATION

Summary: A report of an intoxicated female. EMS was activated. Patient was transported to Fatima Hospital for treatment by Smithfield Medic 2.

LARCENY (\$50-\$200)

FEB 15 2013-Friday at 10:05

Location: CHASE ATHLETIC CENTER / GYM / MAC

Summary: A report of a student's I.D. being stolen from his backpack.

LARCENY (Larceny from Building -Over \$500)

FEB 15 2013-Friday at 10:30

Location: RESIDENCE HAL

Summary: DPS received a report of stolen skateboards.

BIAS INCIDENTS None Reported

To report a bias incident or hate crime, go to www.bryant.edu/bias or call the Bias Incident Hotline at x6920 Bias related incident – a threatened, attempted, or completed action that is motivated by bigotry and bias regarding a person's real or perceived race, religion, natural origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, or gender status. Examples of these incidents include name calling, offensive language/acts, and graffiti/behavior.

Want to get involved in *The Archway*?

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



SPB MEDIA
WEEK 2013



COMING SOON!!
WIN PRIZES JUST FOR
GOING ONLINE!!



THE BEAT OF BRYANT

wjmf
wjmfradio.com

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

Study Abroad Spotlight

Emily Carow

Class of: 2013
University: University of Sydney
Location: Sydney, Australia
Semester Abroad: Fall 2011
Duration: 4 months

Reason for going:
I decided to go abroad to experience something new and exciting. I was really looking for an experience that would give me a sense of responsibility and independence.

Best experience/memory:
My favorite experience was climbing to the top of an active volcano in time for sunrise in Bali, Indonesia. My friends and I were led by a local Balinese woman up the dangerously steep cliffs in the pitch darkness at 3:30am with only flashlights as guides. The view was totally worth it!

Funny cultural experience:
At my first rugby game with my newly made Australian friends, I asked them who they were rooting for. They all laughed at me and explained that “rooting” in Australia was slang for having sex. Whoops!

How was the school different from Bryant University?

The University of Sydney has a huge student population, and therefore very large class sizes. I liked being able to constantly meet new people every class.



How did this experience change you?

From this experience I am now a confident, responsible, independent person. The experience has also allowed me to be much more accepting of others and less judgmental.

Would you study abroad again given the opportunity?

Yes. Studying abroad was the best decision I have ever made and the most fun I have had in my life thus far. It was such a great opportunity that I am currently seeking job opportunities that could potentially place me in Australia or any other foreign country.



Budget hearings are coming to a close and soon clubs and organizations will hear about Senate Allocation meetings which they must attend. These will take place at 4pm on your assigned Wednesday in Papitto (right behind Dunkin Donuts). Clubs/Orgs will come to these meetings either to accept their budget or to appeal for the specific line items. If you have any questions about the Senate allocation process or anything else that involves budgets, such as RAfs, contact Margaret Wong at mwong4@bryant.edu.

If you are interested in joining Student Senate then you are in luck! We will be having special election packets available for open positions on Senate. We are looking to fill spots on the classes of 2015, 2014, and 2013. Look out for tweets and updates on when those packets will be available. To run all you need is to get 50 signatures from people within you class and make a short speech at one of our General Senate meetings at 4pm in Papitto on Wednesdays. If you are interested and would like a packet emailed to you, contact rbasset1@bryant.edu for a packet or more information on the election process.

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. We also have our weekly meetings at 4pm in Papitto on Wednesdays, so if you have any announcements or concerns you can join us during our meetings. Also, our office on the 3rd floor of the Bryant Center is always open to the students, so stop by and say hi!

Students look out for a survey from Student Senate soon about food priorities on campus, involving the Bryant Center and Sodexo options. If you have any questions about food on campus you can email us or tweet @bryantusenate.

Fun Fact: The cost of college textbooks in the US has risen faster than the cost of Healthcare, house prices, and inflation

Formal recruitment

By Rachel Caradozo
Contributing Writer

This past weekend 53 girls went through Sorority Formal Recruitment for Alpha Omicron Pi, Delta Zeta and Sigma Sigma Sigma. This is the first year that Bryant has three sororities are on campus during formal recruitment.

Due to the blizzard, the schedule for Formal Recruitment was disrupted, but thanks to the help of the staff and recruitment counselors, the revised schedule went very well. Theme Day was moved to Saturday night while Philanthropy Day was moved to Sunday morning. The three different sorority themes were nautical for Alpha Omicron Pi, the Wizard of Oz for Delta Zeta and Tiffany’s for Tri Sigma. The Preference Ceremonies took place Sunday evening and all bids were due later that night. For all of Greek Life, New Member Education begins on Wednesday, February 13th.

CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR NEEDED!

Email
archway@bryant.edu!
or come to our next meeting!

Come to The Archway
meetings on Mondays at
4:30pm in Bryant Center
room 2A

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

www.bryantarchway.com

Bryant celebrates the Chinese New Year

The Year of The Snake

By Zack Berkowitz, Nick Loffredo, and Katie Restuccia
Contributing Writers

On February 15, 2013 Bryant University had the honor of holding its annual Chinese New Year Celebration. In the Chase Athletic Center over 500 guests and community members packed the bleachers to celebrate the year of the snake. The U.S. China Institute at Bryant University, with help from volunteers and its members, decorated the Chase Athletic Center in Chinese art and culture for the celebration. President Ronald K. Machtley along with his wife Kati Machtley welcomed the guests in attendance and thanked them for coming to celebrate the Chinese New Year. The Institute was also honored for making it 15 years of progress here at Bryant along with the Smithfield community. Smithfield Township school district is the first and only school district in the United States to have Confucius Classrooms. These classrooms look to promote Chinese culture by having children learn about China through activities and discussions.

Guests had the privilege of watching the many performers that had come to put on a great show. The Mei Mei and Me Chinese Classes along with their young students sang and danced to a traditional song. The Rhode Island Kung Fu Club put on an amazing performance with its young members showing the pride they have for their Chinese culture. One of the highlights of the event was the outstanding

show put on by a pair of magicians. A paper cut out of a bird was put in a newspaper and in seconds that cut out was transformed into a white dove that burst out of the paper. The guests burst into cheers as they watched the magician escape out of a locked chest in the middle of the stage.

Singers also sang Chinese songs that brought the crowd to their feet to celebrate the New Year. Another performer juggled glass plates and spun one on a stick, and he balanced it on his chin; he also got the crowd involved as he chose four young children to perform with him on stage, a great way to get involved in the celebration.

Not going unnoticed Bryant’s own Dragon Dance Team put on a great dance to welcome in the year of the snake. One member of the team Harris Roberts an Entrepreneurship Major from Farmington, Maine, said “ It’s a cool opportunity to be involved with a different culture and backgroun; its great seeing the children’s faces light up when we perform at the local schools.”

The conclusion of the celebration was celebrated as two lucky guests won an iPod and an iPad 2 in the raffle. All in all the celebration was a great day of fun and activities that brought the community together to celebrate The Chinese New Year and the Year of the Snake. The Bryant Community will surely be waiting for next year’s celebration to come back and have a great time once again.

Tupper's Tidbits

Tupper's Top Five Bulldog Myths

Iron Clad Tupper I



Indisputable proof that I CAN, indeed, run! (Christina Senecal)

Bulldogs. You either love us...or you're crazy! I suppose that could be just my completely biased opinion.

Reactions to me from various people run the gamut. Most people smile. A lot of people pet me as they walk by. Still others squeal, throw themselves on the ground next to me, and kiss and hug me.

Maybe I get that last reaction because I'm a celebrity. No, really...most people on campus know who I am. And I've got Twitter and Facebook followers in Iceland, Germany, Japan, South Africa, and every place in between!

Whether or not you have a dog, you probably think all breeds are pretty much the same. We're your best friends, after all. But there are some ideas you have about me, and the breed, that might not be correct. So I present to you "Tupper's Top Five Bulldog Myths":

5. **WE'RE LAZY!** I know you see me being pushed around in my Bulldog Buggy, and you think I'm too lazy to walk. Truth is, bulldogs seem to have a natural affinity for anything on wheels – skateboards, wagons, golf carts, hand trucks. If something wheels by me while I'm walking, I'm going to try to climb aboard. And breathing is a problem for us, so it's hard to exert ourselves. Think of my walking distances as trying to run a marathon with untreated asthma...

4. **WE'RE FAT!** I get weighed and checked over by my very knowledgeable and experienced dogtor regularly. His expert opinion: I'm perfect for my height and build! The rolls you see are loose skin that my breed used when fighting bulls – if they got hold of us with their horns, we still had room to attack!

3. **WE'RE ALWAYS SUPER GENTLE!** If you think this, you've obviously never seen me chasing my ball through a crowd of people. My focus is 100 percent on the ball, and I will knock anything over like a bowling pin to get it – small children, the elderly, whatever's in the way!

2. **WE WERE BRED TO BE HUMAN COMPANIONS!** Know how I said that our loose skin helped us in a fight with bulls? That's what we were made for – it was a sport in England until 1835 (I don't get humans sometimes). Our ancestors were vicious and aggressive, and our solid, stocky builds is what enabled us to win in a fight against a bull. I mean, do you know how strong bulls are?

And the number one myth about bulldogs:

1. **WE'RE DUMB!** We are stubborn and tenacious and hard to train because of that. Our independence and reluctance to give up are the main reasons we're chosen to be mascots, after all. But, "sit," "stay," "heel," "walk," and "no?" If you think we're dumb because we choose what tasks we will do instead of blindly obeying, then maybe YOU are the one not thinking things through...

So there you have it. Tupper's Top Five Bulldog Myths. Don't forget – I'm on Facebook (www.facebook.com/bulldogtupper) and Twitter (<http://twitter.com/bryanttuppy>). Get at me! 'Til next time...WOOF!

Turner's Thoughts

Artificial Sweeteners



By Debbie Turner
Registered Dietician for
Bryant University Dining

Many people often tell me they have an "addiction" to sweets, but did you know that we are born with a preference for sweets and it remains with us throughout our lives?

you consume the artificial sweetener without the calories, your body continues to crave the calories so you end up eating more calories later on. There may also be a connection with a complex food pathway that drives our desire to eat. The sweetness without the calories interferes with the normal process of this pathway causing an increased craving for sweets. People get so used to the artificial sweetness they eventually add more packets to their beverages.

One packet of sweetener is equal or greater to 2 teaspoons of sugar. For example: 4 Equal packets are the same as 8 teaspoons of sugar.

Folks, think about it; the word "Artificial" should tell you something.



Sugar and its role in our diet has, indeed, become a controversial topic. Many have blamed the rise in overweight and obesity in our country on sugar. So much so, the new dietary guidelines state that we are to choose beverages and foods with as little added sugar as possible. That being said, artificial sweeteners have become a popular choice in an attempt to cut calories. But are they really helping curb the sugar intake or becoming part of the problem?

The possible cause of this could be that artificial sugar actually increases sugar cravings. The theory is that our bodies sense the sweetness of the food and expect to digest the calories. When

These sweeteners are chemically manufactured; our bodies are not, we can't ingest unlimited quantities of these additives. Due to the lack of evidence on the long term use of these products, the FDA has set acceptable daily limits for each nonnutritive sweetener. Unless ordered by a physician, these sweeteners should be consumed in limited quantities.

Something to think about: Sweeteners are not essential nutrients in our diet, so they exist to nurture our sweet tooth not our bodies. A nice piece of fruit will nurture both your sweet tooth and your body!



THIS FRIDAY,

Create Your Own
White Board!!

After Extravaganza
(around 10PM)

Lobby of the Chase
Wellness Center
Food will be
available



This Weekend

THIS
SATURDAY,

Comedian
**STEVE
CAOQUETTE**

And Open Game
Night

Starts at 10PM
BC South



Follow us on
twitter!
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Bryant builds a new TV studio



(Felicia Thomas)

By Chad Sabo
Contributing Writer

With the new studio this year the Media Production Club (MPC) is going through some changes. This semester anyone and everyone can have a show! You don’t even need any previous TV production experience, just talk to any one of us and we would be more than happy to be your new best friend and help you out. If you have an idea, you can do it! With the revamped brand new HD studio there are lots of amazing features that will make each show unique. It was just put in over the break and you will be blown away by all the new features. If you were involved last semester, we would love to see you again and if you have strayed from the club, please consider rejoining because we have a lot to offer.

NewTek is the company that helped bring in Koffler’s brand new HD Studio. Everyone can have a great idea for a show, but sometimes the tools are not always there. That is where NewTek comes in. At NewTek, their goal is to let people get their hands on the tools they need to make a “real” TV show not just a funny YouTube clip or home movie from Dad’s camcorder. We’re talking full-on, HD broadcast television. That’s right, you can make a show, deliver it live over the Web, and your fans can watch it anywhere they want—TV, computer, phone—anything that’s connected. More than that, your show can have everything you love about TV and movies, like awesome visual effects and motion graphics.

Today, NewTek’s mission is the same as when they started out. They believe that at some point in the near future, your favorite shows will be produced by someone you know. Maybe even you. The NewTek team continues to work at making it easy and really cost-effective for anyone to produce great television. Whether it’s live production and streaming, slow motion and instant replay, motion graphics and visual effects—NewTek makes a range of tools to help get the job done.

One of their main products, TriCaster, is what is in Koffler right now. TriCaster is an All-in-one, integrated live production system that offers the power of a live network studio. When paired with live streaming over the Web, anyone can create and share a professional TV show. Students, premiere broadcast networks, major league sports networks and teams, along with some of the world’s biggest corporations—all use TriCaster to produce and stream live events and expand their audiences, faster than ever before.

Right out of the box, TriCaster 855 is a complete, integrated solution for pros delivering big, live productions in native, full-resolution HD. With a fully loaded, 24-channel switcher, eight-source ISO recording, and the world’s most powerful integrated effects system (can you say 3D?), your productions shine. The hardware control surface is a highly responsive console for hands-on navigation of the system UI, giving you another choice for driving your live productions. Plus, you get additional video, graphics, animations, and virtual sets to help you meet today’s viewer demands, in a highly competitive marketplace. TriCaster 855 has a lot to offer such as: volumes of customizable signature looks make each program distinct, impressive effects with real-time cloth dynamics, warping video, overlays and sound, higher-capacity media storage accommodates a high volume of project work. TriCaster 855 lets you have the flexibility to go from show, to show, to show, adding new camera angles along the way—up to eight, for the most sophisticated programs, there is built-in live streaming at the push of a button, you can access all sources and functions with an included hardware control surface, and be able to stream, broadcast, project and record—all at the same time—so you can meet viewers wherever they watch, now or later

So come down to Koffler and check it out for yourself! The Media Production Club already has a few shows lined up for this semester, such as a revamped Bull Talk, News in 90, a movie review show, and Bryant SportsCenter is looking to come back as well. Again this semester anyone and everyone can have a show! You don’t even need any previous TV production experience; just talk to a member from MPC and we would be more than happy to help you out. If you have an idea, you can do it! There are no limits with this new studio.

Bryant’s Whose Line is it Anyway?

By Sara Elder
Assistant Editor-in-Chief

In 2011, Bryant University made history by having its very first comedy improv show named Bryant Whose Line. Directed by James King, comedy chair of SPB, the cast consisted of 4 students and 1 host. Justin London ’11, Ethan Beise ’12, Dave Fillingim ’14, and Steve Adams ’14 made up the cast and Sean Lenehan ’13 hosted. The show lasted three nights in February and was sponsored by SPB and the Bryant Players.

Back by popular demand, Whose Line Is It Anyway? will be performed March 1st – 3rd for three nights of hilarious improvisation.

Previous cast members Fillingim and Adams will be returning, bringing their well-known comedic talent back to the Janikies stage for another unforgettable show. Newcomers Harry Veilleux ’15, Aaron Small ’15, and Chris Anderson ’14 will be joining them.

For those of you who don’t know the show, Whose Line Is It Anyway? was a show hosted by Drew Carey in the 90s and early 00s that had four performers “acting” in various improv games. Some popular games include “Let’s Make a Date!” in which three of the performers act as contestants on a dating show, and the fourth acts as the single bachelor/ette who asks the contestants questions in order to figure out the zany, comical personalities assigned to each potential date. Another

popular game is “Scenes from a Hat” where audience-made suggestions for scenes are played out by the cast such as “things you can say about your car but not your girlfriend.”

These favorite games and MORE will be played by actors you know. The last show featured a lot of fun audience participation, and you can expect more of that this year. In addition to the various opportunities there

it was fun to see people I knew on stage.” Current senior Ryan Bassett also saw the show and commented that “[he] didn’t stop laughing the entire time.”

Rehearsals have been underway for a couple of weeks for the cast of Whose Line. For improv, rehearsals don’t include things like memorization and stage directions that you would see at a play or musical rehearsal. Improv rehearsals involve the cast honing



From left to right - Harry Veilleux, Chris Anderson, Aaron Small, Steve Adams, Dave Fillingim. (Sara Elder)

will be to participate during the shows, faculty, staff, and students of Bryant University are getting a chance to participate even more! In the Rotunda the entire week before the show (Monday February 25 – Friday March 1), there will be a table where you can suggest scenes from a hat, phrases for the popular game “Whose Line” (yes, the game the show is named after), and characters you’d like to see played out!

Kelsey Nowak, a Bryant student who saw the show during its first run in 2011 said, “I was surprised at how really funny it was, and

their comedy skills and ability to ad-lib the lines you’ll love so much. In rehearsals, we’ve seen a bloody hand, belts taken off, and props broken. But that’s all worth it, because the end result will be a hilarious cast, well-trained in the art of improvisation, who will bring you the best ad-libbed comedy show you’ve seen at Bryant.

Tickets are being sold the week before the show (Monday February 25 – Friday March 1) in the Rotunda for \$3, and the price at the door will be \$5. Get yours today!

Financial college score card

MCT Campus

President Barack Obama’s administration Wednesday unveiled a new online tool aimed at giving prospective college students a better idea of what individual colleges will cost and whether the financial burden will be worth it.

The “College Scorecard” comes as student debt is at an all-time high, graduates are entering a tough job market, and families are overwhelmed with confusing and sometimes hard-to-find information about costs. Obama, during his State of the Union address Tuesday night, said families could use the website to figure out “where you can get the most bang for your educational buck,” though some experts Wednesday criticized the data the administration chose to use. The site allows consumers to get bare bones information on 2- and 4-year colleges and universities, including tuition costs, graduation rates and graduates’ average loan repayment per month. The goal is to eventually include data on graduates’ employment and earnings, part of a push to make colleges more transparent about, and accountable for, student success.

“We know students and families are often overwhelmed in the college search process _ but feel they lack the tools to sort through the information and decide which school is right for them,” U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said in a statement. “The College Scorecard provides a snapshot about an institution’s cost and value to help families make smart decisions about where to enroll.” Students can search for a specific institution or by factors such as location, size or majors offered. Some of the information is re-purposed from previous Education Department initiatives, such as the College Navigator website that provides much of the same data.

The latest effort focuses more on helping students decide whether a particular school will be worth their investment by highlighting financial data, including how much the average student borrower has to repay each month after they graduate and how that

compares to other institutions.

For example, the site provides the following information about students at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign: The average net tuition price, after grants and scholarships, is \$15,610 a year. About 82.5 percent of students graduate in six years. For students who relied on federal loans to help pay for college, about 2.5 percent of them defaulted within three years of entering repayment. The average borrower pays back about \$254 a month for 10 years. Consumers can see how the costs and default rates compare to other colleges and universities. The default rate is a way to judge whether graduates are earning enough to be able to pay off their loans.

If students compare U. of I.’s average loan default rate to those at other colleges, for example, they would learn it is about 1.8 percent at Northwestern University, 4.4 percent at DePaul University, 15.2 percent at Chicago State University, and 18.6 percent at Harper College in Palatine. The national average default rate is 13.4 percent.

Augustana College’s vice president, W. Kent Barnds, criticized the “one-size-fits-all” approach. He also said it emphasizes future earning potential instead of student learning. At \$21,840, Augustana’s net tuition price ranks on the high end, according to the scorecard. The typical amount that graduates have to repay in loans each month _ about \$287 _ also ranks high.

Augustana, a liberal arts school in Rock Island, has about 2,500 undergraduates. “Access to a great education cannot and should not be defined only through the language of dollars,” Barnds said. “There is much more to consider when measuring the worth of a college education and degree.” Barnds said evaluating colleges based on its graduates’ earnings will reward institutions that graduate large numbers of future engineers and corporate executives but not necessarily those who graduate large numbers of teachers.

What time is it at Apple?

By Nick Calabro
Staff Writer



Apple has been known for its mobile, technological devices in recent years, and new versions of them. But now, it is believed that Apple is creating something else unlike what they had ever made before. It is said that this will be a wristwatch like device, “that may perform some of the tasks now handled by the iPhone and iPad.”

Apple’s stock has actually fallen more than 30 percent since September, which creates pressure on CEO Tim Cook. According to Bloomberg News, “without a revolutionary new gadget that commands a higher price, investors are concerned about falling margins, and increased competition.”

Technology consultant and former Apple employee Bruce Tognazzini has expressed optimism about the new product. “The iWatch will fill a gaping hole in the Apple ecosystem. Like other breakthrough Apple products its value will be underestimated at launch, then grow to have a profound impact on our lives and Apple’s fortunes.”

It has been reported that Apple has “worked on wearable devices for tracking fitness in the past and never brought them to market.” However, “the introduction of a wearable computing device may signal a new direction for the consumer-electronics industry.” And Apple has been able to give rise to new markets in the industry when it created the iPhone and then the iPad, creating a market for touch-screen smartphones and tablet computers according to Bloomberg News.

Fund manager at T. Rowe Price Group Inc. Josh Spencer has said, “Apple is right to invest in products such as watches, even if they don’t result in commercial products. There are more people that would wear an Apple watch than would wear Google glasses. The Google glasses are a reference to the eyeglass-embedded computers being developed by Google, according to Bloomberg News. Only time will tell if the iWatch can hold up the trend of successfully popular Apple products though.

Professor Michael Roberto’s Blog: OfficeMax and Office Depot merger

By Professor Michael Roberto
Faculty Writer

The Wall Street Journal reports that OfficeMax and Office Depot are in advanced discussions regarding a potential merger. The article, by Anupreeta Das, Ryan Dezember, and Ann Zimmerman cites many of the benefits of the deal. For instance, the authors note that experts estimate roughly \$500 million in synergies may emerge from the deal. The article also cites Staples founder Tom Stemberg, who says, “This should have happened a long time ago. It’s healthy for the industry. It takes out excess capacity.” (note: I worked at Staples in the mid-1990s, when Stemberg served as CEO).

I would agree that the merger will yield some significant cost synergies, provided merger integration is managed well (a major caveat). Moreover, the industry does have excess brick-and-mortar capacity. Online players such as Amazon have taken a significant bite out of the traditional office supply industry in recent years. The companies have closed some stores in response to the shift toward e-commerce, but more rationalization of the store base needs to occur. The article points out that many experts think the three major office supply retailers have not downsized their brick-and-mortar footprints fast enough.

I do have some concerns though. I would ask the following question: Why will a merger drive out more excess store capacity than otherwise should have been eliminated by the companies individually? The answer: Perhaps the merger’s promises of cost synergies will create the public accountability that will drive necessary rationalization. In other words, maybe you need the merger to push management to do what they otherwise have been slow to do.

I also have a second question to pose: How about the issue of taking on the e-commerce challengers? Does the merger make these companies more formidable competitors relative to the Amazons of the world? Perhaps, but I’m not so sure. Again, the question for management is clear: Why will a merged entity do the things to be successful against online competitors that the two firms have not otherwise been able to do to this point?

Finally, I would offer one other concern. In many industries, mergers that drive out excess capacity can help prop up prices. When excess capacity exists, price wars often occur as firms try to fill that capacity and cover fixed costs. However, in this industry, removing excess capacity may not yield major price gains. Why? The competitors setting the price level are not the brick-and-mortar players; Amazon and other e-commerce players are pushing down prices. That pressure won’t change due to this merger.



Google stock reaches all-time high

By John Zeiner
Business Editor

Google’s stock has surpassed \$800 for the first time on Monday, February 19, 2013. This feat has not been accomplished by any other technology company. Wall Street is crediting Larry Page, its co-founder and chief executive, for their dramatic resurgence.

However, Google has not always been this successful; their stock plunged to as low as \$247.30 at the end of 2008 and was withered with concerns that they had lost their competitive edge. Nevertheless, they have

reemerged as a powerhouse while moving into Apple’s consumer electronics territory. On the contrary, Apple’s shares have fallen significantly from their record high of \$705.05 in September.

Investors are worried that they have yet to come up with the next big product while Google aims to invent a new category of internet-connected eyewear. Credit is being attributed to Larry Page after taking back the helm two years ago. Over this time, Google has seen significant payoffs from selling ads on the world’s most popular video site, YouTube, and from the Android mobile

software that powers more than 600 million smartphones and tablet computers.

In addition, he arranged the \$12.5 billion acquisition of Motorola. They are taking another stab at Apple by planning to open retail stores to make their smartphones and tablets readily available. Analysts say the biggest challenge for Google in the future is the decline in ad sales on personal computers as attention shifts to mobile devices, which command lower prices.

Biz Snipz

By John Zeiner
Business Editor

- As the United States Postal Service continues to struggle to find revenue sources, they are trying to bring you something to wear. They announced plans to come out with a line of clothing and accessories called “Rain Heat & Snow.” Wahconah Group, Inc. will be designing this line. The Postal Service will receive a small percentage of sales and they won’t have to pay a dime to produce the line. Rain Heat & Snow will be releasing a line for men by the spring of 2014. The line will include all-season, all-weather gear with the latest technology, such jackets that sync with MP3 players.
- Best Buy is extending its price-match guarantee in an effort to stop the practice of “showrooming.” This is where customers check out products in its stores before purchasing them online. It will not match advertised prices from brick-and-mortar rivals as well as 19 major online competitors. These price guarantees will be year round and be applied to just about every product.
- The Korean Airlines unveiled their long-awaited design of a \$1-billion hotel and office skyscraper to be built in downtown Los Angeles. This will soon be the tallest building in the West at 73 stories. The Wilshire Grand will surpass the 72-story U.S. Bank Tower on Bunker Hill and is expected to be completed in 2017.

This dramatic addition to the city skyline is a symbol of South Korea’s growing status as a global economic powerhouse.

- In a scene right out of a movie, thieves drove onto Belgium’s airport tarmac and stole more than \$50 million of diamonds from a plane without firing a single shot. The whole ordeal took only about five minutes, three minutes to unload the gems from the luggage section and another two to get to the tarmac and to escape in two vehicles: a black Mercedes van and a Black Audi A8. Despite not firing one bullet, all eight members were heavily armed. Unfortunately, none of the plane’s twenty passengers saw anything and the color of their skin and language spoken is unknown.
- The powerful meteorite explosion that rocked the central Russian region of Chelyabinsk was more than a catastrophe. As workers and volunteers continue to fix the thousands of windows shattered by the shock waves from the explosion, many of their friends and neighbors are looking for parts of the meteorite. It is being called the “meteorite rush” as for prices for the pieces range from \$20 to \$30,000.

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Bryant University Bulldogs swimming

Diving over obstacles in and out of water

By Justin Beaucage
Sports Editor

What if a slugger had to hit a baseball without a bat? How about a quarterback throwing a touchdown pass without a ball? It might be tough to be successful, right?

Essentially, that's what practice is like for the Bryant swim and dive team. That is what makes what this team has been able to accomplish so remarkable.

With a lack of facilities, the Bulldog swim and dive teams have overcome struggles and obstacles this season. The men's team placed 5th in the MAAC Championship in Buffalo this past weekend, including graduate student Alex Kosenski becoming the first Bryant swimmer to win a gold medal in an event. The women look to cap off an amazing season in their championship in two weeks, led by 15-time NEC swimmer of the week Casey Ostrander. The team's efforts in and out of the pool have not gone unnoticed.

"The team has exceeded my expectations by 100 percent," said head coach Katie Cameron, who is currently coaching in her eighth season at Bryant. Cameron, who is a former swimmer, knows what it takes to be successful in the water and says that the efforts by her swimmers are countless, and it really shows. With help from assistant coach Andrew

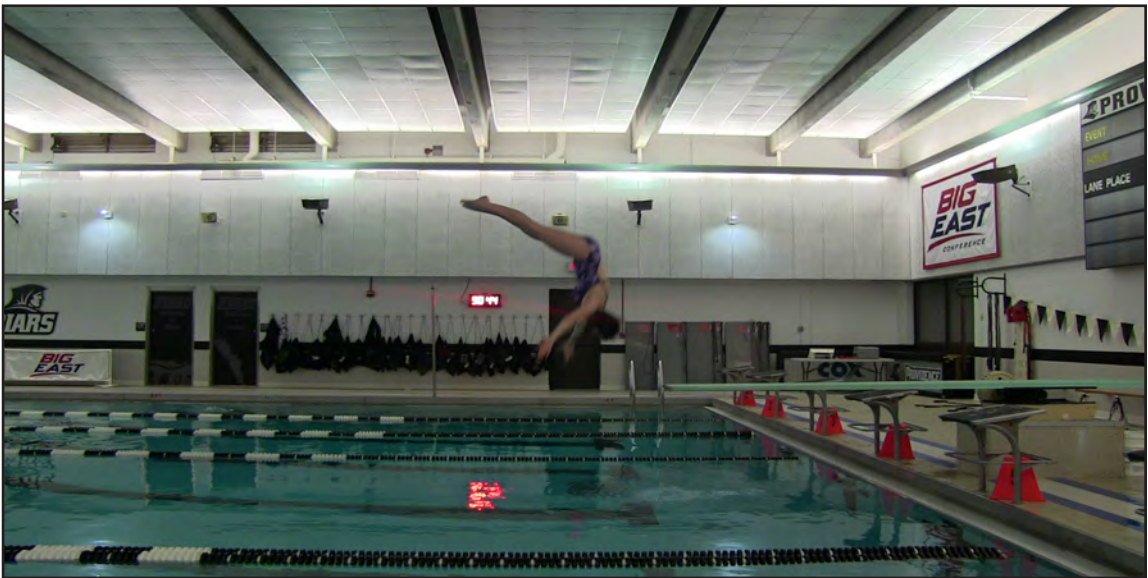
DiGiacomo and diving coach Chuck LoCurto, the Bulldogs are one of the most up-and-coming teams in the NEC.

The swimming and diving teams both experience their obstacles outside of competition. The diving team only has about 4-5 hours of diving time per week, compared to other schools that can practice daily. Both teams must also travel to other schools, including Providence College and Brown, in order to get the proper amount of swim time in.

The team is extremely focused and determined to be successful. "The team is completely driven," explained Cameron, "their unwillingness to quit is what separates them from the rest." The Bulldogs' training out of competition has really been a great contribution to their success. Whether it's using a dry board and a trampoline to dive, a yoga class, or an insanity workout, the team has properly prepared to succeed despite the obstacles.

"We always say that there aren't any columns for excuses," said Cameron, "and nothing will stop this team in accomplishing its goals."

The swimmers and divers are extremely talented and have a rich athletic history. On the diving team, junior Becca Cortez and junior Sean Hughes are both former gymnasts, and have strived to learn how to dive in a short amount of time. For



Bryant divers and swimmers work hard to master ttheir craft (Chuck LoCurto)

these divers to learn this art with such little experience is simply phenomenal.

The Bulldogs have really transferred all of this hard work into success in the pool. In addition to placing fifth, the Men's swim team broke six school records in the MAAC championship. The women have posted an impressive 8-4 record, and diver freshman Courtney Tardiff became the first ever Bryant "Diver of the Week." After closing out the season at the UConn Invitational, the women will compete in their championship meet beginning on February 27th.

Although a team's success might be measured by their performance in competition, the

team's success in the classroom is just as important. The team members have really solidified themselves as great student-athletes, as the team is unfazed by maintaining a minimum 2.9 GPA. Alex Kosenski, Michael Doran, and Jerry Gargano made the MAAC All-Academic team. Courtney Tardiff, Conor Makepeace, and Kailey Frye all made the Dean's list on the diving team. Even though these swimmers are competitors, they know that academic success is still most important.

Everything that the teams have accomplished has set the bar higher than usual for next season. Coaches hope to improve the overall GPA of the teams by next season, and for both teams to win their conferences. With

all the mindset and the no-quit attitude, these all seem like realistic accomplishments next season.

In what many call an individual sport, the swimmers and divers have made contributions as a team that can't be matched by many. The team has come together and been able to be successful with few resources and with obstacles in their way. The Bulldogs won't let anything stand in their way to becoming a dominant team in the NEC. With the efforts of these swimmers and divers, the team has persevered, and has become a team that we can proud to cheer for.

Lakers mourn the loss of owner Jerry Buss

By Justin Beaucage
Sports Editor

It has been an incredible struggle for the Los Angeles Lakers this season, filled with disappointments and losses. The team might have suffered their biggest loss of the season this past Monday, when long time owner Jerry Buss died at the age of 80. Buss had been battling an undisclosed type of cancer, and passed Monday after a kidney failure. The team and fans are mourning the loss of possibly one of the greatest owners in sports history.

Buss orginially bought the Los Angeles Lakers in 1979. He is undoubtably one of the best and most influential owners in history, and has made the Lakers the organization it is today. In 34 seasons as owner, Buss led the team to 16 playoff appearances, and 10 championships. Not only is Buss the real man behind all of the Lakers' success, but he is also one of the biggest Lakers fans of all time, relishing all of their success at every moment possible.

With 1,786 victories, Buss has made the Lakers not only the most successful franchises in the NBA, but one of the most decorated organizations in sports. He was respected by everyone around the league, and commemorated for all of his hard work in the office.

One of the most impressive parts of Buss' ownership has to be his strategy, and making the moves at the right time. He was successful because of the strategic and smart planning of the transactions

he made for his team. Recruiting such talent as Magic Johnson, Kareem Abdul-Jabar, and Kobe Bryant, Buss helped put the Lakers on the map and in the record book. The blockbuster deals that he made at the most opportunistic moments helped this franchise continue its winning ways. When the team had to rebuild after Magic Johnson left the NBA, a few years later, Buss responded by trading for center Shaquille O'Neal and making a draft day trade for Kobe Bryant. With these moves, another dynasty was born.

After three titles, the team experienced turmoil again when they traded O'Neal to the Heat in 2004. However, Buss didn't let this destroy the team, as he made some calls and made a huge deal for forward Pao Gasol. Two titles later, Buss was once again the savior for the franchise.

His work in the office and his winning ways aren't the only things that Buss will be remembered for. His support for his players and his team are what separate him from the rest. He was respected by all of his players and everyone around the league as a powerful owner. Buss also had his impact on other sports, as he owned the NHL's Kings from 1979-1987, an indoor soccer team that he led to two championships, and a WNBA team. His success was all over the sports industry.

Buss leaves behind a sports legacy that will be tough for other owners to match. Although the Lakers haven't had the most success this year, they will play the rest of the season out with Buss on their mind and in their hearts.

Sports Shorts

- By Justin Beaucage**
Sports Editor
- For the Women's Basketball Team, freshman Brenna Rucker has really made an impact for the Bulldogs this season. This week, she received her second NEC Rookie of the Week honor. In her two games, she averaged 10 points to help the Bulldogs on the scoreboard. Against St. Mary's, she also added eight rebounds and two steals. She has been an up-and-coming player for the Bulldogs all season long.
 - Women's Lacrosse has gotten off to a great start early in the year. Under first year coach Jill DePetris, the team won their first game against Siena 15-12. Freshmen Lauren Descalzo and junior Lisa Vendel each scored four goals to lead the Bulldog's scoring. Junior Kimberly Sniffen had three goals of her own to help lead the team to a victory.
 - There is plenty of potential for Bryant's Golf team this season. Despite receiving 1 of 11 first place votes, in the first preseason poll, the Bulldogs were voted 9th. Freshman Kyle Buschman lead the team with nearly a 79.4 average, and looks to have another successful campaign. Even though the ranking wasn't as high as expected. look for the Bulldogs to have a successful year on the green.
 - The Women's Basketball Team might have had their biggest victory of the season this past Monday, knocking off Mount St. Mary's 69-62 in a thriller. The victory gives the team their fourth straight road game victory. Jenniqua Bailey led the team in scoring with 16 points, and the team were able to keep the lead thanks to a 19-0 run early in the first half. The victory gives the Bulldogs momentum to close out the year.
 - The Women's Tennis Team is looking great early on with a big victory, 6-1 over Sienna this past weekend. The Bulldogs gave Sienna their first loss of the season, and the Bulldogs improved to 5-1, 1-0 in their conference. Senior Lucy Bird had an impressive showing, defeating her opponent in straight sets, 6-3, 6-1, at number five singles. The team will hope that this big victory will give them momentum for the rest of the games.
 - The Women's Swim team finsihed up their regular season this past weekend at the UConn Invitational. Senior Casey Ostrander continued her phenomenal campaign, winning the 50 and 100 free. Freshman Jamie Schaefer continued her impressive first season at Bryant, winning the 200 fly event. The team looks to compete in the NEC Championship on February 26.

Bryant University Bulldogs baseball

Making a ‘first’ impression, ranked #1 in preseason polls

By Justin Beaucage
Sports Editor

In a team’s first season of Division I eligibility, someone might think that it might take a while for them to have an impact on the conference. This isn’t the case for Bryant’s baseball team. In their first year of postseason eligibility, Baseball America recently voted the Bulldogs as the preseason favorite to win the NEC. The team also received the honors in three other preseason polls. After securing their second NEC regular season championship in the last three years, the team will enter this season with a target on their backs.

And they wouldn’t want to have it any other way.

“We have very high expectations for ourselves without the poll,” said head coach Steve Owens, who is entering his third season here at Bryant. “Players have high goals for themselves, and it all comes down to practice.”

Owens, who has nearly 23 coaching years under his belt, knows that sometimes polls can get to the players’ heads. However, he believes his team is using the poll to fuel their play



Junior catcher John Scott looks to play a key role for the Bulldog’s (MCT Campus)

and to work harder in practice.

“We couldn’t care less about a ranking, a poll is just a poll,” he exclaimed. “It hasn’t affected our practice, and players are working hard to meet these expectations.” The team is confident, but they know there are many improvements they can make in their game.

One of the main reasons for the Bulldogs receiving this prestigious honor is because of their pitching rotation.

Returning ten throwers from their rotation, the staff looks to improve upon its Northeast-best 3.05 ERA. NEC Pitcher of the Year Peter Kelich will look to continue his phenomenal college career. Posting an 8-3 record and a 1.83 ERA, Kelich looks to lead this highly talented pitching staff to the promised land.

Young aces look to add depth and consistency to the pitching staff. Junior Craig Schlitter and sophomore Kevin McAvoy will

add some consistency behind Kelich, and will try to best their league-leading 2.08 ERA.

Although the Bulldogs are known for their great arms on the hill, they know that they must improve in all facets of the game to win their division. The team has been hitting the batting cages to improve its .261 batting average from a season ago. Shortstop Dan Muscatello will be a main offensive weapon at the plate, hitting .290 last year on 56 hits. Outfielder Kevin Brown will be a threat after having led the team in round trippers last season with 9.

With the pitching staff and veterans getting all the praise, two players have made major improvements this off-season and will be crucial players for all of the Bulldogs’ accomplishments on the field. Junior catcher John Scott has received high praise from Coach Owens.

“He has worked extremely hard to improve overall as a player, and I couldn’t be more proud of him,” said Owens. “He will help out our team tremendously.”

Freshman third baseman John Mullen was challenged to improve his play and to be a major contributor for this team. In his first season as a

Bulldog, Mullen has risen to this challenge, and will play a big role in the team’s success this year.

The road to an NEC title isn’t an easy one for the Bulldogs. To open the 2013 campaign, the Bulldogs begin a brutal road schedule, a slate that includes Houston Baptist, Dayton, and nationally ranked Oregon State in the first three weeks of the season. The team’s first game at home doesn’t come until March 22 when they host Mount St. Mary’s.

Despite the early tough schedule for the Bulldogs, they welcome the challenge.

“We know the schedule isn’t the easiest, but we will win some of these games,” said Owens. “We can’t improve without playing better teams. If we can win a lot of these games, we could get on a real good roll.”

There are many high hopes and great expectations for the Bulldogs. The team is determined to meet all of them, and to make themselves a contender in the NEC. The team will pursue its own triple crown, with a third NEC regular season title in five seasons and hopes to cap it off with an NEC championship.

NHL shortened season not short on surprises

By John Como
Assitant Sports Editor

Despite its late start and shortened season length, the 2012-2013 NHL regular season has been fun to watch. The idea of last year’s infamous lockout coupled with its reoccurring events of the cancelled 2004-2005 season has made any fan of the sport thankful for there being a season at all. However, the effect of the delayed start has affected individual teams and it has shown in their performances this season.

While some teams have had the same success as the previous year, other teams have had very surprising starts; in both good and bad ways. This list includes teams that were predicted to be contenders for the Stanley Cup that are on the bottom of the standings and lower-caliber teams that find themselves with winning records. In order to understand the true effects of the late start in this “special” season, one needs to look closer at the Top 5 Most Surprising Teams of 2013.

Kicking the list off at the #5 spot is the Philadelphia Flyers. This team had some of the dirtiest players in the NHL last year and was arguably the best at getting under the opposing team’s skins. While certainly not the best team in the NHL, playing against the Flyers in a home game was a nightmare that could bring down even the NHL’s more elite teams due to the Flyers’ physical play that took opposing teams out of their comfort zones.

As for this season, the Flyers have been very mediocre with a mere 7-9-1 overall record that really doesn’t speak in any volumes. The most surprising aspect of this year’s Flyers, however, is the team’s horrid 3-8-0 away record despite having one of the best road records last year. After clinching the #6 seed last season, the Flyers find themselves in 10th place in the Eastern Conference with 15 points in

17 games. The Flyers can, of course, still come back and only find themselves 2 points behind the 8th seed.

The #4 team on this list is another failing Eastern Conference team, the Washington Capitals. This team has so many talented players, including what possibly is the best player in the league, Captain Alexander Ovechkin, and finally won a postseason series against the Bruins last year. So how does the team follow up on what was an overall successful season last year?

The answer of course is by becoming the absolute worst team in the Eastern Conference and having one of the worst starts in franchise history. To put it nicely, the Capitals are absolutely abysmal and are not playing anywhere close to how they were before. In 15 games, the Capitals are currently 5-9-1 with 11 points and are in the cellar of the Eastern Conference at 15th place. On top of that, Ovechkin only has 5 goals and 5 assists in 15 games and is in the middle of one of the worst slumps in his career. The season is young, but it will take a huge turn-around for this team to win again.

At #3 is the surprisingly great Montreal Canadians. Where the hell did this team come from?! This was the uncontested worst team in the Eastern Conference that only had 31 wins out of an entire 82 game season last year. This was the team that made the Jets and Islanders look good, and now they have gone from worst to first. As of now, the Canadians are 11-4-1 with 23 points and currently sit atop of the Eastern Conference as the best overall team in the conference!

The question now is whether or not the young team can keep their hot streak going, which increased to a five game winning streak with a 3-1 win over the Rangers. First place is still up for grabs but for now at least, nothing can stop these



The disappointing start for Alexander Ovechkin and the Washington Capitals is one of many early stories (MCT Campus)

Canadians.

Grabbing the #2 spot is another great team that came out of nowhere, the Anaheim Ducks. Last year, the Ducks finished in 13th place in the Western Conference and were 15 points behind a playoff berth. After being written off again for this year, the Ducks have become one of the more dominant teams in the Western Conference. Standing in as the 2nd seed, the Ducks have a firm lead over their division and the majority of the conference. The team is 12-2-1 overall with 25 points which includes a 7-1-1 road record. They also are 7 points ahead of the Coyotes for the Pacific and 6 points ahead of the 3rd seeded Canucks in the West. Unlike the Canadians, the Ducks seem to have a firmer grasp of their seeding and look less likely to lose it now.

Finally, at #1 on the list, is none other than the defending Stanley Cup

Champions themselves the Los Angeles Kings. This team needs no introduction as to why it was successful last year. After barely making it to the postseason as the 8th seed, the Kings went on a massive 16-4-0 postseason run and took the Stanley Cup by storm. They won the first three games of every series they played in and ultimately blew the competition right out of the water. This season, the Stanley Cup champs are nowhere near what they used to be and suddenly find themselves in 14th place in the Western Conference. Granted, following that stellar performance this season was going to be tough from the start but it would be nice if the Kings were at least contenders!! The Kings have a mere 12 points in 13 games and while there is still time for a comeback; the Kings need to really turn their season around.

Are sports right down your alley?
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Intramural Athlete of the Week

By Justin Beaucage
Sports Editor

Ettore Carchia

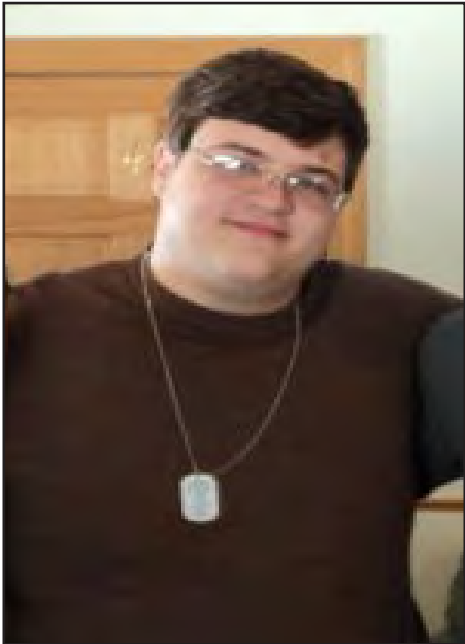
Sport: Bowling



It is very tough to give intramural sports the credit they deserve. There should be a lot of high praise and recognition to those who keep clubs going on campus. For this week, the Intramural Athlete of the Week is first-time winner Ettore Carchia. Ettore, the president of the Bryant Bowling Club, has made the team a great success at Bryant. He shows his dedication to his sport by keeping the club going strong week in and week out. Since his freshman year, his efforts as President have helped the team add members over the last two years.

In addition to all his efforts in the office, Carchia isn't too shabby in the bowling alley either. From personal experience, he has great talent in the lanes, and "strikes" down his opponents in almost every game he's in. His amazing 150 average on the lanes puts fear in his competitors.

Sometimes, in sports, the efforts off the playing field come unnoticed. Anyone could see Ettore's commitment and excellence by what he does outside of the sport. Being the official chauffeur for almost the entire club, Ettore cares about his team and his players. Attending the staff meetings religiously as recorded by Kelsey Nowak, it appears Ettore's commitment to his sport is limitless.



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Bryant bulldozes the blizzard

In the aftermath of Blizzard Nemo, students express their dismay with the preparation and execution

Continued from page 1



wait until 11:32PM to officially announce the closing of the University is beyond me. It was a Thursday...if Bryant students were going to party because of a potential snow day, they had already been at Effins or elsewhere for hours.

Agreeing with me is a commuter student, Senior Ariana Ricci. “In regards to the notorious “late notice” when there is a rare cancellation, I understand why this is done, but it doesn’t achieve the desired effect. Students will still “party” in anticipation of a snow day, so it just becomes an annoyance to be left hanging for those of us who don’t even live in the dorms, as well as faculty and staff.”

Since the last major storm this campus has weathered was Hurricane Sandy, I think it is appropriate to remember back to September and compare the crisis communication tactics of Sandy to this Blizzard. Brian Gowen, a senior on-campus resident, said, “I think communication was handled better than Sandy, at least they cancelled the day before and not later the day of the storm. Plus President Machtley and Dr. Eakin were in touch with students often through email which I appreciated.”

Jumping ahead to Saturday morning, we all woke up to a 30 inch high blanket of snow over campus and the sounds of snow plows and backhoes beginning the monstrous task of removing snow from the parking lots and walkways. I don’t use the word “monstrous” lightly; I know 30 inches of snow over acres of walkways and parking lots is a task that would take any team of workers days to clear.

It was clear from the onset of the storm that our administration recognized the impact of the storm. Dr. Eakin wrote, “Because of the magnitude of the storm, we

anticipate it will be a slow recovery at first. We appreciate your cooperation thus far and will need your patience for the next couple days.”

But there is the issue...our Facilities workers and some outside contractors were only given ONE DAY and a half to do the job because our administration was set on opening the campus for Monday classes. From the conversations I started to have with my fellow colleagues throughout the day on Saturday and Sunday, these feelings of not understanding why Bryant had to be the “hero” and open on Monday were spreading.

Ariana also wrote to me, “With [approximately] 13% of the student body and 100% of faculty and staff being commuters, I do not understand the logic of remaining open in the wake of a blizzard. Just because Bryant might be in decent shape does not mean that all of Rhode Island and Massachusetts are, which is where we have to drive from.”

As Brian already mentioned, we received multiple all-campus emails from both President Machtley and Dr. Eakin throughout the weekend. It was nice to see our administration having a more involved role in communicating the clean-up effort to everyone. However, in my opinion, the picture of campus that was painted in the text of those emails was remarkably different than the reality of how campus looked by Monday.

Ariana continued to write that she and other commuters “... arrived Monday to school and [were] shocked to find the campus in the condition it was: snow banks taking up entire lanes of the parking lot, dangerous blind spots, hidden ice buried under slush and rain, and countless near-accidents.”

Walking to class on Monday was treacherous, dangerous, and class attendance definitely suffered. Kelsey Nowak, a junior and the Archway Editor-in-Chief told me, “Our campus was not fit for cars driving. The snow removal equipment was slipping everywhere. Pulling out onto Route 7 would be better labeled as Russian roulette. After you were off campus, most major roads were fine on Monday; it was the side roads that our faculty, staff, and commuting students reside on that were treacherous to navigate.”

“I am not blaming Bryant at all for the clean-up, since I understand the magnitude of the storm, but I do wish they had given the clean-up crew more time to do their job, without having to work around students and cars mulling about campus” continued Ariana. Personally, I think we can all agree that by giving Facilities more time we would have all been better off and could have made up another day of missed classes.

Again, Brian chimed in on this part of the conversation by writing, “I think facilities, on the whole, did a pretty good job clearing out the snow. That said, I think the student walkways (from townhouses, in front of Bryant Center, Unistructure administrative entrance, and by the bridge) were not safe for walking on and weren’t properly cleaned until Tuesday or Wednesday.”

Another student who wishes to remain anonymous told me “Facilities worked their hardest, and were even shoveling during the storm in front of my house. However, the management of where on campus their efforts were focused could have been better. Even when they did shovel, there was no salt put down to help melt the ice, so it was extremely hard to walk outside. They also didn’t shovel out the staircases up to the center of campus until mid-day Monday.”

So we had classes on Monday and were not completely shoveled out until Tuesday and even into Wednesday. Makes sense, right? Well the storm has been over and done with for more than a week, but I do agree with President Machtley and Dr. Eakin in having to thank so many members of our community for keeping essential services like the dining halls, Public Safety, and Residence Life open throughout the blizzard.

President Machtley wrote, “The Blizzard of 2013 has challenged us all with nearly unprecedented weather conditions, but the Bryant community has generally fared well...many of the staff members in Student Affairs and Information Services, as well as the folks from Sodexo who prepare and serve our meals, dedicated extraordinary effort and time to ensure that everyone was safe, connected, warm, and fed. Our Public Safety officers and Building and Grounds crews worked around the clock. Let’s show these employees that they are a vital part of our Bryant family!”

To end on a high note, I would like to quote my good friend Brianne Brinkmann, a senior, who had a blast during our snowy weekend. “This snow storm proved to me that snow days were meant for college kids, not for little kids. When you’re in college on campus with all of your best friends you can plan ambushes on a different house and spend all night outside and not care that you are freezing your butt off.” Well said Brianne, well said.

Like any story, there are two sides. I just thought it would be nice to present some of the student side, but I think I speak for everyone when I say “Is it Spring Weekend yet?!”

Parking is no paradise at Bryant

By Kelsey Nowak
Editor-in-Chief

In September of 2010 – I was a freshman at Bryant and unlike every member of the Class of 2016, I didn’t have a car on campus. The car I drove during high school wouldn’t have made the two hour drive from my house to campus, so I left it at home. My parents didn’t see any need for me to have a car on campus either, and quite frankly I think that they thought if I had a car on campus I might come home (oh no).

I didn’t have a job off-campus, I didn’t have an internship at the time, I didn’t need to go to the grocery store that often, I wasn’t 21 so going to the liquor store wasn’t an option, and personally I didn’t see the need to have my car sit and take up space in a parking lot where other students who needed better parking spots could be parking.

In addition to not having a dire need for my very own car on campus as a freshman, I recognized that there were plenty of public transportation options available to me such as the BTA and RIPTA. If worse came to worse, I would need to make a friend who had a car on campus, which is exactly what I did. Not only does the Class of 2016 have the BTA, RIPTA, and upper classman friends to transport them, recently Bryant

partnered with Zipcar so we now have two cars on campus that students can make use of whenever they need to go somewhere.

Generally I wouldn’t waste time on such a minute topic but after the recent snow storm, the influx of freshman parking in designated upperclassman areas, and some brief research I couldn’t help it. Allegedly, Bryant is one of few campuses across the U.S. that allows freshman to have cars on campus let alone allows them to have a car on campus for free. This would be considered a perk of coming to Bryant for many students going through the college application process; however, once you are an upper classman it is no longer a privilege but rather a curse.

The Blizzard Nemo clean-up would have gone much smoother had there been fewer cars on campus. It would have made it possible for DPS to coordinate a parking lot cleanup procedure ,making it easier for our facilities and maintenance workers to clean up without any obstructions such as parked cars. What I mean by parking lot cleanup procedure is where one parking lot is designated to be free of cars and it is cleared first, then everyone moves their vehicles to the clear parking lot so that the next lot can be cleared. This could only be achieved if there were significantly fewer cars on campus.

My last point is that upper classmen

who have jobs off-campus or part time internships are the students who need cars on campus, not the freshman who need to go to Target once a month. Upperclassmen along with commuters, faculty, and staff should be able to pull onto campus and find a parking spot relatively close to the Unistructure, their dorm, or their office suite in a minimal amount of time. These students, faculty, and staff are often rushing onto campus for class, meetings, etc. and don’t have time to be walking from the middle of the football field where they had to park their car because the entire freshman and sophomore class’ have cars on campus that move once a month.

I don’t mean to target the lower classmen. This isn’t your choice; you are simply taking advantage of an opportunity provided to you by the university. I am saying that DPS should be checking vehicles for their colored sticker and making sure that the proper cars are parked in the proper places so that campus can operate in a more structured and fair manner for everyone.

On a personal note: I can vouch for other students who have

internships. We never get to leave the office on time, we don’t have ten extra minutes to find the last parking spot available on campus, and most female interns are in heels which make running to class an Olympic event.

Trust me, I love my internship, and I wouldn’t want to get rid of it, but I also like to be on time, not rush, and be prepared for class, all of which is next to impossible with the parking situation on this campus.

I survived my freshman year without, a car and I firmly believe that the incoming classes of freshman can too. It would honestly make it much easier for the rest of campus to operate ,and it wouldn’t hurt the incoming freshman because they aren’t used to having a car on campus anyway.



Guns laws need adjustment to automatic weapons

By David Bader
Staff Writer

The past year has been a year filled with sorrow and heartbreak. From the movie theater shooting in Aurora to the disgusting massacre that occurred at Sandy Hook Elementary School, the issue of gun control has been a hot topic across the entire country.

As Americans, we have the right to bear arms, as stated in the Second Amendment in the Bill of Rights. But, where do we draw the line? This Amendment needs to be altered by having stricter regulations, therefore making it harder for someone to purchase automatic firearms. A potential danger is presented for our country when someone can buy an automatic weapon. Automatic weapons were made for one reason only: to be used in war. Why are we allowing automatic weapons to be sold on the streets in the United States? If the sole purpose of these weapons is to take the life of another human being, why would we allow regular everyday citizens to own them? The answer is easy: we shouldn't. The only people who should be allowed to have these weapons are government agents and soldiers. These people have the training and a working knowledge of the power and danger involving automatic weapons.

What really gets on my nerves are the people who oppose the idea of getting rid of automatic weapons for any normal citizen. There has been no case where an automatic weapon was needed for an average citizen. I agree with the fact that citizens should be allowed to own guns for protection but not automatic ones. In no situation would someone need to fire more than one bullet a second. Most people own guns so that they can hunt with them. Using automatic weapons to even hunt gives up the

entire integrity of hunting. The real skill of hunting doesn't revolve around shooting as many bullets as you can to catch your target, but to be the most accurate with one shot. Hunting with an automatic weapon is the same as fishing with dynamite, there is no skill to it.

Automatic weapons have proven to be more dangerous than standard weapons, and they can cause so much more destruction if they are in the



wrong hands.

Our police force doesn't regularly carry automatic weapons. If the police who we depend upon are out gunned by individuals carrying assault weapons, how do we expect them to protect us? The only way to help solve this problem is to make it illegal to buy/sell automatic weapons and to make harsher punishments for those found guilty of having one. By having more gun control, we can hopefully reduce the devastating gun violence. It shouldn't have taken tragedies such as Sandy Hook and Aurora to make people realize that automatic weapons are bad for America. Now is the time to act. The people have the power in this situation and this is why we need to advocate for gun control. It's up to us to help stop the violence in our nation.

Bryant Said What?!

Compiled by Bryant Students

“It’s the big D. For demand guys jeez!”

“Did anyone eat a big bowl of ATP today? No? That’s okay, I didn’t either, I like corn pops.”

“My face was on the toilet.”

“Job lot is where you go to ahh.. get a job?”

“Whoever pulls it out gets it in”

Profit and Loss



The Post Office Staff can sit back and take a break after the Valentine’s Day rush



Bryant is having an improv show on March 1st - 3rd in Janikies. Get your tickets in the Roto next week!



Another wanna-be Nemo hit Bryant and left students covered in snow again.



Housing deposits for next year have already been asked for. Cough up the cash guys.

Pass the Violence Against Women Act

MCT Campus

The 1994 Violence Against Women Act has done tremendous good in stepping up prosecution of domestic violence, aiding victims and increasing awareness of a too-often silent threat to our society. But the act was allowed to lapse in 2011 amid partisan bickering. On Tuesday, the Senate sent a strong signal by voting to reauthorize the law by an overwhelming 78-22 vote, but its survival in the Republican-controlled House of Representatives is, sadly, far from certain.

VAWA, as the law is called, aids in the investigation and prosecution of violent crimes against women and allows for civil redress in cases that prosecutors choose to leave unprosecuted. The act also established the Office on Violence Against Women within the Department of Justice. The reauthorization approved by the Senate would provide \$659 million over the next five years for VAWA programs.

This legislation has been important for women since the time of its enactment. After a large push in the late 1980s and early 1990s from advocates concerned with domestic and sexual violence, VAWA has been instrumental in helping to make crimes against women a priority for prosecutors. Over the years, VAWA has expanded its focus from solely domestic violence to also include dating violence and stalking. The bill includes funding for services to protect adult and teen victims, to support training on these issues, and to ensure official responses to violence across the country.

Additionally, VAWA has been vitally important to Native American women _ one in three of them is a sexual violence survivor, and the murder rate for Native American women is a stunning 10 times higher than the national average.

But it is a provision dealing with the prosecution of abuse on Indian reservations that has proved one of the biggest obstacles to reauthorization. The Senate bill says that non-Native Americans accused of abusing Native American women on reservations can be tried in tribal courts; under current law, such cases are rarely prosecuted at all. But some Republicans have complained that those courts offer insufficient protections for the defendants’ constitutional rights. If that is the true complaint, the answer is to provide more resources for those courts, not to allow non-Native Americans to abuse

Native American women with impunity.

The other objections to the bill are similarly hollow. Some Republicans are opposed to a provision that allows immigrant victims of abuse to gain permanent residency, on the assumption that some could manipulate the law to find a way to stay in this country. But the opposite risk _ that an immigrant woman would stay in an abusive relationship to avoid the chance that she could be deported _ is much greater. Some also oppose the bill’s nondiscrimination clause for gay, lesbian and transgender victims of abuse, but why should they be any less worthy of protection?

The bipartisan support for reauthorization in the Senate should give the bill momentum in the House, but we have been down this road before. In April, the Senate voted to reauthorize VAWA, and the House subsequently passed its own version that omitted provisions to protect gays and lesbians, Native Americans on reservations and immigrants. The White House threatened to veto the House bill, and both the House and Senate decided to restart when the 113th Congress convened.

The lead sponsor of the 2011 House legislation is no longer in office, and now Republican Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, chairwoman of the House Republican Conference, is working on a new version of the bill. There are some signs that Republicans are at least concerned with the politics of opposing this legislation. All 22 no votes in the Senate were cast by Republican men, which surely doesn’t help a party that was damaged last year by two Senate candidates’ retrograde views about rape and pregnancy _ and which lost the women’s vote to President Barack Obama by 11 points in November. Indeed, a bloc of House Republicans has urged their leaders to bring the legislation to a vote.

But this should not be a partisan issue. As Maryland Democratic Sen. Barbara Mikulski said in arguing for the bill on the Senate floor, the Violence Against Women Act works. It protects the least powerful in society from crimes that, as Ms. Mikulski points out, often involve not just physical harm but also “deep emotional pain and fear.” The House needs to overcome its divisions and send this bill to the president to sign into law.

Have an opinon? Share it.
Here.

Send us your opinion... archway@bryant.edu

The Opinion pages of The Archway feature the opinions of the identified columnists and writers, which are not necessarily those of the newspaper or Bryant University.

Simon Says: *Be careful out there*



By Toby Simon
Staff Columnist

Two years ago the Obama administration wrote letters to all the colleges and universities in the U.S. telling them they need to do a better job preventing sexual assault and investigating when an assault takes place. Recently they just sent out another letter.

This is good news that this administration is concerned and has put the burden on colleges to do the right thing. So Bryant, like all of the institutions of higher education, has to take this stuff seriously by having clear policies about sexual misconduct, educational programs to talk about consensual sex, a designated administrator who ensures that the university abides by the rules, a trained judicial board, and counseling and support services. There is much more in the letter that universities received but mostly it spells out the expectation that schools will provide an environment free of sexual violence and harassment which allows all students to study and live in a safe environment.

At Bryant, we take the topic of sexual assault seriously. We have the major components in place that ensures a climate which will not tolerate sexual misconduct.

Sadly this isn't the case at all colleges and universities. In fact the U.S. Justice department estimates that the vast majority of college students don't report sexual assault on their campus because they perceive "institutional tolerance" when it comes to rape. That is, if an assault on campus occurs, the victim of the crime won't be taken seriously and there will be no consequences for the alleged perpetrator.

Students who have heard me talk about sexual assault know that I usually say that the biggest threat to a student's safety is her peers, not strangers lurking in bushes. And I realize that people are uncomfortable talking about this issue but if we truly expect to make any progress towards ending sexual assault, we need to figure out a way to talk about it.

There are many costs associated with sexual assault on campus. In addition to the emotional toll it takes, it may very well be one of the main reasons women transfer colleges because they've been sexually assaulted on their campus. I have certainly seen this at Bryant, and it makes me really sad.

And although the majority of cases of sexual assault takes place between two people who know or are acquainted with each other, some of what we've seen at Bryant has involved strangers, off campus. I have mixed feelings about writing the following piece of my article. I don't want the message to be taken the wrong way by our students. It's about partying.

I know our students like to go to Providence to some of the clubs and de-stress at the various establishments in downtown.

But these evenings out in Providence come with some risks for our students and in particular, it is our women students who are most at risk. I'm not sure what can be done about it, but I also think raising awareness about these incidents is important.

Over the past several years we have had a bunch of really ugly stuff happen at bars off campus. Some are close to Bryant and some are in Providence. Some involve rape facilitating drugs placed in drinks and many involve abductions, sexual harassment, sexual molestation, and rape. The incidents are disturbing. Women students who have had massive amounts of alcohol are vulnerable in bars. You all know, this but knowledge doesn't always translate into behavior. And sometimes the sexual assaults and attempted sexual assaults have taken place inside the bars when the victim wasn't even drunk.

So what's a girl to do? Even when friends go out together, friends don't always watch out for each other. But clearly that's a start. Thinking about the quantity of alcohol you're ingesting is another possibility, knowing full well that your judgment is impaired when you drink too much. Keeping your eye on your drinks at all times is imperative. The foam parties that take place in Providence have been particularly infamous, resulting in numerous dangerous incidents. (And let's not even talk about the foam—what the hell is in it that causes such severe reactions?) Maybe it's not worth the risk and you can figure out other ways to party.

Like I said, I don't have the answers. You all can try to come up with some solutions. All I can say is you need to be careful. And please don't become a statistic.

New comet to be visible in March

By David A. Huestis
Faculty Writer



When is the last time you observed a naked-eye comet? For many of you the answer will most likely be 1997. And the comet was the beautiful Hale-Bopp. Here in southern New England Hale-Bopp was well placed for observers during the last week of March into the first week or so of April. In fact, the accompanying image was taken on April 1 from my backyard as I stood in 18-inches of fresh snow!

While there have been many other comets since then, quite a few of them have been better observed from the southern hemisphere. Others were not as bright as Hale-Bopp, or only appeared during a short observing window, like Comets McNaught and Machholz.

Comet Holmes, in late 2007, was an exception. It exhibited the most rapid outburst ever observed, which helped the comet develop the largest coma (halo) in recorded history. Comet Holmes set a record by becoming the largest object in the solar system – amazingly surpassing the diameter of the Sun. It was even a naked-eye object in the light-polluted skies of Ladd Observatory in Providence. While at that time it did not exhibit a tail from our viewing perspective, the sheer size of the comet was impressive.

On any clear night there are tens of comets visible in the night sky. The majority are faint and require large telescopes to view them visually. They can be detected because they shine by reflected sunlight, just like all the planets and moons in our solar system. Once in a while a new comet will be discovered that shows potential for putting on a good show that anyone in a dark sky can observe and appreciate.

Back on June 6, 2011, a new comet was discovered on its journey towards the inner solar system and an encounter with the Sun. This long-period comet (orbital period greater than 200 years) originated in the Oort Cloud, a theoretical spherical cloud or halo of perhaps several trillions of comets encompassing our solar system and extending perhaps up to 465 billion miles from the Sun.

Comets are likened to "dirty snowballs," a 1950 theory proposed by an old friend of Skyscrapers, the late Dr. Fred Whipple (1906-2004) of Harvard College Observatory. They are some of the leftovers from the creation of the solar system and are irregularly shaped objects composed of ice, small rocks, dust, various gases, and organic compounds. While in their cold and cozy orbit within the Oort Cloud, comets are inactive. Occasionally one of them gets nudged by the gravity of a nearby star, sending the comet on its long journey towards our Sun. Comet PANSTARRS is one of those comets. Named after the 70.7-inch Panoramic Survey Telescope & Rapid Response System on Mount Haleakala in Maui, which discovered it, Comet PANSTARRS could wind up being the best comet in a long time for northern hemisphere observers.

Just how "dirty" are the surfaces of comets? They have the darkest surfaces of any object in the solar system. In fact, Comet Halley, being a very old comet, is so dark it reflects only about four percent of the light that bathes it. I can't stress enough how dark that is. A little quick research revealed that asphalt reflects seven percent of the light it receives! For those of you who live around New England, think about the snow on the side of the road in mid to late March. It's full of sand, dirt and small rocks. It's so dirty you almost want it to snow again just to cover over the unsightly mess. Well, a comet's surface is many times more "dirty."

When a comet reaches the orbit of Jupiter (mean distance of approximately 483,500,000 miles), it starts to feel the influence of solar radiation. The comet reaches what is known as the H2O turn on point. It begins to heat up. Subsurface ice melts and the pressure forces the material out through cracks or vents on the surface of the comet. Jets of this material spew out into space like geysers (remember the scene in the movie Armageddon?). This process is called outgassing. All this expelled material forms the cloud of nebulous material, called the coma, which envelops the nucleus.

The solar wind (a stream of particles radiating from the Sun) not only sandblasts loose material off the comet's surface, but also starts pushing dust, gasses and rocky material away from the comet, forming two tails. One is the dust tail which is usually curved. The dust tail is responsible for producing a trail of debris along the comet's orbital path. If the Earth happens to pass through this debris we experience a meteor shower. The second tail is the ion tail, comprising gases that always points

directly away from the Sun. So unless you observe the comet over a period of time, you really can't tell if it's coming or going!

Some comets develop extensive tails, which can be many tens of millions of miles long. What we observe from the Earth depends upon our viewing angle. Astronomers originally had high expectations for Comet PANSTARRS, as they believe this is the first time it has made the plunge towards our Sun. That means there is most likely a lot of loose material on the comet's surface which will be blown off by the solar wind creating a large and bright coma, as well as a lengthy tail.

However, as I was finishing up this article in mid-February to meet publication deadlines, the magnitude/brightness expectations for PANSTARRS were being forecast downward. Since this was the comet's first encounter with the Sun, most of the loose surface material was likely stripped off early, making it initially very bright. With that material now absent, the comet has dimmed significantly. It may now be a little fainter than most of the stars in the Big Dipper asterism of Ursa Major, or about the same magnitude as Albireo in Cygnus.

Still, a word of caution about forecasting a comet's behavior is called for here. David Levy, famed comet discoverer (remember Comet Shoemaker-Levy that impacted Jupiter back in July 1994), is fond of saying, "Comets are like cats. They have tails, and they do precisely what they want." My sentiments exactly. The only thing predictable about comets is that they are unpredictable.

On Comet PANSTARRS' inbound race to towards the Sun, it will glide by the Earth on March 5 at a safe distance of about 102 million miles. It will then only be visible from the southern hemisphere. Five days later the comet will reach perihelion (closest approach to the Sun), coming within roughly 28 million miles of our life-giving star. Just before perihelion PANSTARRS will become visible to northern hemisphere stargazers. The comet's dust and ion tails, as well as the coma, could still be very well developed after this close encounter. (Visit <http://www.shadowandsubstance.com/> for a great animation showing the projected path of this comet through the inner solar system.)

On March 8 you might still be able to catch a glimpse of Comet PANSTARRS very low in the west after sunset. You'll need a completely unobstructed western view, since the comet will be within five degrees of the horizon (half a fist held at arm's length provides this approximate unit of measure) just after sunset. The tail will extend up and to the south (left). Each successive night the comet will appear a little higher above the horizon and farther to the north (right) as the comet recedes from the Sun and Earth on its journey back into deep space. All the while the comet's brightness will diminish even further and the tail will shorten as each day passes.

On the 12th an exquisite waxing crescent Moon (only one percent illuminated) will complement the sky scene, although it may be extremely difficult to observe in a bright twilight sky due to its downgraded brightness. However, on the following evening the Moon will be higher in the sky, and the comet's tail may sweep behind the Moon's disk. That's the night you want to be able to snap a few images with your camera.

On the 15th the comet's tail will point perpendicular to the sunset location. Afterwards the tail will point up towards the right. By March 30 the comet's tail may extend to a position just below the Andromeda Galaxy. From April 2-4 the nucleus of Comet PANSTARRS will pass by the Andromeda Galaxy. (Keeping in mind that PANSTARRS' forecast brightness has been significantly reduced, many of the early to mid-March viewing opportunities noted above may be compromised.)

While a dark sky might still show the comet after April 4 depending on how well it performs, binoculars and telescopes will be able to follow it for some time afterwards as PANSTARRS moves into a circumpolar sky, never setting below our horizon in southern New England. The Shadow and Substance website noted above also has an animation showing the comet's position against the western horizon through the first week of April.

When Comet PANSTARRS is at its best and a naked-eye object, it will be too low in the sky for most of the local observatories. However, as it rises away from the western horizon it may become accessible. Please check the following local observatory websites to see if any observing opportunities will be available. Accessibility conditions permitting, Seagrave Memorial Observatory (<http://www.theskyscrapers.org>) in North Scituate is open every clear Saturday night. Ladd Observatory (<http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Physics/Ladd/>) in Providence is open every Tuesday night. Frosty Drew Observatory (<http://www.frostydrew.org/>) in Charlestown is open every clear Friday night. Winter hours for Seagrave and Ladd are 7:00-9:00 p.m., while Frosty Drew begins at 6:00 p.m. with no set end time.

Make every attempt to catch a glimpse of Comet PANSTARRS, for it is not expected to return to the inner solar system for perhaps 110,000 years! Keep your eyes to the skies!

Zero Dark Thirty: spoiler alert! Osama is killed

By AJ Beltis
Staff Writer

Zero Dark Thirty begins with a blank screen. Hectic 911 phone calls are heard during the haywire of September 11th, 2001, culminating in a caller in the World Trade Center telling the woman on the other end “I’m gonna die, aren’t I? I’m gonna die. I’m gonna die...” This is a dark but artistically impressive start to Zero Dark Thirty, which began with ferocity and urgency but ultimately failed to deliver to its seemingly powerful potential.

Maya (the outstanding Jessica Chastain, last year’s breakout star from The Help and The Tree of Life) is a CIA agent assigned to uncovering al-Qaeda news while working in Pakistan’s U.S. Embassy. Initially, she shakily observes another agent, Dan, as he tortures a connection to Osama bin Laden by waterboarding him, depriving him of sleep, and locking him in a box half his height. After a few long years, Dan decides to abandon his role in the Osama bin Laden project, but Maya doesn’t. Dan’s desire to relocate his services to D.C. prompts her to say that she can’t catch Osama bin Laden from D.C. She gradually shifts from passive to aggressive in her decade-long drive to see Osama dead.

‘The most worthwhile aspect of Zero Dark Thirty is yet another amazing performance from Chastain’

Maya slaves for the next several years over a computer screen trying to locate Osama’s courier, holding onto the conjecture that if she locates the courier, she locates the man who caused 9/11. When she finds his possible location, others refuse to believe her and shoot down her speculations, despite her certainty. Her confidence and assertiveness lead to approval for the successful raid that rids the world of Osama bin Laden.

The raid scene, where the soldiers enter the compound where Osama is believed to be hiding, was disappointing.

The idea to withhold musical score during this scene was smart, but my hope was that the stress the soldiers felt were felt tenfold by the audience. That would’ve been great filmmaking, but this scene wasn’t great filmmaking. Argo and The Impossible were way more intense, but this should have (and easily could have) outdone both of them. Like the entire movie, the raid scene was overlong and lacked structure.

The most worthwhile aspect of Zero Dark Thirty is yet another amazing performance from Chastain, who was robbed of an Oscar last year by her Help co-star, Octavia Spencer. At first, her subtle presence failed to captivate me. However, her escalation of Maya’s character from a timid novice to a powerhouse heroine is impressive. Sadly, it’s not quite enough to get her an Oscar this year in my eyes, with Naomi Watts and Jennifer Lawrence having given more worthy performances. But yes, I was impressed by Chastain and doubt I will ever be unimpressed by her sheer talent for the screen.

Once Dan is out of the story, the movie loses a bit of its focus and remains mostly uneventful for a good amount of time. It jumps from following different al-Qaeda leads to daily activities of Maya and her colleagues until Maya discovers bin Laden’s possible residence, with a few explosions and casualties along the way. At this point, the focus returns, and there is some excitement and a tense atmosphere over the pending assassination of Osama.

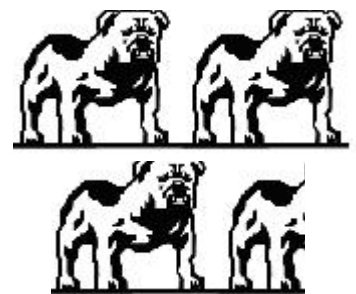
The movie’s ending was rushed and abrupt. It ends about 5 minutes after bin Laden’s body is penetrated with bullets. What screenwriter Mark Boal should have done is sacrificed some of the less important scenes in the middle for an aftermath sequence, which could have made the movie more worthwhile. Instead, Maya’s fulfillment didn’t come across the same way to the audience, as it should have. The movie is mainly driven by its concept, and could’ve been much more eventful and recommendable. I still recommend it, but if you take as long to see this movie as it took for the United States government to kill Osama bin Laden, I’d forgive you.

After the movie, I asked my friend Luke if he liked it. He said yes. When I asked why, he said “I don’t know. I just hate Osama bin Laden.” I do too, Luke. That’s why I was hoping for this movie to be more of a showcase of triumph of American justice over terrorism and a tribute to those whose lives were lost on 9/11 and those who ended this evil man’s life. But it wasn’t.



Jessica Chastain, star of Zero Dark Thirty, and Oscar nominee for Best Actress. (MCT Campus)

This movie received 3.5 out of 5 Bulldogs



Downton Abbey’s can’t miss season finale

By Verne Gay
MCT Campus

WHAT IT’S ABOUT: In the third season finale called simply the “Christmas Special” when it aired last year in the U.K. the Crawleys head to Duneagle Castle in Scotland, seat of Robert, Earl of Grantham’s (Hugh Bonneville) cousin, Hugh “Shrimpie” MacClare, Marquess of Flintshire (Peter Egan).

Shrimpie’s in an unhappy marriage, and father of a genuine wild child, Lady Rose MacClare (Lily James), last seen in a London nightclub in her cups and in the arms of a married man.

Meanwhile, most of the staff remains behind at Downton, and to paraphrase Mrs. Hughes (Phyllis Logan), while the cat’s away ...

MY SAY: Real “Downton” fans, presumably you, will not want to miss a second of Sunday night’s finale, and not simply because this may be the most cinematically beautiful hour and 32 minutes of television all year (much was filmed in Scotland) There has been “spoiler” press about some especially dramatic turns, and no reason to get into that here.

But this “Christmas Special” manages to be both a gift and a sweeping thematic expression of what “Downton” has been about all season. The third season has tracked shifting fortunes, power gained, power lost and the fragility of human dignity, but the press of time is accelerating, too. Roles are changing, particularly gender roles, and Robert remains resolutely stuck in an Edwardian past. Or, as Cora Crawley, Countess of Grantham (Elizabeth McGovern) observed last week, “Poor Robert. The postwar world is not being kind to him.” The Crawleys don’t know it, we do, but another war looms, which will further erode the bedrock of England, or their England. Children are representative of that new world, too, but they’ve been particularly hard to come by here an heir finally born to Sybil (Jessica Brown Findlay), who then died in childbirth. This may well be series creator Julian Fellowes’ way of saying just how tenuous that future is.

Be warned that Sunday’s finale has a hard conclusion, but what you’ll finally be left with from this luminous season is an even deeper affection and appreciation for this treasure.

BOTTOM LINE: The finale of a superb season does not disappoint.



The cast of Downton Abbey (MCT Campus)

Write about fashion or film, or submit original poetry and photography!
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The right way to do business casual

By Lauren Kordalski
Staff Writer

Choosing the right outfit can be difficult, but when the event calls for business casual, the challenge is even greater. Finding a happy medium between formal and casual can present quite the challenge, especially for college kids unaware of what business casual really calls for. Well fear not fellow confused students, I hope to spell out the spiffy requirements needed to assemble the perfect business casual ensemble.

Knowing what NOT to wear is almost as important as knowing what to wear when it comes to business casual. Seeing as the attire is generally worn for more conservative, business-y events, it's essential to be modest in choosing the right outfit. Short skirts, sky-high heels, and low-cut tops should be saved for the weekends, not worn during presentations. Similarly, men can leave the jeans and sneakers in their dorms to retrieve after the event, as those are huge no-no's as well. The first step is choosing an outfit appropriate for the occasion, which means limiting your options to only the modest and conservative pieces of your wardrobe.

Although more forgivable than a skimpy, casual outfit, formalwear is also inappropriate for business casual events. Save the suits and cocktail dresses for weddings. The outfit you're looking for for most Bryant events is a bit more casual. Finding the right balance can be difficult, but with a few key items of clothing, the perfect business casual outfit can be achieved!

‘Knowing what NOT to wear is almost as important as knowing what to wear’

Many items required to create an appropriate business casual outfit already exist in your wardrobe! Khakis are a staple for both men and women; matching most every color, they're an essential piece of clothing to own. Black or blue dress pants would also be appropriate, although they cannot be ill-fitting, both tightness and bagginess should be avoided, as they do not project a professional image. For women, dresses and skirts are suitable, but again, the fit is important, and the hem should fall no shorter than the knee. Panty hose aren't required, but they're probably a good idea for cold New England winters, or events leaning towards the more formal end of business casual.

On top, both genders can don button downs or polos, being careful to avoid any revealing or particularly shimmering fabrics. Tailored knit sweaters and especially sweater sets, however dull they may be, are perfect for business casual events. Men, although not required, can throw on a tie to complete their ensemble when in doubt; but sports coats are an unnecessary addition.



(MCT Campus)

To finish the look, it's safest to stick to subtle jewelry, a watch or simple earrings or a necklace for women is enough. Men should remove earrings and stick to conservative, neutral socks, paired with leather shoes or loafers. Women should be especially careful to keep their makeup neutral; less is more when it comes to business casual events. In addition, nails should be well groomed and nail polish, if any, should be chosen very carefully. Save the crazy colors for another time.



Though somewhat confusing, as Bryant students, we need to know what business casual entails. Picking the right items should be as simple as looking in your own closet, and if that type of clothing isn't present, any clothing store carries the items you need. Keeping it understated is the key; rock your unique style at other, casual events! Whatever you choose, make sure everything is clean, unwrinkled, and fits properly. When prepping for an event, just remember modesty and keep in mind the image you're trying to project; confident, competent, and mature.

Comic of the Week

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Employers use facebook to find employees

By Gracie Bonds Staples
MCT Campus

His senior year at Clark Atlanta University was quickly approaching, and Kareem Taylor was starting to worry about his future.

Would he be able to land a job as a voice actor or would he end up back home with his parents like so many other college graduates? Better still, how could he let people know he had “the” voice? Not having prior experience or a network to draw from, Taylor turned to the only contacts he had readily available to him, his Facebook friends.

“I decided to post a demo on Facebook, asking people to share it with their friends,” Taylor said recently.

In that moment, Taylor joined an ever-growing number of college students

and employers who are using social media networks in the search for jobs and job candidates.

In fact, according to a 2012 Future Trends Survey by the National Association of Colleges and Employers, 90.7 percent of respondents used Facebook in their job search.

Given the near-universal status of Facebook, which recently announced the launch of Graph Search to enhance users’ ability to navigate their connections, the study said, “it is expected that if a student were to think of using a social network in the job search, that student would first turn to the base social networking platform to see what it offered.” Students are also turning to LinkedIn (40 percent) and Twitter (about 35 percent).

“LinkedIn, as a business networking

platform, is clearly challenging Facebook for pre-eminent status among students as the networking platform to communicate with potential employers,” the study said.

Although nearly 66 percent of LinkedIn users felt that the service was effective compared to less than a quarter of users of other networking platforms, Taylor credits Facebook for helping him land employment with CNN.

Once he posted his demo on his Facebook page, Taylor said it caught the attention of CNN producer Danya Levine, who was already a Facebook friend. Levine invited him to the station, where he met her team.

“The head honcho said, ‘Let’s hear something,’” Taylor recalled. “I did something about CNN, and the whole room applauded.” For the next few

weeks, Taylor shadowed members of Levine’s team, editing tapes, meeting producers and learning everything at his disposal about the voice-over industry.

Meanwhile, Taylor continued his job search, but “no one was calling me back,” he said.

Then just months before graduation in August 2010, he got the call he’d been waiting for.

“Congratulations, you’re the voice of ‘CNN Heroes,’” Levine told him.

“I was ecstatic,” Taylor said. “I’m so blessed to have this opportunity. It was a huge turning point.” Since then, Taylor has worked on the productions “Black in America” and “Pictures Don’t Lie.” Today, at 24, he’s one of the youngest and most successful professional voice actors, with clients including Comedy Central, Taco Bell and AT&T.

Shonda Cooper, lead promotions producer for CNN’s “Black in America” documentary, couldn’t say how often the television network uses social networking sites in its hiring.

She said, however, that Taylor “came highly regarded by colleagues at ‘CNN Heroes.’” “He made a positive impression on all of us,” Cooper said. “In addition to having a really good, deep, persuasive voice, he takes directions well.” Taylor has been the voice of “Black in America” for the past two years, Cooper said.

With its new Graph Search, which is being rolled out in waves, officials at Facebook are hoping to make it even easier for users to find the right job match. Graph Search, they say, promises not only to help you find others but to learn more about them and make connections instantly.

With this feature, users will be able to narrow their search to something as specific as “friends of my friends who work in the restaurant industry” or “my friends in Los Angeles who are looking for baby sitters” or “people/my friends who are reporters and live in Seattle.” Although Graph Search hadn’t launched when Taylor began his job search, he said Facebook clearly helped him get noticed.

Soon after CNN hired him, Taylor said his agent “dragged me to New York,” where he records from home then emails the file to his boss.

“A day later,” he said, “those promos start airing on CNN, and my mom will call and ask if that’s me she’s hearing.”

Why recruiters say they prefer Facebook when dealing with young talent:

- It’s more engaging. With Facebook, employers can follow a “let them come to us” strategy by setting up a business page for recruitment and career purposes.
- Facebook is where the action is. Recruiters perceive that few students and recent graduates actively update their LinkedIn profiles, whereas they are quite active on Facebook.
- It’s free. Employers like that Facebook enables a company to showcase itself as an attractive place to work.
- It’s a bigger network. Facebook has more than 1 billion active users worldwide, compared with LinkedIn’s user base of about 120 million members.
- The Like button. When it comes to career website integration, Facebook feeds and the Like button are easier to integrate.
- It’s better for branding. Recruiters report they tend toward LinkedIn and other business networks for networking, screening and recruiting. However, when it comes to employer branding activities and talent communication — especially with students, graduates and early career professionals — many prefer Facebook.

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